

## **INTEGRATED STUDIES DEPARTMENT 4900 SENIOR RESEARCH**

**SPRING 2013      INTS 4900      Section 01      CRN# 26429      meet w/inst  
Section 50      CRN# 25390      meet w/inst**

**Matthew Morin  
NPlaza 125C (after Feb. 15)  
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**Office Hours: Skype meetings by appointment  
(I will be available for  
on-campus office hours after  
February 15)**

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**Office Hours:      M 1-4  
                             T 12-3  
                             W 10-2  
                             F by appointment**

Welcome to the Senior Project! 4900 is the first class in a two-semester series that will be offered FA, SP, and SU, and should be taken in two consecutive semesters. After successful completion of INTS 4900 students will be able to enroll in INTS 4910. Students may not enroll in INTS 4900 until they have completed INTS 3100 with a C or better, and achieved senior standing (>90 credits) at Dixie State. Students will not maintain enrollment in INTS 4910 unless they receive a C or better in INTS 4900.

INTS 4900 focuses on research methods, project design, written project proposals, and research analysis. Students will be expected to work independently while building academic relationships with faculty advisors from the INTS Department and their emphasis area departments. Classroom time is limited, but students should schedule regular research and study time to meet assignment deadlines.

Matthew Morin will be the primary instructor for INTS 4900 and will manage the course via email from outside the country until February 15<sup>th</sup>. Questions are encouraged and he will respond to all emails within 24 hours. Additionally, before February 15<sup>th</sup>, all individually scheduled meetings will occur via Skype. For students who require technology assistance, contact Denise Burton for access to on-campus skype enabled computers. Denise Burton will also be available during her office hours to discuss any questions or concerns that you feel more comfortable addressing in person.

### **PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

The Integrated Studies Program offers students the opportunity to:

- Design a Bachelor's Degree that reflects unique educational and professional goals and interests.

- Study the epistemologies, theories, methods, assumptions and perspectives of two distinct academic areas of emphasis.
- Articulate the advantages of using interdisciplinary approaches to complex issues and problems.
- Draw upon the elements of their emphasis areas to provide a more comprehensive understanding of academic and real-world problems.
- Produce an individually designed, research-based artifact or paper that reflects integrative thinking and learning.

## **PROGRAM OUTCOMES**

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

- Recognize the distinct perspectives, epistemologies, methods, assumptions, and contributions of the traditional academic disciplines.
- Employ concepts, theories, methods, and knowledge from multiple disciplines to address real-world problems and issues.
- Demonstrate higher-order cognitive abilities, including abstract, dialectical, creative, critical, analytical and holistic thinking.
- Produce written and oral forms of communication that are cogent, organized, articulate and supported by research.
- Conduct research in the professional literature related to various discipline-specific fields and demonstrate competence in analyzing and synthesizing material.
- Integrate concepts, perspectives, theories, and knowledge to produce an original artifact or research project.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

In INTS 4900 students will:

- Generate an appropriately interdisciplinary question that draws upon the elements of both emphasis areas to develop a more comprehensive understanding of the issue or problem.
- Design and follow an appropriately academic and systematic research process.
- Conduct scholarly research in discipline-appropriate forums and use that research to produce an original artifact or scholarly paper.
- Consult with advisors from the INTS Department and other academic departments as needed.
- Complete a research-based project or paper that demonstrates integrative understanding of an interdisciplinary issue, as well as disciplinary competence in two areas of emphasis.

## **COURSE OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of the courses, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate the process of designing an integrated research question.
- Practice the process and components of an advanced undergraduate research project.
- Understand the purpose and elements of an annotated bibliography.
- Apply the standard research, documentation, and communication methods of two academic disciplines.
- Value the nature and practice of integrative, interdisciplinary research.

## **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 integrity 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:**

Jan 7	Classwork Starts
Jan 10	Last Day to Waitlist
Jan 11	Last Day to Add Without Signature
Jan 14	Drop/Audit Fee Begins (\$10 per class)
Jan 16	Residency Application Deadline
Jan 21	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Jan 22	\$50 Late Registration/Payment Fee
Jan 29	Pell Grant Census
Jan 29	Last Day for Refund
Jan 29	Last Day to drop without receiving a "W" grade
Jan 30	Courses dropped for non-payment

Feb 1	Last Day to Add/Audit
Feb 1	Associate's degree Graduation Deadline - Spring 2013
Feb 18	President's Day
Feb 25	Mid-Term Grades Due
Mar 1	Last Day to Drop Individual Class
Mar 1	Bachelor's degree Graduation Deadline - Summer 2013
Mar 11-15	Spring Break
Mar 18	Fall 2013 Class schedule available online
Mar 18	Summer Registration open to Seniors (90+ credits)
Mar 19	Summer Registration open to Juniors (60+ credits)
Mar 20	Summer Registration open to Sophomores (30+ credits)
Mar 21	Summer Registration open to all students
Mar 29	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal
Apr 1	Bachelor's degree Graduation Deadline - Fall 2013
Apr 8	Fall Registration open to Seniors (90+ credits)
Apr 9	Fall Registration open to Juniors (60+ credits)
Apr 10	Fall Registration open to Sophomores (30+ credits)
Apr 11	Fall Registration open to all students
Apr 24	Classwork Ends
Apr 25	Reading Day
Apr 26	Final Exams
Apr 29-30, May 1	Final Exams
May 1	Associate's degree Graduation Deadline - Summer 2013
May 2	Final Exams
May 3	Commencement

## **COURSE GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS**

Students in INTS 4900 are expected to pursue their research on a largely independent basis, with regularly scheduled appointments to assess and approve the research. The work is cumulative, and students must complete each assignment before moving on to the next one. Assignments will be submitted by email to [m2morin@gmail.com](mailto:m2morin@gmail.com) before the deadline each time, and failure to submit will result in the assignment being marked "late." "Late" assignments **WILL** negatively affect grades; assignments submitted late will be marked down one letter grade for every 24 hours that passes.

