

Senior Research Seminar

Course Code: HUM4933 - 0001

Mode: Face-to-face

Course Day and Time: Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. - 8:50 p.m.

Course Location: PSY228B

This is an evening class. Please note the following SAFE Escort Patrol Service information

Student employees of the UCF Police Department will use golf carts to transport riders to any location on campus. If applicable, a walking escort may be provided instead of a cart. The service runs from **7 p.m. until 1 a.m. and is available seven days a week when classes are in session.** Service does not operate on State of Florida recognized holidays, between semesters or on football game days.

Call the dispatch number **407-823-2424** or after hours, **407-823-5555**.

Instructor: Dr. Nick Shrubsole

Office Location: PSY 234

Office Hours: Tuesday, 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., or by appointment

Course Description

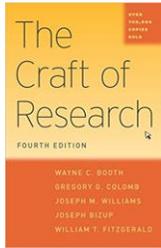
This course is the Capstone Course for Humanities Majors. As such, it serves as a culmination of the Humanities undergraduate program, and it enables students to draw on methods, skills and concepts from their entire undergraduate career. The course is structured as a seminar, i.e. it is intended to be participatory. Students will be expected to lead discussions on texts and topics in the course. The seminar requirements also include a research paper that will be proposed, drafted, reviewed, and revised throughout the semester. In addition, this course focuses on professional development with attention to reflection on the skills and tools each student has learned, developed, and honed during their undergraduate career.

From the opening day of the course students will be working on their own research project. Each week students will offer presentations, work collaboratively, and reflect on research and scholarly inquiry related to all of their projects.

Required Texts

There are no required texts in this course. All reading will be made available on the course website and through the UCF library system.

Recommended Text



Many of you may find it useful to dig further into the craft of research as you move through this research course. Your professor will be providing short lectures from this textbook throughout the course. If you did not take Research Methods in the Humanities, it is strongly recommended that you read through this book.

- Booth, Wayne C, G. G. Colomb, and J. M. Williams. The Craft of Research, fourth edition. Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 2016.

What to Expect in the Classroom

Our classes will often be comprised of three blocks. First, you will receive some guidance from your professor on research through mini-lectures each week. Second, you can expect to have a large group discussion regarding assigned readings or your research progress. Third, we will be conducting weekly workshops where you will be placed in small groups to engage in peer-review and dialogue.

It is important to ensure that you come to class prepared and that you are committed to active research throughout the semester.

Assessment

Assessment Item	Weight	Due Date(s)	Description
Participation	20%	Weekly	<p>In a seminar such as this it is vital that all students complete required assignments in advance and come to class prepared to discuss their research and other assigned readings/projects. Each week students will be required to submit a pre-class assignment.</p> <p>Excellent attendance, satisfactory completion of all pre-class assignments and demonstrated engagement in class will result in an A for this component of the grade.</p>

Research Journal	10%	Weekly	<p>Students are required to keep a journal of their research. This will include short-hand notes on all activities related to research from gathering sources to drafting to review. In Webcourses you will see that you have been assigned your own individual group. In this "group" page of the course you will be able to create a document that can be edited by you and your professor. More information will be provided on this during our first class meeting.</p> <p>Commitment to this journal and demonstration of a regular and active research agenda will result in an A for this grade item.</p>
Article Selection & Presentation	10%	Individual Assignments will be made in Week 2	<p>A week before a student is scheduled to present, they will assign a scholarly article to the class. This article should be one that relates to the student's research project. Students will introduce the article in a short two minute introduction and provide questions for a discussion around the topic.</p> <p>More details on expectations will be provided in class.</p>
Book Review	10%	February 27	<p>Students will be required to identify a book related to their own research published within the last decade. Students must communicate to the professor what book they will be reviewing by no later than Week 3.</p> <p>A rubric and further detail on this assignment will be provided in class.</p>
Research Paper	30%	<p>January 30 (Proposal)</p> <p>March 6 (First Draft)</p> <p>March 20 (Peer-Review Report)</p> <p>April 10 (Final)</p>	<p>The research paper needs to present and defend a clear and strong thesis, engage interdisciplinary humanities work in intellectually interesting ways, and it needs to be well crafted and clearly argued. The paper will be graded on your ability to identify an interesting and challenging humanities question, state and defend a thesis, use scholarly sources, as well as your ability to work with interdisciplinary sources, theories,</p>

		Draft)	<p>and analytic or critical approaches. Particular attention will be paid to the quality and development of your thesis and the clarity of the thesis development. The research paper will also need to be clear on the disciplinary approach(es) and interdisciplinary methods that are used. The paper will be developed throughout several stages, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal for Research paper (Prospectus with Annotated Bibliography) • Draft of Paper • Presentation of work in progress • Peer Review of another student's paper draft • Revised Paper <p>Rubrics and expectaions for all assignments will be provided during the semester.</p>
Degree Reflection Statement	10%	April 17	<p>Over the course of the semester you will be asked to think about the skills you have learned as a Humanities and Cultural Studies major. The purpose of this exercise is to have you think about how a Humanities and Cultural Studies degree may be marketted in the world. Reflections will be specific to the goals of each individual student.</p> <p>More instruction will be provided later in the semester.</p>
Oral Presentation	10%	May 1 (Exam Period)	<p>Each student will be required to prepare a publicly-accessible oral presentation of their research project. Presentations will be approximately 5 minutes and length and will take place during our exam period in a conference style final presentation.</p> <p>Rubric and expectations will be provided during the class.</p>

