Course Information

Course title: Explorations in Research
Course number: IDH3006.02
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.

Many of the activities taking place during the semester are off-campus and it is important for you to understand that you will have to make arrangements to fully participate in the course.

Course date: Monday, January 8, 2007 through Thursday, April 19, 2007
Location: ZEB-110
Meeting day(s): Tuesdays and Thursdays
Meeting time(s): 12:30-13:45

Instructor Information

Name: Dr. Irma T. Alonso
Email: If you want a reply within 48 hours, please contact me through the email provided by WebCT
Office location: DM-318A
Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30-12:00
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. In order to accomplish this goal, many activities have been scheduled during the semester. Some of these activities are off-campus requiring the students to make arrangements in order to take advantage of all learning experiences.

Policies

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

Work submitted after the deadline is severely penalized, so make sure to turn in your work on time, if you want full credit for it.

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 College.
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.

Course Requirements

Introduction: The requirements of this course are varied.

Requirements:

1. Written reports evaluating different research methods followed in various disciplines (30%)

2. Written reports evaluating Artistic Initiatives at FIU (10%)

3. Learning SPSS on your own through various assignments (15%).

4. Participation in the activities of the Honors College (10%).

5. Class attendance and participation in class discussions (10%).

6. Presentation of final project, which may include:
   (a) participation at a panel or
   (b) presentation of a poster of your research project at the Research Day at FIU on April 4/07.
   Other alternatives may include
   (c) a report of a research project developed during the academic year for any other course, or
   (d) the approval of the senior thesis proposal. (15%).

7. Service Learning Project (10%)

Lesson 1

Lesson: Artistic Initiatives

Objectives or Goals: To appreciate different forms of art.

Topics: Required activities include:

1. Frost Art Museum’s Annual Student Show. The exhibition runs from February 16-March 11/07. The opening ceremony is at 6:30pm on Feb 16/07, PC-110.

2. Critics Lecture Series: Maya Lin, Friday Feb 16/07 at 8:00 pm, GL-100.

3. The Wolfsonian: Exhibition: Lo & Behold (Mira & Ve), a Site-Specific Installation by Lawrence Weiner. The exhibition runs from December 9/06 to March 1/07.

Alternative activities may include the selection of any of the following:

   Attendance to any FIU Theater, Dance and/or Music performance(s).
   A visit to the Miami Art Museum, which offers free tours on Sundays at 2:00pm.
   Any other cultural activity of your choice, like the South Beach Wine and Food Festival, Feb 28-March 2/07

Assignments: After each activity has taken place, submit a written report, evaluating the learning experience. Due date: The next class following the activity.

Lesson 2

Lesson: SPSS

Objectives or Goals: The purpose of these assignments is that through these exercises you continue
Goals: learning SPSS on your own.

Topics:
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: Late submissions are severely penalized.
Assignment 4: Thursday Jan. 18/07
Assignment 5: Thursday Jan. 25/07
Assignment 6: Thursday Feb. 1/07
Assignment 7: Thursday Feb. 8/07
Assignment 8: Thursday Feb. 15/07
Assignment 9: Thursday Feb. 22/07
Assignment 10: Thursday March 1/07

Lesson 3
Lesson: Research Methods in the Arts
Objectives or Goals: To continue exposing students to different research methods followed in various disciplines.
Topics:
1. 1/9/07 Arts: Prof. John Bailly
2. 1/11/07 Arts: Dr. Regina Bailey
3. 1/16/07: Librarian Frank Luca: The Wolfsonian
Assignments:
1. At each presentation, complete the worksheet provided.
2. Tuesday January 18/07: Submit written report evaluating, contrasting and comparing the different research methods followed in the various disciplines.

Lesson 4
Lesson: Research Methods in Business
Objectives or Goals: To continue exposing students to different research methods followed in various disciplines.
Topics:
1. 1/18/07 Decision Sciences and Information Systems: Dr. Irma Becerra-Fernandez
2. 1/23/07 Entrepreneurship: Dr. Alan Carsrud
3. 1/25/07 Marketing: Dr. Kim Taylor
4. 1/30-07 Ethics: Dr. John Tsalikis
Assignments:
1. At each presentation, complete the worksheet provided.
2. Thursday Feb 1/07: Submit written report evaluating, contrasting and comparing the different research methods followed in the various disciplines.

