Independent Study in Higher Education: Scholarly Practice

Course Description

This course will examine the functions and practices typically found in institutions of higher education. Students will examine these functions and practices in the context of a complex organization and develop an understanding of how they contribute to the mission of the institution. Students will also complete an internship experience in a University or community.

Rationale

We live in an academic world that is often characterized by a publish-or-perish culture. According to van Dalen and Henkens (2011), universities have shifted resources from traditional higher education activities to focus more on providing financial rewards to those who produce research and publish. They stated that the “United States and Canada have a long history of using incentives for faculty to publish” (p. 1282). In the United States public institutions with graduate programs there is a greater focus on research productivity than other institutions without graduate programs (Albone, 2011). Research productivity is an endeavor toward building knowledge in an intellectual community. Walker et al. (2008) related that a graduate program engages students in open discussions about teaching, research, and service. It is more than courses and exams. Students are to engage in issues that places history in a greater milieu. “Intellectual community is a condition, indeed the foundation, for the core of doctoral education: building knowledge” (p. 123).

This course engages students in that quest for building knowledge in an intellectual community in a publish-or-perish culture in higher education in the United States.


Course Objectives/Learning Objectives

- Analyze various types of academic writing in peer reviewed journals.
- Conduct a literary analysis.
- Identify topic for manuscript.
- Identify relevant journals for publishing a manuscript.
- Write a scholarly manuscript for publication in accordance with the results of the literary analysis.
- Submit manuscript for publication in a peer reviewed journal.

Major Course Requirements
• Write a journal article for publication according to research and submission standards
• Submit the article according to a journal’s submission requirements

Assignment Summary

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manuscript for publication</td>
<td>Pass or Fail (Submit for Publication or Perish)</td>
<td>12.2.14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading:** P/F (submit for publication or perish)

**Reading Requirements**

~As assigned


**State Adopted Proficiencies for Teachers and/or Administrators/Counselors** n/a

**TExES Competencies** n/a

**Course Policies**

*Attendance/tardiness:* It is expected that you attend every class session and are on time.

*Late work:* No late work is accepted except for extenuating circumstances approved by the instructor.

*Extra Credit:* No extra credit work is provided.

*Cell Phone/Electronic Device Usage:* Cell phones and other electronic devices are to be turned off during class time. Approved electronic devices include the use of a computer for note taking.
**Academic Integrity/Plagiarism**

University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in and “F” for an assignment. Additional academic dishonesty and/or plagiarism will result in an “F” for the course.

**Dropping a Class**

I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. Friday, April 10, 2015 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

**Required methods of scholarly citations:** APA 6th Edition

**Classroom/professional behavior**

It is expected that classroom, campus, and community behavior are exemplary of professionals and scholars in higher education. Although we can have a great deal of fun and should enjoy the educational experience, overall behavior should reflect dignity and respect for each other, the field of study, and the society we serve.

**Statement of Civility**

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

**Grade Appeals**

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at
For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught or the Office of the Provost.

**Statement of Academic Continuity**

In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

**Disabilities Accommodations**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

**Course Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics and Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.18</td>
<td>~Review Syllabus</td>
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<td>~How to identity scholarly concept papers and journals</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.25</td>
<td>~Topic selection</td>
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<td></td>
<td>~Selecting Journals</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>~Example journals</td>
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<td></td>
<td>~Example articles</td>
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<td></td>
<td>~Literary analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>~Developing the topic</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>~Journal submission requirements</td>
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<td></td>
<td>~Manuscript development</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.15</td>
<td>~Literary analysis process</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>~Manuscript development</td>
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</tbody>
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2.22 ~Journal selection
    ~Manuscript development

3.1 ~Literary analysis of a journal/manuscripts
    ~Manuscript development

3.8 ~Manuscript development

3.15 Spring Break

3.22 ~Manuscript development

3.29 ~Manuscript development

4.5 ~Manuscript development

4.12 ~Manuscript development

4.19 ~Manuscript development

4.26 ~Submission criteria
    ~Manuscript development

4.19 ~Finalize manuscript
    ~Finalize journal requirements documents

4.3 ~Submit manuscript for review for publication
Bibliography


