Honors Seminar VII: Advanced Research in Creativity with Honors
IDH 4007-4008 U24 Fall 2014-Spring 2015
Tuesday 1530-1645 in CP 107
Instructor: T. J. Liguori

Course Description
The Advanced Research in Creativity with Honors course engages students in research and artistic projects during their undergraduate studies. This course also prepares students for graduate study through active participation in undergraduate research. Students will have an opportunity to receive instruction in how to prepare a research plan, abstract, academic poster, and write a thesis.

Course Objectives
Upon completion of this course, students will:

● Understand and utilize principles of research
● Understand how to do a comprehensive literature review
● Understand how to write a research proposal and thesis
● Know how to present research and other creative activities to an audience
● Be prepared for research in graduate study
● Develop collaborative skills with research advisor(s)

Course Requirements
Students will be required to:

● Attend all required lectures and workshops as outlined in the syllabus
● Complete and submit a proposal approved by their research advisor at the end of the fall semester.
● Prepare their work for presentation at the annual ARCH Conference (oral and poster).
● Complete and submit a thesis approved by their research advisor at the end of the Spring semester.
● Turn in all assignments in accordance with the ARCH Syllabus.

All assignments must be approved by your advisor and submitted on Blackboard
Fall Assignments

Research Outline (5%) – This is an outline of your project. Is the project research or another creative activity? What is the topic or research question in your project? Are you trying to resolve a specific issue in society, globally, etc.? Which materials will you use? What is your objective, hypothesis (if research), and expected outcome(s)? What do you hope to achieve with your project? What is your strategy for your literature search, that is, what resources will you use for your literature search? This is due on September 2.

Draft Literature Review (25%) – Identify theoretical arguments or bodies of work that fit with your research topic. This assignment is structured in a way that allows you to build to a point and integrate the evidence you have collected from several works to support your point. Compare and contrast each published study to support your research topic. Discuss how your project fits into past bodies of work. Develop your research question near the end of this assignment. The required page length is 5-10 pages. This is due on October 7.

Draft Abstract/Summary (5%) -- This is a brief summary of your proposal. This assignment is 250-300 words and contains the following:

- 1-2 sentences of introduction.
- A hypothesis or objective.
- 2-4 sentences of the major methods to be used.
- 1-2 sentences describing why the project is significant and innovative.
- Describe how your project will impact the field and society.

This is due on October 21.

Draft Proposal (10%) – This is a document that provides a detailed description of the proposed program. This assignment contains the following:

- Executive Summary: What is the logic behind your proposal? Plus a summary (200-250 words)
- Statement of Need: Why is your project important? What is the hypothesis (if research)? What is the objective? Is the project to create something new or to address an unanswered question? What is the significance? What is the innovation?
- Background/Literature Review: What are the primary references that were/will be used to develop your idea? What have others done in the field that support your idea? In which ways have others addressed your question and why are their approaches unsatisfactory?
- Project Description: Provide specifics about your project. What methods and materials will be needed? What resources, equipment, or special expertise is required? What work has already been done by you or others towards completion of the project?
- Budget Analysis: How will your project be funded? Are the resources available?
- Organization Details (if applicable): If this proposal will be submitted to an outside party then provide specific details about this organization.
- Conclusion: Summarize the main points.

This is due on **November 4**.

*Final Proposal (15%)* – This is the final version of your Draft Proposal. This assignment will be reviewed through Turnitin.com. This is due on **December 2**.

*Final Abstract/Summary (15%)* – This is the final version of your Draft Abstract/Summary. This is due on **December 2**.