Lesson 5
Lesson: Research Methods in the Social Sciences and Humanities
Objectives or Goals: To continue exposing students to research methods followed in various disciplines.
Topics:
1. 2/1/07 Economics: Dr. Manuel Carvajal
2. 2/6/07 History: Dr. Mark Szuchman
3. 2/8/07 Labor: Dr. Bruce Nissen
4. 2/13/07 Sociology/Anthropology: Dr. Alex Stepick
5. 2/15/07 Criminal Justice: Dr. Suman Kakar
Assignments:
1. At each presentation, complete the worksheet provided.
2. Tuesday, Feb 20/07: Submit report evaluating, contrasting, and comparing research methods followed by various researchers in their respective disciplines.

Lesson 6
Lesson: Research Methods in Education
Objectives or Goals: To continue exposing students to different research methods followed in various disciplines
Lesson 7

Lesson: Research Methods in the Natural Sciences
Objectives or Goals: To continue exposing students to different research methods followed in various disciplines.
Topics: 1. 2/27/07 Physics: Dr. Richard Bone 2. 3/1/07 Physical Therapy: Dr. Helen Cornely 3. 3/6/07 Forensic Chemistry: Dr. Jose Almirall 4. 3/8/07 Astronomy: Dr. Caroline Simpson
Assignments: 1. At each presentation, complete the worksheet provided. 2. Tuesday, March 13/07: Submit written report evaluating, comparing and contrasting research methods followed by the different researchers.

Lesson 8

Lesson: Research Methods in Psychology
Objectives or Goals: To continue exposing students to different research methods followed in various disciplines.
Topics: 1. 3/13/07: Dr. Eric Wagner 2. 3/15/07: Dr. Lesley DeChurch
Assignments: 1. At each presentation, complete the worksheet provided. 2. Tuesday, March 27/07: Submit report evaluating, contrasting, and comparing research methods followed by various researchers in their respective disciplines.

Lesson 9

Lesson: Research Methods in Some Professions
Objectives or Goals: To learn about different research methods followed in various professions.
Topics: 1. 3/27/07 Research in Law: Dr. Scott Fingerhut 2. 3/29/07 Law Cases and Statutes: Ms. Cristina Ceballos-Levy 3. 4/3/07 Nursing: Dr. JoAnne Youngblut 4. 4/5/07 Engineering: Dr. Ronald Guiachetti
Assignments: 1. At each presentation, complete the worksheet provided. 2. Tuesday, April 10/07: Submit report evaluating, contrasting, and comparing research methods followed by various researchers in their respective professions.

Lesson 10

Lesson: Participation in activities of the Honors College
Objectives or Goals: To get involved in the activities of the Honors College.
7. Honors Hour: Wednesdays at 12:30 pm (attend at least two of these sessions)

8. Others: TBA

Assignments: After each activity has taken place, submit a written report evaluating each learning activity.

### Lesson 11
**Lesson:** Service Learning Activity

**Objectives or Goals:** To provide help to students with disabilities in the forms of research or tutoring, as needed.

**Topics:** This activity is coordinated with the Office of Disability Students.

**Readings:** Learning material provided by the Office of Disability Services, included as part of Course Resources.

**Assignments:**
1. Each student will provide a minimum of 15 hours of service during the semester.
2. Students will be divided into small groups to provide the service.
3. After completing the service, write a report evaluating your learning experience in helping others. **Due date: Thursday March 29/07.**

### Lesson 12
**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 for any other course, on Tuesday April 10/07 or Thursday April 12/07.
4. The approval of the proposal for the senior thesis.

### Grading
**Objectives or Goals:**
1. Deadlines have been established to be followed.
2. Late submissions are severely penalized.
3. All written reports evaluating different research methods must be accompanied by the completed worksheets.

**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