9-2014

ENST 201.01: Environmental Information Resources

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COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE
The primary purpose of ENST 201 is to give the student skills for finding, evaluating, and using existing information to increase understanding of environmental issues and resolve controversies. During the semester, each student will research a subject, using a variety of sources (including, but not limited to refereed academic journals, government documents, national magazines, newspapers and internet sources); evaluate sources critically; synthesize information; write a literature review on the topic, and give a formal presentation. A central focus of the course is on using critical thinking to analyze a topic and deal effectively with the information explosion. This semester your research will focus on environmental issues in Montana.

REQUIRED TEXTS

And additional readings, film and audio as selected by Instructors.

MOODLE
Weekly readings, assignments and handouts will be posted on a regular basis. Always check for updates.

ATTENDANCE
“Students are expected to attend all class meetings and complete all assignments for courses in which they are enrolled. Instructors may excuse brief and occasional absences for reasons of illness, injury, family emergency, religious observance or participation in a University sponsored activity.... Instructors shall excuse absences for reasons of military service or mandatory public service.” http://www.umt.edu/catalog/acad/acadpolicy.

DISABILITY STUDENT SERVICES
Appropriate accommodations will be made by the University pursuant to the policies of the Disability Student Services, http://life.umt.edu/dss.
STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT
The work you submit for grading must be your own original work, written by you specifically for this course. Any acts of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will result in automatic failure of the course, and may result in further academic punishment. “Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University.” Please see Section IV of the Student Conduct Code.

ASSIGNMENTS
Brown’s assignments (LSA) are to be emailed to him by 9:00 am on the due date (Tuesdays). LaPier’s assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date (Tuesdays).

READINGS
All readings should be completed before class.

*Note: All Brown classes will be held in Mansfield Library 283*

ASSIGNMENTS AND CLASSES

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<th>Class Day/Session</th>
<th>Readings/Assignments</th>
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<tr>
<td>SECTION 1: QUESTIONS, ARGUMENTS &amp; ANALYSIS</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/26 LaPier: Introduction &amp; Researching Environmental Topics</td>
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<td>8/28 LaPier: Welcome to Montana</td>
<td>New York Times articles on Moodle</td>
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<td>9/2 LaPier: What is Research/How Researchers Think</td>
<td>Turabian 1, 2, 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/4 LaPier: Planning Your Argument, plus Library Tour (10:45-11:00am)</td>
<td>Turabian 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/9 Brown: Search Statements &amp; Electronic Indexes</td>
<td>Turabian 18, 19, 25 (LaPier: #1)</td>
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<td>9/11 UC Ballroom: “Wilderness: From the American West to the World,” Donald Worster, Emeritus Professor of History, University of Kansas</td>
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<td>9/16 LaPier: Finding &amp; Engaging Sources, Citations</td>
<td>Turabian 3, 4 (Brown: LSA #1)</td>
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<td>9/18 LaPier: Finding &amp; Engaging Sources, Citations</td>
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SECTION 2: RESEARCH

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<tr>
<th>Class Day/Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>9/23 LaPier: Questions &amp; Arguments, Citations</td>
<td>Assigned Readings on Moodle (LaPier:# 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/25 LaPier: Questions &amp; Arguments</td>
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9/30  Brown: Reference Management, Newspapers & Library Catalogs
10/2  Brown: Reference Management, Newspapers & Library Catalogs
10/7  Brown: Citation Indexes & Ejournal Packages
10/9  Brown: Citation Indexes & Ejournal Packages
10/14 Brown: Web Information and Search Engines
10/16 Brown: Web Information and Search Engines

SECTION 3: WRITING
10/21 LaPier: Presenting Evidence
10/23 LaPier: Presenting Evidence
10/28 LaPier: Planning Your First Draft, Annotation
10/30 LaPier: Planning Your First Draft, Annotation
11/4 NO CLASS: ELECTION DAY
11/6 LaPier: Revising Your Draft, Intro and Conclusion
11/11 NO CLASS: VETERANS DAY
11/13 LaPier: Rewrites & Oral Presentations

SECTION 4: PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
11/18 Group Work
11/20 Group Work
11/25 Group Presentations
11/27 NO CLASS: HOLIDAY
12/2 Group Presentations
12/4 Group Presentations

GRADING
Grade will be on the standard grading scale, 100 points total. The weight of each assignment is reflected in the amount of points assigned to each:

Attendance and Participation (26 points) 26
Brown: LSA #1-4 (6 points each) 24
#1 Summerize vs. Analyze (5 points) 5
#2 Summerize vs. Analyze (5 points) 5
#3 Questions & Arguments (5 points) 5
Note Regarding Assignments:
- Assignments are due in class on or before the date listed in the syllabus.
- One point for each day an assignment is late will be subtracted from the assignment.
- Assignments with an undue number of errors of punctuation, spelling, grammar or incorrect citations will be marked down and may be returned ungraded for correction.
- Written work will be evaluated in terms of your depth of critical analysis, thoughtfulness of reflection, use of sources, clarity of writing, and correct use of citations.