*Journal Club (15% -- 3 for 5% each)* – Students will work in groups to critically evaluate journal articles. Participation is essential. Everyone must read the journal articles provided and be prepared to discuss them in depth. All students are responsible for acquiring journal articles, reading them, and being ready to discuss them in class. The use of computers is allowed to access journal articles. Please review the timeline for each journal club.
Spring Assignments

Thesis Draft #1 (10%): Provide the Introduction and thorough Literature Review of your thesis. The Introduction is a preview of your thesis. Identify your research question. State your objectives and hypothesis (if applicable). Describe the significance of your project. Outline your thesis for the reader. Please see the Draft Literature Review section for its guidelines. The final page length for these sections is generally 8-15 pages (3-5 for Introduction and 5-10 for Literature Review). This is due on January 20.

Thesis Draft #2 (10%): Provide the Methods and Preliminary Results of your thesis.

- What did you do for your project?
- What materials, equipment, and other resources were used?
- How did your materials or instruments test theories described in previous research?
- Did your project apply questions or models that previous research did not explore?
- Describe your independent variable(s) and dependent variable(s) (if applicable).
- What did you discover with your project?
- Provide a brief description of your findings to date.
- Do your results support your hypothesis or previous research?
- Provide tables, visual representations, and figures of your data (if applicable).
- The page length is 5-15 pages: 3-5 pages of text, along with tables, figures, and visual representations.

This is due on February 10.

FIU Center for Excellence in Writing Center Consultation: The FIU Center for Excellence in Writing offers workshops to help students sharpen their writing skills. Students are to make an appointment and bring their draft thesis to the Center and provide a form (provided by ARCH) completed by the Center providing evidence that you had used their services and received feedback on your draft thesis. http://writingcenter.fiu.edu/

This is due on February 24

Thesis Draft #3 (10%): Provide Additional Results, the Discussion, and Conclusion of your thesis. Provide all results collected to date. The Discussion and Conclusion sections can be combined into one. Go back to your research question(s) and interpret your findings. What do your results imply? Why are they important? What did you discover? How do your results compare with what others in the field have done? Do they support or contradict what has been reported in the literature? How do your results extend the overall body of knowledge in the field? Describe any issues or problems you came across in your project. How would you repeat your project differently? Make suggestions for future research. The conclusion may appear as a summary, but you have the opportunity to describe future possibilities to your reader. Describe your results in layman’s terms. The page length is 5-10 pages.
This is due on **March 17**.

**Draft and Final Poster** (5% and 15% respectively): All students are required to make and present posters at the annual ARCH conference. The Draft Poster is due on **March 3** and the Final Poster is due on **March 24**. Poster size must be 36” x 48”, oriented horizontally. Posters may include the abstract, but must include the introduction, methods, results, and conclusion of your project. Include necessary bibliographical references and/or acknowledgments of research assistance received during the project. You should use charts, graphs, maps, photographs, illustrations, and pictures. You will present your poster during the time period indicated in the conference program.

**Final Thesis** (40%): The final thesis contains an Abstract, the Introduction, Literature Review, Methodology, Results, Discussion, and Conclusion. The title and abstract can provide a broad idea of your project. The introduction can guide the reader to your research question(s). Situate the research question(s) with a large body of knowledge within the Literature Review. For the Methodology and Results, focus on what you did. The Discussion section shows your interpretation of the results. The conclusion shows how your project can be applied to future research. This assignment is due on **April 24** and will be submitted to Turnitin.com for review.

**Journal Club** (10%-- 2 for 5% each) – Students will work in groups to critically evaluate journal articles. Participation is essential. Everyone must read the journal articles provided and be prepared to discuss them in depth. All students are responsible for acquiring journal articles, reading them, and being ready to discuss them in class. The use of computers is allowed to access journal articles. Please review the timeline for each journal club.

**Prerequisites and Co-requisites**
This course does not have any prerequisites or co-requisites.

**Required Texts:**
No required textbook. Students will be provided with reading material on the class Blackboard site.

**Grading Scale:**
This scale displays the minimum number of points that you need to earn for each letter grade

+ 93      A
92-90     A-
89-87     B+
86-83     B
82-80     B-
79-77     C+
Attendance/Classroom Participation
Attendance is required and will be reflected in the final grade. You are expected to be on time for class and to remain in class for the duration of the lecture. Material will be covered in class that is not covered in the readings, thus each absence will negatively affect your ability to do well on assignments. Students will be allowed 2 absences. All other absences will adversely affect your grade. Students will be required to participate in class during discussions and group activities.

