

**LL 300 RESEARCH SEMINAR
WINTER,2008**

FACULTY: Jo Ann Gesiakowska
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LOCATION: Loop Campus

HOURS: Monday 6:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.
January 7,2008 to March 17,2008

COMPETENCIES: L 8 and L 9

TOPIC: OPEN

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course, students will learn about the steps involved in planning and conducting research around a general topic. Students will discuss different approaches to research and compare them in terms of selecting and defining issues and problems and the advantages and disadvantages associated with various data gathering methods. Students will also debate general issues related to research like objectivity, the nature of evidence, the quality and reliability of sources and the role of assumptions.

The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with the tools of research: how to identify an issue, formulate a hypotheses, look for and evaluate information, reason to conclusion and present arguments. The skills developed in this course should be relevant in the student's everyday life, particularly their job

This class is the foundation for your externship and especially your advanced project. It is also a very challenging class.

SUGGESTED TEXT: FINDING OUT by June True

LEARNING TOOLS AND STRATEGIES:

1. Duplicated materials for reading and discussion
2. Class discussion and group work
3. Information gathering exercises in Libraries and other sources
4. Lectures
5. Sample papers
6. Drafts and completed sections of the research paper
7. Writing samples on current topics

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

DePaul university is a learning community that fosters the pursuit of knowledge and the transmission of ideas within a context that emphasizes a sense of responsibility for oneself, for others and society at large. Violations of academic integrity, in any of their forms, are, therefore, detrimental to the values of DePaul, pursuit of knowledge and the transmission of values.

This course will abide by and adhere to DePaul university policies regarding academic integrity. This includes policies on cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, alteration or falsification of academic records as well as academic misconduct. These policies are in your Student Handbook.

NOTE: THIS POLICY IS EXTREMELY RELEVANT IN THIS CLASS WHICH IS A RESEARCH CLASS.

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance and participation are essential. In the event of an absence it is imperative that you let me know by e-mail or phone ahead of time if it is at all possible. Secondly contact a classmate the first night of class who will be able to tutor and give you notes for the class you missed.

NOTE: THE FIRST FIVE CLASSES ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT.

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY INCOMPLETE POLICY

Undergraduate students have 2 quarters to complete an incomplete. At the end of the second quarter (excluding summer), following the term in which the incomplete grade was assigned, remaining incompletes will automatically convert to “F” grades. Ordinarily no incomplete grade may be completed after the grace period has expired. Instructors may not change incomplete grades after the grace period has expired. Unless the permission of a college-based Exceptions Committee grants the request. This policy applies to undergraduate, graduate and professional programs.

NOTE: In the case of a student who has applied for graduation and who has been approved for an incomplete in his or her final term, the incomplete must be resolved within the four week grace period before final degree certification. The SNL student who wished to receive the grade of IN must formally request in writes the the instructor issue this grade. This request must be made before the end of the quarter in which the student is enrolled.

PLAGIARISM

The DePaul Student Handbook defines plagiarism as follows: “Plagiarism includes but is not limited to the following: (a) the direct copying of any source, such as written or verbal material, computer files, audio disks, video programs, or musical scores, whether published or unpublished, in whole or in part, without proper acknowledgement that it is someone else’s work. (b) Copying of any source in whole or part with only minor changes in wording or syntax even with the acknowledgment of the source. (c) Submitting as one’s own work a report, examination paper, computer file, lab report, or other assignment that has been prepared by someone else. This includes research papers purchased from any other person or agency.. (d) The paraphrasing of another’s work or ideas without proper acknowledgment. Plagiarism will result in a failure of the assignment and possibly the course. If you are unsure of how to cite a source,**ASK.**

INSTRUCTOR:

Jo Ann Gesiakowska is a life long learner. She transitioned from business to high school teaching. At first, she worked for the Prudential Insurance company and then for First, Chicago, Bank One and now Chase-Morgan. Jo Ann has a Masters in History from DePaul University and a MBA from Northwestern University with a double concentration in Marketing and Finance. She has also completed all of her course work for a Masters in Education specializing in curriculum development.

CLASS SCHEDULE/TOPICS

**Class 1
January 7**

- Discussion about the student topic for this class. Small group work on topics for the Research proposal.
- Secure a text on research or buy the True book.

DUE: At the end of class or before class 2 your research topic.

**Class 2
January 14**

- Library presentation on research
- Discussion on the purpose of research

DUE: Your research topic and the title of your research book.

**Class 3
January 21**

- Overview on approaches to research and the designing of a research project
- Class work on developing a research question

NOTE: A topic is a general area of interest. A topic is a very limited and focused question

EXAMPLE: The Middle East- Topic

Why did the US invade Iraq – Research question

**Class 4
January 28**

- Discussion on analyzing and organizing your paper. Student reports on their topic and research question

DUE: This class. An oral report on your topic. What do you know about it and why did you select it. Also due is your research question.

**Class 5
February 2**

- Discussion on the reliability of sources and validity of of scholarly sources

DUE: This class your final research question as well as a list of some of your research sources

Class 6
February 11

**NO CLASS. DEVOTE TIME TO
to COMPLETING YOUR RESEARCH AND
DRAFTING THE PAPER.**

Class 7
February 18

**-Discussion on original research vs. secondary research
- Class work on an outline of your paper**

DUE: THIS CLASS your final bibliography list

Class 8
February 25

**- Discussion on secondary research problems/issues
In class work on writing the Problem Definition section
of the paper**

**DUE: The outline of your paper with a detailed
literature review section.**

Class 9
March 3

**-Individually scheduled meetings with instructor on the
Outline and bibliography**

**DUE: A draft of the research paper including the
Literature review**

Class 10
March 10

**- Class discussion on original research proposals
- Individually scheduled meetings with instructor as
needed**

**Due: The final draft of the complete paper including
the original research proposal**

Class 11
March 17

**FINAL COPY OF PAPER OR A
FORM REQUESTING AND INCOMPLETE**

This is the latest date to turn in your paper.