**SYLLABUS**

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| **LAS/SOC 3710**  **Learning About Your Community Through Research** | |
| Term: | Winter 2017 |
| Meeting Time: | * Site: Determine weekly schedule with your site supervisor * Classroom: **Tuesdays, 1 pm - 3:50 pm** |
| Location: | See session outline |
| Instructor: | Nicole Trujillo-Pagán, Ph.D. |
| Email: | [Bb3729@wayne.edu](mailto:Bb3729@wayne.edu) |
| Office Hours: | Tuesdays, 9am - noon or by appointment |
| Office Location: | 3315 FAB |

**Purpose:**

This course represents the capstone course for the CBS Scholars Program. It enhances students’ knowledge and promotes their active participation in their professional development through career-focused research.

**Learning Outcomes:**

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

* Conduct field and library-based research,
* Discuss common challenges faced by professionals in their field,
* Define concrete ways to reduce these challenges, and
* Organize a panel presentation for display and discussion at academic conferences.

Students will be evaluated on their attainment of these objectives through their paper assignments and their delivery of a panel presentation at an on-campus conference.

**Course Policies**

*Site Placement Partnerships:*

Students must strive to nurture Wayne State University’s relationship to its surrounding communities for both their own benefit and that of students who will follow. Remember you are a representative of the university and endeavor to maintain an appropriate and professional demeanor and preserve relationships to site organizations at all times.

*The Syllabus and Course Outline:*

The syllabus will guide the course.

The nature of field placements and research requires flexibility in the course outline. THE SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. Students are advised to rely on the updated blackboard version of the syllabus rather than the initial paper version they received on the first day of class.

*Communication and Blackboard*:

All course information will be posted on Blackboard. Students are advised to check blackboard weekly for announcements. Students should also check blackboard before class for any last-minute announcements.

Please direct any questions about blackboard, access, and/or connectivity to Computing and Information Technology (C&IT) at (313) 577-4778 or by email to [helpdesk@wayne.edu](mailto:helpdesk@wayne.edu).

Electronic communication with students is coordinated through blackboard. If you use a non-WSU email account, be sure you figure out how to forward any email to that account.

*Differently-Abled Students*

If you have a documented disability that requires accommodations, you will need to register with Student Disability Services for coordination of your academic accommodations. The Student Disability Services (SDS) office is located at 1600 David Adamany Undergraduate Library in the Student Academic Success Services department. SDS telephone number is 313-577-1851 or 313-577-3365 (TTY: telecommunication device for the deaf; phone for hearing impaired students only). Once you have your accommodations in place, you or SDS should contact me via email to discuss your needs. Student Disability Services' mission is to assist the university in creating an accessible community where students with disabilities have an equal opportunity to fully participate in their educational experience at Wayne State University.

*Assignments*

**No assignments will be accepted by email or in person.** Students must submit written assignments on blackboard using the dropbox feature.

*Due Dates/Times*

Late assignments will be penalized by three (3) points for every week they are late. This policy applies irrespective of whether a written assignment is submitted 15 minutes or 6.5 days after it is due.

You may avoid late penalties with a signed and dated doctor’s note indicating your lack of availability to submit the assignment on its due date.You have one week from the due date of the assignment to contact and provide documentation to the instructor.

*Academic Protocol:*

Wayne State University **severely penalizes plagiarism, cheating, making up false information for papers, and copying from other students.** Avoid plagiarism [misrepresenting the words, ideas or work of others as your own], cheating [copying from another student's term papers and exams, **knowingly sharing information or answers of exams and papers to be turned in for evaluation and grading,** taking an exam for another student, using unauthorized notes during exams, etc.], and fabrication [making up false information for papers, citing work you never actually read, etc.]. Cutting and pasting a sentence and/or paraphrasing the content from books, journals and/or the internet without appropriate in-text citation and bibliography represent forms of plagiarism.