Students who get more than four weeks behind schedule, or fail to submit any assignment will not pass the class and will be required to repeat the semester. Incompletes will not be offered to students except when emergency circumstances prohibit the submission of the final two assignments. In those cases, incomplete contracts will only allow for a one-month extension, since course work in 4910 cannot be pursued until 4900 assignments are completed.

## **ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS**

**Topic Options Research** – Each student will design 3 interdisciplinary questions and conduct research aimed at investigating the viability of those topics as research project options. Students interested in producing original artifacts will use this opportunity to conduct research that will support the proposal and argue for the disciplinary appropriateness of the artifact. Students will also keep detailed research logs during this process that will be submitted with the assignment. The complete assignment package will be reviewed by department faculty, and recommendations for the project will be discussed with the student in a mandatory meeting following the submission of this assignment. After a topic is chosen, students will be required to make appointments with faculty members from each of their emphasis areas to review the project proposal.

**Bibliography** – After coming to a consensus with faculty advisors on the project topic, students will begin exhaustive research into their topics and produce 50 source bibliographies that are organized to reflect major themes and sections of the proposed project. Students producing an artifact may choose to focus some of this research on exposure to comparable artifacts produced by practitioners in their disciplines. Bibliographies will help students to further refine the topic/project, and will be followed by meetings as needed.

**Initial Development Plan** – Students will produce a document that answers several very specific questions designed to help them explore the development of their project and highlight possible areas of concern for further research. Students will be expected to be able to articulate the major ideas and themes they have been exposed to during their research. Mandatory meetings with INTS faculty will follow this submission.

**Annotations and Analysis** – Students will choose the 15 most relevant and “powerful” sources from their research and write annotations built on targeted analytical questions (available on CANVAS) that demonstrate careful reading and analysis of those sources. Upon completion of this assignment, students should feel confident discussing and drawing upon these 15 strong sources as the starting point for their final project submission.

**Project Analysis** – Submitted before the scheduled Final Exam, this thorough analysis of the research and development of the project will be focused on the elements of the two emphasis areas that are being used (theories, methods, concepts, etc.) and the integration of those elements. The questions will be available on CANVAS before the final week of the semester. Students that cannot successfully articulate the integrative nature of their project at this point in the semester will be required to repeat the assignment. Failure to successfully complete this assignment with a C or better will require repeating the course.

## GRADING

### INTS 4900

Grades for course assignments are weighted as follows:

Topic Options Research and Logs	20%	200 points
Bibliography	20%	200 points
Initial Development Plan	10%	100 points
Annotations and Analysis	20%	200 points
Project Analysis	20%	200 points (must be 70%)
Mandatory Meetings	10%	100 points

### GRADE SCALE AND CORRESPONDING GPA

A	94.0 and above	4	C	74.0 – 76.9	2
A-	90.0 – 93.9	3.7	C-	70.0 – 73.9	1.7
B+	87.0 – 89.9	3.3	D+	67.0 – 69.9	1.3
B	84.0 – 86.9	3	D	64.0 – 66.9	1
B-	80.0 – 83.9	2.7	D-	60.0 – 63.9	.7
C+	77.0 – 79.9	2.3	F	< 59.9	0

### COURSE SCHEDULE – Spring Semester 2013

INTS 4900 is managed by weeks – a new week always starts on Monday. After the initial class meeting in 4900, students will manage their semester's work individually. **ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE BY SUBMISSION TO [m2morin@gmail.com](mailto:m2morin@gmail.com) BY 5:00pm ON THURSDAYS.** 4900 Meetings will be scheduled by sign up through email communication. I will email the class with further details about the online scheduling tool we will use to make this possible.

### INTS 4900 – Work and Submission Schedule

Week One	Jan 7	Meet in scheduled classes to review syllabus
Week Two	Jan 14	Individual Work
Week Three	Jan 21	Submit Topic Options Research by 5:00pm on Thursday, January 24 – sign up for meetings
Week Four	Jan 28	Skype meetings by appointment
Week Five	Feb 4	Skype meetings by appointment
Week Six	Feb 11	Research Work
Week Seven	Feb 18	Research Work
Week Eight	Feb 25	Research Work
Week Nine	Mar 4	Submit Bibliographies by 5:00pm on Thursday, March 7 – sign up for meeting
Week Ten	Mar 11	SPRING BREAK
Week Eleven	Mar 18	Submit Development Plan by 5:00pm on Thursday, Mar 21

Week Twelve	Mar 25	Office meetings by appointment
Week Thirteen	April 1	Office meetings by appointment
Week Fourteen	April 8	Annotations Work
Week Fifteen	April 15	Annotations Work
Week Sixteen	April 22	Submit Annotations by 5:00pm on Thursday, April 25
Finals Week	April 26	Submit Project Analysis by 5:00pm on Thursday, May 2