Syllabus

Course Information
Course title: Explorations in Research
Course number: IDH3006.01
Course description: In order to continue learning about exciting research opportunities in a wide variety of disciplines, you will be exposed to different research methods followed by many faculty members at FIU. As well, you will continue to be exposed to different artistic initiatives taking place at FIU. You will find out more about how faculty come up with an idea for research, how research methods are applied in different disciplines, and how you, as a student, can become involved in the Student Research and Artistic Initiative (SRAI) of the Honors College.

Course date: Monday, January 10, 2005 through Wednesday, April 20, 2005
Location: TBA
Meeting day(s): Tuesdays and Thursdays
Meeting time(s): 12:30-13:45

Instructor Information
Name: Irma T. Alonso
Email: alonsoi@fiu.edu
Office location: DM-318A
Office hours: TR 10:30-12:30
Phone: 305-348-2318

Course Goals
Course goals: The purpose of this course is to get students involved in the research and artistic initiatives taking place at FIU.

Policies
Introduction: Policies and regulation of FIU apply at all times.
Additional information: Please check the Student Handbook for policies and regulations.

Academic Misconduct
Topics: Plagiarism Policy Of The Honors College

Honor in Honors
In The Honors College, the term "honor" refers both to academic accomplishment and character. Students in Honors should therefore adhere to and be held to the highest standards of personal academic accountability. Academic dishonesty in any form, including plagiarism, is antithetical to the very definition of being an Honors student at FIU. Consequently, an Honors College student found responsible for academic misconduct will be dismissed from the College.

Academic misconduct is a violation of the University Code of Standards, the Code of Academic Integrity, the ethical relationship between the student and the academic community, and especially between the student and the instructor. It is the responsibility and prerogative of the instructor to make an initial determination about the extent and severity of an instance of academic misconduct; the
instructor may opt to make a referral for further adjudication in appropriate cases.

**Plagiarism**
This Policy views plagiarism as one form of academic misconduct, and adopts the definition of the university’s Code of Academic Integrity, according to which plagiarism is the deliberate use and appropriation of another’s works without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student’s own. Any student who fails to give credit for the ideas, expressions or materials taken from another source, including internet sources, is guilty of plagiarism.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:
- Term papers acquired online or from other sources;
- Copying of original material without attribution;
- Use of other students’ work;
- Copying and pasting, verbatim, information from Internet sources, without quotation marks and correct citation.

**Availability of Information**
All Honors students are expected to know what constitutes academic misconduct and to be willing to abide by all university policies on academic conduct and integrity. In order to facilitate this, The Honors College will prominently post and distribute information and links on these policies, and will strongly encourage students to review the Code of Academic Integrity, which is part of the FIU Student Handbook.

Faculty of The Honors College will:
- Describe in or link to their syllabi information about the academic conduct policies of the University, the College, and the instructor, and
- Provide clear statements defining plagiarism and cheating in their syllabi.

**Procedures and Penalties**

**Procedures**
Charges of Academic Misconduct may be brought against an Honors student by an Honors faculty member. If the faculty member suspects plagiarism or other forms of academic misconduct, within one week of the discovery of the suspected act the faculty member will hold an informal meeting with the student in order to inform him/her of the allegation(s), provide any evidence available, and allow the student to respond.

The faculty member will decide whether to pursue informal resolution, file formal resolution charges, or take no further action, and will follow the procedures outlined in the Academic Misconduct Procedures, available at http://www.fiu.edu/~oabp/misconductweb/1acmisconductproc.htm.

The student will have the right to appeal the outcome of the meeting with the instructor within one week of the faculty’s decision, when the decision is to pursue informal resolution or file formal resolution charges. The appeal will take the form of a letter to the Dean outlining the circumstances of the case and the reason for the objection to the professor’s recommendation. The Dean or his designee will examine the case and make a final determination about the pursuit of Informal Resolution or the filing of formal resolution charges.

**Penalties**
An Honors College student found responsible for plagiarism or other academic misconduct by informal resolution or formal resolution will receive an F in the relevant Honors course, and will be dismissed from Honors by the Dean, effective from the end of the semester in which the infraction occurs. Dismissal will be in writing and will entail the loss of all privileges and benefits of being in The Honors College, and the student will not be readmitted to The Honors College. The decision of the Dean will be final. This decision relates solely to the student’s status in The Honors College and does not affect the student’s right to appeal the original faculty decision.

The penalty of dismissal from The Honors College may apply to academic misconduct in any course within Florida International University and not only to
courses offered by The Honors College. In the case of courses outside The Honors College, the Dean of The Honors College will rely on the Office of the Provost for notification about the infraction(s). More stringent penalties, such as dismissal from the university, may be pursued through the university’s established academic misconduct process.

This Policy follows the University Academic Misconduct Procedures of the Code of Academic Integrity, with modification to provide for appeal within The Honors College.

This Policy becomes effective from Spring 2005.

