Course Syllabus
LI890XR

Advanced Research Strategies
Spring Semester 2014

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Online Course Login: canvas.emporia.edu
Credit Hours: 3
Meetings: 2/28-3/1; 5/2-3, 2014

Important Dates for Spring 2014

1/22 First Day of Class
4/9 Last Day to Withdraw
2/4 Last Day to Add/Drop
5/9 Last Day of Class
5/20 Final Grades Due
3/25 Midterm Grades Due
5/17 Commencement

Program Goal

The goal of SLIM’s doctoral program is to prepare scholars to:

• conduct significant research that contributes to the theory base of library and information science and constructs linkages to contemporary professional problems,
• teach in academic environments, and
• develop leaders for libraries and information organizations.
Catalog Description

This course focuses on comparing and contrasting the philosophical foundation and research strategies of studies that use qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-method approaches to investigate problems in LIS. It focuses on evaluating methodological tools and approaches to investigating research questions and evaluating LIS research studies. (Approved 11/9/11)

Course Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Course Assignment (where learning outcome is evaluated)</th>
<th>PhD Program Outcome</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) understand the purposes, concepts and principles of research in general and specifically in library and information studies.</td>
<td>In-class Participation</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>1) develop research questions about the theory and practice of library and information studies.</td>
<td>Two-Page Research Proposal</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>2) evaluate research literature in library and information studies</td>
<td>Systematic Review of Literate</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>3) prepare a detailed research proposal including problem identification and selection, research questions/hypothesis, relevant variables, literature review, mythological design, sampling design, and development of appropriate research instruments for data collection and analysis.</td>
<td>Three-Part Research Proposal</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>4) understand and resolve the ethical concerns relevant to the research process.</td>
<td>Three-Part Research Proposal</td>
<td>9</td>
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Course Overview

Course Format
This course will be held face-to-face on the above-stated weekends at ESU-KC, Overland Park, KS. This course will also utilize the Canvas course management system throughout the semester.
Expected Participation

**Students are** expected to stay actively engaged in this class and on time with readings and assignments. Students are expected to participate in all scheduled class sessions. Students are expected to contribute individually, as well as in small groups. Except in the case of an emergency that is immediately communicated to the professor, no incompletes will be given. Students are likely to have a variety of backgrounds and experiences. Students are likely to have a variety of different kinds and quantity of prior knowledge and experiences. All students are expected to welcome and value all classmate’s participation. Students are expected to be flexible, tolerant, and effective participants in this hybrid course delivery system.

Professor’s Responsibilities

**My responsibility is** to provide students with ongoing instruction, resources, strategies, guidance as needed to facilitate intellectual, professional, and interpersonal growth. My goal is for students to experience a positive and productive learning experience during this course, and ultimately beyond this class while earning the Doctor of Philosophy degree.

It is my practice to read e-mail almost every day except on some occasions when I am traveling or when I take a day or two off during the work week. I expect to respond to your e-mail within 48 hours. In the rare event that I am not able to write as much as is needed, I will tell you when I will be back to you.

I will send a message to the class many Mondays called “Monday from Mirah.” The purpose of this Monday message is to guarantee a steady and continuous flow of instruction/information from me to students throughout the semester. Please make a practice of reading all the “Monday from Mirah” messages, which I will send to you in email. These messages rarely require a direct response to me. In addition to “Monday from Mirah” messages, it is my practice to give students feedback throughout the semester. Each student will receive scores and/or comments from me using the assignment rubrics.

Student’s Responsibilities

**Your responsibility is** to complete all course requirements on time. It is your responsibility to diligently read and reflect on course readings and related materials and to be competent in face-to-face participation and/or with various forms of technology-assisted instruction. It is your responsibility to ask for assistance when it is needed. It is your responsibility to participate in discussions and written assignments demonstrating your highest abilities to participate at the doctoral level by conveying significant understandings of content knowledge and relating theory and concepts to social science general and LIS in particular. Your responsibility is to always do high quality writing following all APA rules and Conventions of Standard English. It is your responsibility to arrive for class prepared and enthusiastic about learning and interacting with your classmates and professor.
Required Readings


Learning Activities

Assignments

Complete assignment instructions with instructional guidance and rubrics will be available in Canvas. Students should expect to schedule individual time with the professor as progress is made throughout the semester.

**Note:** Assignments will be given a grade of 0 points unless the student contacts the professor to ask for extra time, or in the case of a health-related emergency. The student must have permission to earn points after the due date. Midterm grades will be based on student scores earned before March 25.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Total Points (100)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-class Participation</td>
<td>February 28-March 1</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Your participation before and following each class meeting is essential to in-class participation.)</td>
<td>May 2-3</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>Due Date</td>
<td>Total Points (100)</td>
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<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two-Page Research Proposal</td>
<td>Bring to first f2f class</td>
<td>20 points</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Turn in March 9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systematic Review of Published Research Articles</td>
<td>April 6</td>
<td>20 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-Part Research Proposal</td>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>40 points</td>
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**In-class Participation**—Participation involves active learning and required learning activities that will be done during the f2f class weekends.

**Two-Page Research Proposal**—The purpose of this two-page written document is to require you to be clear, concise, and specific about details that will later be (in the 3-part research proposal) flushed out in detail. You must address topic and problem; theoretical framework for the study; research question(s); student design with details about data collection and analysis; and proposed timeline for the study. This must be completed with an exemplar grade before moving forward.

**Systematic Review of Published Research Articles**—This assignment will provide opportunities to learn to systematically review published research on your identified topic and provide opportunity for practice in writing a literature view.