Grading Scheme

A	90% – 100%	Reserved for excellence, far exceeds average understanding as evidenced in course work and goes significantly beyond basic understanding.
B	80% – < 90%	Very good. Above average, fully meets average understanding as evidenced in course work, fully understands the basics and can engage material somewhat beyond that level.
C	70% - < 80%	Average, meets minimum expectations and satisfies course requirements.
D	60% - < 70%	Lacking in quality. Below average, meets many minimum expectations and satisfies all or most course requirements.
F	0% - < 60%	Fails to meet minimum expectations in understanding and course work as evidenced by performance and submission of graded elements.

University Policies and Information

1. Students with Disabilities
2. Plagiarism and Academic Integrity
3. E-mail Access
4. Diversity Statement
5. UCF Cares

Students with Disabilities

It is my goal that this class be an accessible and welcoming experience for all students, including those with disabilities that may impact learning in this class. If anyone believes the design of this course poses barriers to effectively participating and/or demonstrating learning in this course, please meet with me (with or without a Student Disability Services (SDS) accommodation letter) to discuss reasonable options or adjustments. During our discussion, I may suggest the possibility/necessity of your contacting SDS (Ferrell Commons 185; 407-823-2371; sds@ucf.edu) to talk about academic accommodations. You are welcome to talk to me at any point in the semester about course design concerns, but it is always best if we can talk at least one week prior to the need for any modifications.

I sincerely encourage any students with disabilities to speak with me during office hours to ensure that they are able to engage in the course and complete assignments on an equal footing with their fellow classmates. My door is always open to discuss this important matter.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

As reflected in the UCF creed, integrity and scholarship are core values that should guide our conduct and decisions as members of the UCF community. Plagiarism and cheating contradict these values, and so are very serious academic offenses. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, or suspension or expulsion from the university. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the University's Rules of Conduct (see <http://www.osc.sdes.ucf.edu/>). Plagiarism and Cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, or assignment will result at least in an "F" for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" for the entire course) and may be subject to appropriate referral to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. See the UCF Golden Rule for further information. Many incidents of plagiarism result from students' lack of understanding about what constitutes plagiarism. However, you are expected to familiarize yourself with UCF's policy on plagiarism. All work you submit must be your own scholarly and creative efforts. UCF's Golden Rule defines plagiarism as follows: "whereby another's work is used or appropriated without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own."

Email Access

You will be expected to have daily access to the internet and email, since I will be emailing you regularly about assignment updates, additions and changes. All students at UCF are required to obtain a Knight's Email account and check it regularly for official university communications. If you do not own a computer, there are computers accessible to you in all UCF's computer labs, and most computer labs have computers connected to the internet. For further information on computer labs, please see the following website: http://registrar.sdes.ucf.edu/webguide/index_quickfind.aspx.

Diversity Statement

The University of Central Florida recognizes that our individual differences can deepen our understanding of one another and the world around us, rather than divide us. In this class, people of all ethnicities, genders and gender identities, religions, ages, sexual orientations, disabilities, socioeconomic backgrounds, regions, and nationalities are strongly encouraged to share their rich array of perspectives and experiences. If you feel your differences may in some way isolate you from UCF's community or if you have a need of any specific accommodations, please speak with the instructor early in the semester about your concerns and what we can do together to help you become an active and engaged member of our class and community.

UCF Cares

During your UCF career, you may experience challenges including struggles with academics, finances, or your personal well-being. UCF has a multitude of resources available to all students. Please visit UCFCares.com ([Links to an external site.](#)) [Links to an external site.](#) if you are seeking resources and support, or if you are worried about a

friend or classmate. Free services and information are included for a variety of student concerns, including but not limited to alcohol use, bias incidents, mental health concerns, and financial challenges. You can also e-mail ucfcares@ucf.edu with questions or for additional assistance. You can reach a UCF Cares staff member between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. by calling 407-823-5607. If you are in immediate distress, please call Counseling and Psychological Services to speak directly with a counselor 24/7 at 407-823-2811, or please call 911.

Instructor Policies

E-mail correspondence

Please use your Knights e-mail account whenever corresponding with your instructor. Ensure that the Course Code and Section Number appear in the subject line of any e-mail sent to the instructor. Think of an e-mail as a formal letter when corresponding with instructors (as opposed to a text message). Begin with a salutation (a greeting) and conclude with your name. Be respectful and considerate in your language and re-read your e-mail before sending.

Late Assignment Policy

All late assignments will be penalized one full letter grade a day for up to 4 calendar days after the close of the assignment. Ensure that you submit early whenever possible.

Open Door Policy

I am always available to talk about this class or your educational experience in general. Feel free to stop by or make an appointment at any point over the semester. If you ever require clarification on your grades or concepts discussed within the course, make an appointment to come and chat.

No Extra Credit Policy

There will be no extra credit offered in this course.