

Research Methods at UF: *How do we know?*
HUM2930x4C22/IDS2935x4D40

Credit Hours: 1

Summer B 2019

Class Meet: Tuesdays – 6th period

Location: CSE A101

Contact Info and Locations:

Instructors: Heather Spooner, MA, ATR-BC & Anne Donnelly, PhD

Contact: hspooner@arts.ufl.edu; 352.273.1488

Contact: adonn@ufl.edu

Teaching Assistant (TA): Briana

E-mail:

Office Hours: Flexible scheduling by appointment. Professor is also available before class upon request and by phone or videoconference Wednesdays from 1000-1100.

Course Website is on Canvas

Course Description

How do artists, engineers, biologists, educators, physicians, writers, historians and other scientists and scholars know what they know? How do people become researchers? How do research practitioners approach a question or shape new knowledge within their discipline?

This introductory seminar explores the questions inherent to the practice of research within, and across, the arts and sciences. The course provides a dynamic, interdisciplinary, and interactive overview of diverse research methodologies.

Learning methods include two primary activities: 1) *Path to Practice* lectures and panel discussions by guest faculty from a variety of disciplines and 2) *Research Toolkit* skill development and practice. Students will engage in problem-solving think tanks and workshops during class to practice skills such as literature review, needs assessment, confidentiality and consent, interviewing, oral history, and asset mapping to develop a basic research toolkit.

This research seminar is appropriate for undergraduate students of all disciplines who are interested in research.

Course Objectives

1. Students will understand what the process of research looks like in a minimum of 3 fields or disciplines.
2. Students will identify types of research professionals.
3. Students will identify methods of data collection, analysis and dissemination.
4. Students will engage in a minimum 3 basic research skills.
5. Students will describe strengths and challenges of global collaborations in research.
6. Students will describe strengths and challenges of interdisciplinary research.

Required Readings and Other Materials

Required readings and resources will be posted on the course website of eLearning under **Course Materials and** within the **corresponding Week #**. It is essential to the course that you understand how to navigate the eLearning system to access these important tools.

Assignments Descriptions:

This section provides a brief summary of each assignment only. Full assignment descriptions, requirements and rubrics are available in e-learning.

Pre and Post Evaluations

In this course you will complete a pre-evaluation at the start of the first class and a post-evaluation in the final class. These evaluations will specifically ask you about your research knowledge and are separate from the course evaluations that are distributed for each of your classes at the university. The evaluations are anonymous. You will complete these evaluations online and then upload proof that the evaluation was completed in order to receive credit.

How to Read a Research Article

Prior to beginning a research project it is critical to understand what research has already been conducted on a topic. For this assignment you will view tutorials on how to read an academic or scholarly research article and then complete an exercise that will require you to critically evaluate each of the sections of a research article. You will bring this article with you to class for an interactive discussion.

Course Journal

Students will post a 2-3 paragraph journal entry following each class where they assimilate what was learned from class, note key points they wish to remember, and reflect upon how the content applies to their personal research and career interests

Research the Researchers

When research presenters are scheduled, students will “research the researcher” to familiarize themselves with the researcher’s background and research interests prior to the start of class.

Students will come prepared to class with two well-developed questions to ask one or several of the researcher about how they came to their research (the path) and/or their process of research. You should also cite in correct APA reference list format one article you were able to access and read, of interest to you, by one of the panel scholars. All assignments are to be submitted on Canvas.

Developing Research Questions

Students will develop clear, measurable and specific research questions based upon their research interests.

Group Research Proposal/Proposal Draft

Students will work in interdisciplinary teams to develop research proposals that identify innovative solutions to real-world problems based upon cutting edge research and technologies

Evaluations and Grades

Course Policies

The course requires *full* participation in attendance and class discussion/interaction. You will have a few readings and short assignments to complete outside of class time. Our intention in the structure of this course is to keep you engaged with stimulating conversation and hands-on learning during class time. Your grade will reflect your ability to effectively participate with your instructor, guest lecturers, and peers. The required course components are weighted as follows:

Attendance: 15%

Participation: 15%

Assignments: 70%

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	% Equivalency	GPA Equivalency
A	95-100%	4.0
A-	92-94%	3.67
B+	89-91%	3.33
B	85-88%	3.00
B-	82-84%	2.67
C+	79-81%	2.33
C	75-78%	2.00
C- *	72-74%	1.67

D+	69-71%	1.33
D	65-68%	1.00
D-	62-64%	.67
E, I, NG, S-U, WF		0.00

Please note that a C- is no longer an acceptable grade for any course in which a 2.0 GPA is required, for example, any course in the major. UF grading policy website:
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx#calculatinggpa>

Class Participation and Late Assignments

Late assignments will receive a 5% per day late deduction when submitted within one week of the due date, after which they will receive an automatic 50% late deduction.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

UF Policies

Academic Honesty

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honorcode/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

University Policy on Academic Misconduct

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learningsupport@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601.

Career assistance and counseling. <http://www.crc.ufl.edu/> Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>.

Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420.

General study skills and tutoring. <http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/> Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138.

Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Student Complaints Campus: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf

On-Line Students Complaints: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaintprocess>

Course Outline:

Class	Lecture Topic	Readings and Assignments (due by start of the next class)
07/02	Course Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Syllabus Review ○ Pre-Evaluation ○ Creativity & Brainstorming in Investigation ○ Intro to Class Project 	Pre-Evaluation- Complete Pre-Evaluation and upload a screenshot or photo showing proof of completion Register for Research Party at Marston How to Read a Research Article Course Journal Research the Researchers
07/09	Developing Research Questions	Marston Research Party Course Journal (separate entry for Marston Research Party is Required) Research the Researchers Designing Research Questions
07/16	Exploring Research Designs	Group Research Proposal Draft Course Journal Research the Researchers
07/23	Research Communication and Broader Impacts	Group Research Proposals Course Journal Research the Researchers
07/30		Course Journal
08/06	Student Presentations and Course Wrap Up	Post Evaluation