**3-Part Research Proposal**—This will be a proposal written in the ESU dissertation format including an introduction, literature review, and methods section.

**Grading Criteria**

All work, including Canvas postings, must be submitted as required on or before the due date and reflect professional care in presentation, appearance, and technical quality. On a conceptual level, content presented should reflect a high degree of original thinking, logic, and careful analysis. When cited, the work of others must be properly credited. In addition, each assignment will include directions specific to that activity.

**SLIM Grading Scale**

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<tr>
<td>96 - 100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>77 - 79</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 - 95</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>74 - 76</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87 - 89</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>70 - 73</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84 - 86</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>0 - 69</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 - 83</td>
<td>B-</td>
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Assignment Scores are posted in Canvas grade book throughout the semester.

Official, final course grades will be posted in ESU BuzzIn.

Passing rate:  80% or above (see SLIM Grade Policy below)

**SLIM Attendance Policy**

Students must attend all face-to-face classes. Class hours for weekend face-to-face meetings are 6pm-9pm on Friday and 9am-5pm on Saturday.

In cases of emergency, go to [http://www.emporia.edu/slim/about/policies.html](http://www.emporia.edu/slim/about/policies.html) for more information.

**SLIM Grade Policy**

All graduate courses required in the university-approved curricula of SLIM’s master’s programs program, certificate programs, academic concentrations, and doctoral program--or their approved substitutions--must be passed with a final grade of B- or better to receive academic credit. If a student does not receive a final grade of B- or better in any or all of SLIM’s required classes, then the student will be given an academic warning and the student will be notified by SLIM administration that he or she must retake that course or those courses.

When a student has been given an academic warning, an administrative hold will be placed on the student’s record to block future enrollment. Before enrollment can be done, the student is required to meet with the student’s academic advisor with the goal of developing an academic improvement plan. The administrative hold can only be released by the student’s academic advisor or by the SLIM dean. The administrative hold will be released once the student completes his or her next semester course(s) with a B- or above.

If a student has a semester GPA of less than 3.0 for two semesters or has been given an academic warning for two semesters, then the student’s academic progress will be reviewed in light of the academic improvement plan by the student’s program director and the SLIM dean, and a decision will be made regarding whether the student should be academically dismissed from the SLIM’s graduate program.

This SLIM Grade Policy applies to all students in SLIM’s master’s degree programs, certificate programs, doctoral program, and academic concentrations. It also applies to all those who have passed into MLS or doctoral degree candidacy.
SLIM Incomplete Grade Policy

SLIM’s Incomplete Grade Policy upholds the Emporia State University Incomplete Grade Policy (for full policy, go to: http://www.emporia.edu/regist/trnsept/grades.html).

SLIM’s Incomplete Grade Policy further stipulates that an incomplete request will not be considered approved without an Incomplete Request Form having been submitted by the instructor and approved by the SLIM dean within two weeks after the issuance of the incomplete. If the incomplete grade is being requested for reasons of health, then documentation must be submitted to the SLIM dean’s office before the final grade change is made.

If a SLIM student’s request for a single incomplete grade is approved by the instructor and dean, then the student will be limited to enrolling in six credit hours in the immediately succeeding semester. If a SLIM student requests more than one incomplete grade to be issued at the conclusion of a semester, then an administrative hold will be placed on the student’s record to block future enrollment until all incomplete grades are finished and the final grade changes have been submitted by the instructor(s), signed by the SLIM dean, and accepted by the ESU Registrar’s Office.

Course Evaluations

SLIM uses the IDEA evaluation instrument to gather feedback from students on the effectiveness of each course. The data gathered is shared with instructors in aggregated form, and is used for both course and teaching improvement. Evaluation surveys are made available to students toward the end of each semester, and periodic email reminders are sent to encourage participation. The surveys are administered by The IDEA Center and student responses are anonymous (unless students share any identifying information in their comments). Instructors do not have access to individual student surveys at any time, and only receive aggregated data at least two weeks after final grades are submitted.

Faculty-initiated Student Withdrawal Procedure

Students should be aware that your instructor follows the university’s policy of faculty-initiated student withdrawal. It reads as follows: “If a student’s absences from class or disruptive behavior become detrimental to the student’s progress or that of other students in the class, the faculty member shall attempt to contact the student in writing about withdrawing from the class and shall seek the aid of the office of Vice President of Student Affairs to help insure contacting the student. The Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs shall provide the student information about the existing appeals procedures. Upon receiving a written report from the faculty member, the Vice President of Student Affairs may initiate a student withdrawal from the class. None of the above implies or states that faculty members are required to initiate the student withdrawals for excessive absence. [Policy and Procedures Manual 43.11]
Academic Dishonesty

At Emporia State University, academic dishonesty is a basis for disciplinary action. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to activities such as cheating and plagiarism (presenting as one's own the intellectual or creative accomplishments of another without giving credit to the source or sources.)

The faculty member in whose course or under whose tutelage an act of academic dishonesty occurs has the option of failing the student for the academic hours in question and may refer the case to other academic personnel for further action. Emporia State University may impose penalties for academic dishonesty up to and including expulsion from the university.

Disabilities Policy

Emporia State University will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students need to contact the Director of Disability Services and the professor as early in the semester as possible to ensure that classroom and academic accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. All communication between students, the Office of Disability Services, and the professor will be strictly confidential.

Contact information for the Office of Disability Services:

Office of Disability Services
106 Plumb Hall
Emporia State University
1200 Commercial Street / Box 23
Emporia, KS 66801
Phone: 620/341-6637
TTY: 620/341-6646
Email: disabser@emporia.edu