### Course Requirements

**Introduction:** The requirements of this course are varied.

**Requirements:**
1. Written reports evaluating different research methods followed in various disciplines (20%).
2. Written reports evaluating Artistic Initiatives at FIU (10%).
3. Learning SPSS through various assignments (15%).
4. Participation in Library workshops (5%).
5. Participation in the activities of the Honors College (10%).
6. Class attendance and participation in class discussions (20%).
7. Presentation of final project, which may include: (a) participation at a panel or (b) a poster at the Research Day at FIU on March 10/05. Other alternatives may include (c) a report of a research project developed during the academic year or (d) the approval of the senior thesis proposal (20%).

### Lesson 1

**Lesson:** Artistic Initiatives

**Topics:**
- Friday, January 14/05: Frost Museum, Opening Ceremony: Mapping Landscapes and Time. Exhibition and Lecture by Mark Klett, acclaimed photographer. GL-100 at 8:00 pm
- Thursday, January 20/05: Sculpture Park at FIU, 12:30pm
- Thursday, March 31/05: School of Architecture with Prof. Kneski


**Assignments:** After each activity has taken place, submit an evaluation of the learning experience.

### Lesson 2

**Lesson:** Library Workshops

**Objectives or Goals:** To continue developing research skills using Internet resources.

**Topics:**
- RefWorks
  - Thursday, Jan. 13/05
  - Tuesday, Jan. 18/05
  - Place: GL-245

**Assignments:** Turn in assignments as required by the FIU Librarians.

### Lesson 3

**Lesson:** SPSS

**Objectives or Goals:** To continue learning SPSS.

**Topics:**
- Using one of the Data Sets provided you will continue completing the following assignments:
1. Assignment 4: Testing Research Hypotheses for Two Independent Samples
2. Assignment 5: Testing Research Hypotheses about Two Related Samples
3. Assignment 6: Comparing Independent Samples with One-Way ANOVA
4. Assignment 7: Comparing Related Samples with GLM Repeated Measures ANOVA
5. Assignment 8: Measuring the Simple Relationship Between Two Variables
6. Assignment 9: Describing Linear Relationship Between Two Variables
7. Assignment 10: Assessing the Association Between Two Categorical Variables.

Assignments: Due dates:
Assignment 4: Thursday Jan. 20/05
Assignment 5: Thursday Jan. 27/05
Assignment 6: Thursday Feb. 3/05
Assignment 7: Thursday Feb. 10/05
Assignment 8: Thursday Feb. 17/05
Assignment 9: Thursday Feb. 24/05
Assignment 10: Thursday March 3/05

Lesson 4
Lesson: Research Methods in Some Professions
Objectives or Goals: To learn about different research methods followed in various disciplines.
Topics: 1. Research in Cases and Statutes: Ms. Cristina Ceballos-Levy
2. Research in Corporate Law and Authorities: Mr. Guillermo Levy
3. Nursing: Dr. JoAnne Youngblut
4. Biomedical Engineering: Dr. Crumpler
5. Business: Dr. Becerra-Fernandez
6. Business: Dr. Taylor

Assignments: 1. After each presentation, submit the worksheet provided.
2. Tuesday Feb 15/05: Submit report evaluating, contrasting, and comparing research methods followed by various researchers in their respective disciplines.

Lesson 5
Lesson: Research Methods in Natural and Social Sciences
Objectives or Goals: To continue exposing students to research methods followed in various disciplines.
Topics: 1. Biology: Dr. Phillipi
2. Ethics: Ms. Leyda Benitez
3. Marine Sciences: Dr. Brown
4. Psychology: Dr. Prietula
5. Chemistry: Dr. Almirall
6. Astronomy: Dr. Simpson
7. Political Science: Dr. Griffith
8. Environmental Sciences: Dr. Jayachandran

Assignments: 1. After each presentation, submit the completed worksheet provided.
2. Tuesday March 8/05: Submit report evaluating, contrasting, and comparing research methods followed by various researchers in their respective disciplines.

Lesson 6
Lesson: Field Trips
Objectives or Goals: To continue exposing students to research methods followed in various disciplines.
Topics: 1. Environmental Sciences and the Everglades: Dr. Jayachandran
2. Architecture: Prof. Kneski

Assignments: 1. Tuesday April 5/05: Submit report evaluating the learning experience.

Lesson 7
Lesson: Participation in activities of the Honors College

Objectives or Goals:
To get involvement in the activities of the Honors College.

Topics:
1. SRAI Conference Poster/Abstract Workshop: 10:00 am, Feb 11/05, DM-223
2. Tutorials on Presentations available at: http://www.fiu.edu/~honors/pedagogy/resources/posterlinks.htm
3. March: Excellence Lecture, TBA
4. SRAI Conference: Research Day at FIU, March 10/05 at 12:00 noon, MARC Pavillion
5. Others: TBA

Assignments: Submit a written report evaluating the learning activity.

Lesson 8

Lesson: Final Report

Objectives or Goals:
To show progress achieved by getting involved in SRAI.

Assignments:
For the Final Report of the Seminar, you can choose one of the following four alternatives:
1. Participation in one of the panels at the Research Day at FIU.
2. Participation in Research Day by presenting a poster of your research project.
3. A written report and a class presentation of a research project you have developed during the year.
4. The approval of the proposal for the senior thesis.

Grading

Topics:
Grade distribution:
100-95 A
94-90 A-
89-85 B+
84-80 B
79-70 C+
69-60 C
59-50 D
49-0 F