

INTS 4910 – Senior Interdisciplinary Project (3 cr.)

Fall 2012

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

INTS 4910 is required of all Integrated Studies majors in their final year. The second in a 2 course sequence providing the culminating experience in the program. Students will work with a pre-approved topic, theme, issue, or problem and relate their two areas of concentration through careful analysis and creative synthesis, producing a major project that exhibits skill in interdisciplinary understanding. Prerequisite: INTS 4900 with a grade of C or better.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & OUTCOMES

This course will develop a student's knowledge of and appreciation for the

- interdisciplinary nature of knowledge and learning
- importance and value of integrating knowledge and perspectives from multiple disciplines as a means to evaluating and understanding complex topics, problems, issues, phenomena, and events
- unique and distinct insights that various disciplines bring to interdisciplinary study
- nature and process of advanced academic research

Upon successful completion of the course, students will understand the

- standard research methods and practices of various academic disciplines
- purpose and elements of an annotated bibliography
- process and components of an advanced undergraduate research paper
- importance of ethics in the research process
- rudiments of conducting advanced undergraduate research
- core elements and differing disciplinary systems of research documentation
- nature and practice of integrative, interdisciplinary research
- process of designing an integrated research question
- importance of precise, concise, and cogent writing

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of the Integrated Studies program, students will:

- Understand the nature and process of interdisciplinary integration.
- Appreciate the unique advantages of integrative research and learning.
- Recognize how interdisciplinary-based research provides important knowledge and insight into complex problems and issues.
- Understand the nature of disciplinary research and scholarship.
- Identify the distinct theories, epistemologies, methods, concepts, and assumptions of two academic disciplines.
- Conduct scholarly research and writing in two academic disciplines.
- Demonstrate integrative understanding of a topic, problem, or phenomenon from two disciplinary perspectives.

CAMPUS POLICIES

As a public institution of higher learning, we have all kinds of rules and regulations we (students, faculty and staff) must adhere to. Those policies and procedures are outlined in official documents that can be accessed here:

<http://dixie.edu/reg/syllabus/#finals>

In links accessed from that page, you will find information regarding important dates on campus for the semester, the final exam schedule, Writing Center and Disability Resource Center information, and policies and procedures regarding academic honesty and student/faculty conduct. Should there be any question about campus policies and procedures, I will assume you have read the information available online in full.

It cannot be emphasized enough that if you feel you are in need of assistance from the Disability Resource Center you should seek them out immediately upon starting the semester. The sooner I am aware of the need for accommodation, the easier it is to make those accommodations. The help that the DRC offers is free and completely confidential.

IMPORTANT DATES ON CAMPUS:

Aug 20	Classwork Starts
Aug 23	Last Day to Waitlist
Aug 24	Last Day to Add Without Signature
Aug 27	Drop/Audit Fee Begins (\$10 per class)
Sep 3	Labor Day
Sep 4	\$50 Late Registration/Payment Fee
Sep 10	Pell Grant Census
Sep 10	Last Day for Refund
Sep 10	Last Day to drop without receiving a "W" grade
Sep 11	Courses dropped for non-payment

Sep 14	Last Day to Add/Audit
Oct 1	Graduation Application Deadline for Fall 2012
Oct 10	Mid-Term Grades Due
Oct 11-12	Semester Break
Oct 15	Last Day to Drop Individual Class
Oct 22	Spring and Summer 2013 class schedules available online
Nov 1	Graduation Application Deadline for Spring 2013
Nov 9	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal
Nov 12	Spring Registration open to Seniors (90+ credits)
Nov 13	Career Day (no classes before 4:00 p.m.)
Nov 13	Spring Registration open to Juniors (60+ credits)
Nov 14	Spring Registration open to Sophomores (30+ credits)
Nov 15	Spring Registration Open to All Students
Nov 21-23	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 7	Classwork Ends
Dec 10-14	Final Exams

ASSIGNMENTS:

Outline – complete sentences, sources indicated, complex and developed, indicate main ideas, subsidiary ideas, main arguments, organization – at least 4 pages long. **MOST IMPORTANT WORK OF THE SEMESTER.** You might consider using notecards and your sources to get organized and give the research the opportunity to “speak” to you before writing your outline.

Meeting #1 – required to review outline before proceeding with writing

Submission #1 – 6 pages (don’t start at the introduction)

Submission #2 – 6 pages (still not writing the introduction)

Submission #3 – 6 pages (finishing the paper up but not writing the introduction)

Full Draft Submission – entire draft, including the introduction, exclude References

Meeting #2 – required to begin revision process

Full Draft Revision – after one week “rest”, revise independently, all-inclusive

Full Draft Revision #2 – not required of all, assigned when necessary

Final Submission – dropped off and walking away – no more revisions

SUBMISSIONS WILL ALWAYS BE DUE INTO THE INTS OFFICES ON WEDNESDAYS. THE OFFICES CLOSE AT 5:00PM AND IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SUBMISSION DEADLINES.

SUBMISSION AND GRADING POLICIES

Grades in this class will be assigned “holistically” after completion of the entire semester. Students who submit all work on time and produce a logically organized, properly formatted, responsibly cited, comprehensible document will pass the class with a C.

Earning a higher grade requires deeper research, more organized thinking, better writing, and consistent improvement throughout the process. It is difficult to quantify higher grades, but a true A paper is a most rare and delightful creature. The students who earn As share many common characteristics. They work steadily and independently, asking questions before they get in a pickle, and they find trustworthy readers to help them analyze the paper for weaknesses in development and technical issues. Their research is of the highest quality and they incorporate others' ideas without stringing together a long list of quotes or making assertions about new ideas that are left unsupported.

Submissions will be tracked in CANVAS Grading tool, but not graded. This is simply a way for us to keep track of your progress.

Falling behind in this semester is a really bad idea. Failing to submit any assignment will affect your grade. Students who fall behind will be left for dead on the side of the road. Failure to submit two assignments will mean you have failed the class and will have to take it again. Incompletes can only be offered if everything has been submitted and an emergency has made it impossible to submit the final draft on time. Incompletes will then be offered for as short a term as possible to allow students to finish (usually 30 days).

ASSIGNMENTS ARE ALWAYS DUE ON WEDNESDAYS AND THE OFFICES CLOSE AT 5:00PM. The only exception will be the FINAL DRAFT, which must be submitted by 5:00pm on Monday, November 19.

WEEK	ACTIVITY	SUBMISSION
8/20	Meet with 4900 classes (choose one)	attend class
8/27	Writing Outline	Outline due Wed 8/29
9/3	Scheduled Individual Meetings	none
9/10	Scheduled Individual Meetings	none
9/17	Writing	Sub #1 Wed 9/19
9/24	Writing	Sub #2 Wed 9/26
10/1	Writing	Sub #3 Wed 10/3
10/8	Writing	Full Draft on Wed 10/10
10/15	Scheduled Individual Meetings	none
10/22	Revising	none
10/29	Revising	Revision #1 Wed 10/31

11/5	Revising	none
11/12	Revising (2 nd revision only as assigned)	Revision #2 Wed 11/14
11/19	Submit Final Draft before Thanksgiving Holiday – Due Mon, 11/19	
11/26	Relax and enjoy being done with your Senior Project!	
12/3	Think fondly of your instructors since you now have more time to study for other final exams. 😊	