Paraphrasing and/or cutting and pasting more than 15% of a paper’s content, even with appropriate citation, is not acceptable in this course.

*On site*

Students are expected to be actively involved with their site for at least six (6) hours per week.

**Grading Criteria:**

*Grading Scale*

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| --- | --- |
| A | 100-93 |
| A- | 92.9-90 |
| B+ | 89.9-87 |
| B | 86.9-83 |
| B- | 82.9-80 |
| C+ | 79.9-77 |
| C | 76.9-73 |
| C- | 72.9-70 |

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| Assignment | Assignment | Weight |
| cumulative | attendance | 10% |
| 1 | Paper 1 | 15% |
| 2 | Paper 2 | 20% |
| 3 | Paper 3 | 15% |
| 4 | Paper 4 | 20% |
| 5 | Presentation | 20% |

*Attendance:*

Attendance is called at each scheduled classroom session. If you arrive late and/or leave early, your attendance will not be counted for the corresponding part of the session. The attendance record will **not** be revised if you were not present for roll call.

An “excused” absence is validated only with a signed and dated doctor’s note.

Your attendance grade will be lowered by one letter grade for each unexcused absence at required sessions > 2, e.g. from A to B for 3 absences, C for 4 and F for > 4 absences.

On dates that a classroom session is NOT scheduled, the instructor is available to meet about your site placement and/or your project.

*Papers*:

There are four papers required in the course that are identified in the session outline.

*Presentation*:

You are required to present a 15-minute paper at the annual *Academia del Pueblo* conference on Saturday, April 29, 2017. Further details will be provided in class.

**SESSION OUTLINE**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Date** | In-class attendance required? | **Topic of Meeting/Paper** |
| 1 | 1/10 | Y[[1]](#footnote-1) | Organizational Meeting |
| 2 | 1/17 | Y[[2]](#footnote-2) | Conduct Library Research on Professions |
| 3 | 1/24 |  | Work on library research |
| 4 | 1/31 |  | **Paper 1** Due: Based on library research, what are dominant challenges faced by professionals in your chosen field? (Outline 2-3 important challenges and identify relevant professional associations. Include appendices for data tables. Cite your sources and include a bibliography.) |
| 5 | 2/7 | Y | Review Paper 1 and Site Placements: Initial impressions, challenges |
| 6 | 2/14 |  | Interview three (3) professions in your chosen field. Ask them “what are important challenges faced by professionals in your field?” |
| 7 | 2/21 | Y | Identify strategies for building rapport onsite |
| 8 | 2/28 |  | **Paper 2 Due**: Based on your interview data, what are dominant challenges faced by professionals in your chosen field? |
| 9 | 3/7 | Y | Review Paper 2. Compare/contrast professional associations, library research and grounded data findings. |
| 10 | 3/14 | **Spring Break** (you are not required to attend your site placement this week. If you choose not to go, be sure to give your site supervisor plenty of advance notice and remind them the week before you are typically scheduled to be there). | |
| 11 | 3/21 |  | **Paper 3 Due:** What **evidence** and examples do you find at your site placement of the dominant challenges you identified in Papers 1 and 2? How are these challenges exemplified and experienced by the other professionals at and beyond your site? |
| 12 | 3/28 | Y | Review Paper 3 |
|  | 3/26 | *Last day to withdraw* | |
| 13 | 4/4 |  | **Paper 4 Due**: Based on follow-up and/or additional interviews and/or library research, **what can be done and/or what can you do** to face the challenges you identified in Papers 1, 2 and 3? What kinds of resources and/or actions are needed to better work in your chosen field? In your paper, be sure to identify the appropriate audience for these recommendations. |
| 14 | 4/11 | Y | Mock presentations |
| 15 | 4/18 |  | Work on revising presentations |
|  | 4/29 | Y | Paper presentation @ Academia del Pueblo |

1. 3339 FAB [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Lab C of UgL, 1:30-3p [↑](#footnote-ref-2)