Please note that the use of laptops, cellular phones, iPhones, or any other device for voice or text communication during the class session is prohibited unless otherwise instructed.

Students will behave in a courteous manner at all times. Talking in class is disruptive and shows a lack of respect for the lecturer, your fellow students, and others present in the room.
ARCH Syllabus Calendar

August 26 – ARCH Introduction

September 2 – Research Ethics
Assignment: Research Outline Due

September 9 – How to create a Literature Review

September 16 – How to create a proposal and abstract.
September 18 is Honors Convocation

September 23 – Defining Experimental Research Methods

September 30 – Journal Club #1

October 7 – Research Across the Disciplines & Collaboration
Assignment: Draft Literature Review Due

October 14 – How to submit abstracts to conferences

October 21 – Journal Club #2
Assignment: Draft Abstract Due

October 28 – How to compose grants and apply for funding

November 4 – Journal Club #3.
Assignment: Draft Proposal Due
November 5-9 is NCHC 2014

November 11 – Veteran’s Day (University Closed)
ARCH Alumni Student Presentations

November 18 – ARCH Alumni Student Presentations

November 25 – NO CLASS.
November 27-28 is Thanksgiving Break.

December 2 – ARCH Alumni Student Presentations
Assignment: Final Proposal and Abstract Due
Final Deadline for NCUR 2015 Abstract Submissions
December 8-12 is Exam Week. NO CLASS.

January 13 – ARCH Introduction

January 20 – Thesis Expectations
Assignment: Thesis Draft #1 Due

January 27 – Sample Thesis Reviews

February 3 – Guest Speaker: Graduate School Director

February 10 – How to construct a Poster
Assignment: Thesis Draft #2 Due

February 17 – Journal Club #4
Assignment: Poster Due (applicable to FURC 2015 presenters)
Feb. 20-22 is FCHC 2015

February 24 – Guest Speaker: Graduate School Director
Assignment: FIU Writing Center Confirmation Form Due
February 27-28 is FURC 2015

March 3 – Journal Club #5
Assignment: Draft Poster Due

March 9-13 is Spring Break. NO CLASS

March 17 – Practice Session #1
Assignment: Thesis Draft #3 Due

March 24 – Practice Session #2
Assignment: Final Poster due March 29.

March 31 – Practice Session #3

April 8-9 is the ARCH Conference.

April 14 – Informal Thesis Workshop. Attendance is optional.
April 16-18 is NCUR 2015
April 21 – Informal Thesis Workshop. Attendance is optional. 
Final Thesis is Due on Friday, April 24

April 27-May 2 is Exam Week. NO CLASS

**Religious Observances**
Every effort will be made, where feasible and practical, to accommodate students whose religious practices coincide with class requirements or scheduling. Please make sure to notify your instructor *at the beginning of the semester* of which dates you will be absent or any anticipated problems with completing course work.

**Physical, Mental and Sensory Challenges**
Every effort will be made, where feasible and practical, to accommodate students who are so challenged. Should you require accommodations, contact the Disability Resource Center, if you have not done so already.

**Student Portfolios**
The Honors College will be using a portfolio method to assess students’ learning outcomes. The portfolio allows for maximum flexibility in gauging student learning. Students decide (with instructor consultation) what “artifacts” or assignments to include for consideration in their portfolios to demonstrate successful achievement of each of five key student learning outcomes over the 4-year Honors experience. Portfolios provide a rich context for students to show what they have learned and to explain their learning process. The purpose of the portfolio is to assess how successfully our curriculum fulfills its goals, and is not graded. Because the Honors curriculum is meant to be thought-provoking and reflective, student self-assessment through portfolios will facilitate learning and provide in-depth assessment. Each course will include at least one assignment that could potentially fit portfolio requirements. For more information on the student learning outcomes and constructing a portfolio for your senior year, see [www.honors.fiu.edu/portfolios](http://www.honors.fiu.edu/portfolios).

**Honors Citizenship Requirements**
All members of the Honors College are expected to be active citizens of the College, the University, and the community at large. To be a committed Honors College student is to take advantage of enhanced learning opportunities and to assume a leadership role in the world. Attendance will be taken at events where appropriate and practical. All College members are expected to participate in the community-building activities listed below:

1. Attend one Honors Excellence Lecture per academic year and one Honors Colloquium per semester (fall and spring).
2. Attend at least three Honors Hour sessions per semester or enrichment events specified by the Honors College as satisfying this requirement.
3. Perform at least twenty hours of community service per academic year (summer excluded) either through the Honors College service partnerships (Sweetwater, Overtown Youth Center, etc.) or through other community service projects and/or events. If you want to apply this service to your graduation portfolio, be sure to document your hours. Please contact an Honors College Academic Advisor if you have any questions.

4. For more information on Honors citizenship requirements, see the Honors College Student Handbook.

**Academic Honesty and Plagiarism FIU Academic Misconduct Statement**

**Procedures**

An Honors faculty member may bring charges of Academic Misconduct against an Honors student. If the faculty member suspects plagiarism or other forms of academic misconduct, within one week of the discovery of the suspected act the faculty member will hold an informal meeting with the student in order to inform him/her of the allegation(s), provide any evidence available, and allow the student to respond. The faculty member will decide whether to pursue informal resolution, file formal resolution charges, or take no further action, and will follow the procedures outlined in the Academic Misconduct Procedures, available at [http://www.fiu.edu/~oabp/misconductweb/1acmisconductproc.htm](http://www.fiu.edu/~oabp/misconductweb/1acmisconductproc.htm).

The student will have the right to appeal the outcome of the meeting with the instructor within one week of the faculty member’s decision, when the decision is to pursue informal resolution or file formal resolution charges. The appeal will take the form of a letter to the Dean outlining the circumstances of the case and the reason for the objection to the professor’s recommendation. The Dean or his designee will examine the case and make a final determination about the pursuit of Informal Resolution or the filing of formal resolution charges.

**Penalties**

An Honors College student found responsible for plagiarism or other academic misconduct by informal resolution or formal resolution will receive an F in the relevant Honors course, and will be dismissed from the Honors College by the Dean, effective from the end of the semester in which the infraction occurs. Dismissal will be in writing and will entail the loss of all privileges and benefits of being in The Honors College, and the student will not be readmitted to The Honors College. The decision of the Dean will be final. This decision relates solely to the student’s status in The Honors College and does not affect the student’s right to appeal the original faculty decision. The penalty of dismissal from The Honors College may apply to academic misconduct in any course within Florida International University and not only to courses offered by The Honors College. In the case of courses outside The Honors College, the Dean of The Honors College will rely on the Office of the Provost for notification about the infraction(s). More stringent penalties, such as dismissal from the university, may be pursued through the university’s established academic misconduct process.
In The Honors College, the term “honor” refers both to academic accomplishment and character. Students in Honors should therefore adhere to and be held to the highest standards of personal academic accountability. Academic dishonesty in any form, including plagiarism, is antithetical to the very definition of being an Honors student at FIU. Consequently, an Honors College student found responsible for academic misconduct will be dismissed from the College. Academic misconduct is a violation of the University Code of Standards, the Code of Academic Integrity, the ethical relationship between the student and the academic community, and especially between the student and the instructor. It is the responsibility and prerogative of the instructor to make an initial determination about the extent and severity of an instance of academic misconduct; the instructor may opt to make a referral for further adjudication in appropriate cases.