ENST 201.01: Environmental Information Resources

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ENST 201  Environmental Information Resources  Spring 2013

**Purpose:** How to find, evaluate, and use existing information to increase understanding of environmental issues and resolve controversies. Students will: RESEARCH a subject, using a variety of sources (refereed literature, government sources, internet sources, interviews); EVALUATE sources critically; SYNTHESIZE INFORMATION & WRITE a literature review and give a formal TALK on their topic. Focus is on CRITICAL THINKING and dealing with the INFORMATION EXPLOSION.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>wk</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>Instructor/Topic</th>
<th>Read before class</th>
<th>Work due</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1  | Jan. 29 & 31 | Watson  
Course overview; Purposes of info search/literature review; Kinds & credibility of sources. Planning literature research: defining topic, audience, scope. Citing sources, plagiarism. | CT chs 1-2  
LR ch 1-2  
eres guides 1-3,7 | email VW your resume by | Jan 31, R subscribe to EVST news |
| 2  | Feb 5 & 7 | Watson  
Scientific controversy & consensus; critical thinking & evaluating sources; Levels of review & examples of lit reviews; developing an annotated bibliography (8); Read a secondary research paper (Belsky or Meyer); **Library tour 1:40-2pm** | CT 3-5, LR 3  
eres 8, 9  
eres-Belsky or Meyer | proposal 1 | Feb 5, T |
| 3  | Feb 12 & 14 | Brown 1 --(in library 283) Search Statements & Electronic Indexes  
Note -- meet in Mansfield Library room 283 for ALL lectures by Brown | CT chs 6-8  
LR Ch 4-5 | proposal 2 | Feb 12, T |
| 4  | Feb 19    | Watson  
-- Organizing a lit review or secondary research paper (eres 4)  
Feb 21    | CT 9-10, LR 6-7  
eres 4, 5, 6  
eres-Schmeterling | email LSA I | Feb 19, T  
40 pts |
| 5  | Feb 26 & 28 | Brown 2--(library 283) Citation Indexes & Bibliographic Management Programs | CT chs 11 to end | FINAL proposal | Feb 26, T  
20 pts |
| 6  | Mar 5, 7  | Brown 3--(library 283) Library Catalogs & Newspaper Indexes  
(Mansfield 283) | ** Lombok  
eres- Oreskes | email LSA II | Mar 5, T  
40 pts |
| 7  | Mar 12, 14 | Watson  
Finding scientific consensus; who to believe in scientific controversies; outlining/organizing/synthesizing (eres 4), plagiarism(7), citations (9) expert interviews (eres 10); writing tips (eres 13)  
SCI FAIR SIGNUP | LR ch 8  
eres 4, 7, 9, 10, 13 | email LSA III | Mar 12, T  
40 pts |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Work due</th>
<th>Date due</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 18 Mon</td>
<td><strong>SCIENCE FAIR 11am to 3pm</strong> (+20 pts for serving as judge)</td>
<td>Shift from search to analysis &amp; synthesis</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Brown 4 -- Web Information &amp; Search Engines</td>
<td>Paper Outline</td>
<td>40 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Watson -- present your outlines (bring paper copy &amp; email watson an e-version)</td>
<td>LR ch 9-10</td>
<td>email LSA IV</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>(NOTE annotated biblio due after break, see eres 8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td><strong>Spring Break</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Apr 9, 11 Student presentations (6) if help with Earth Week (Apr 20-27), can get extension on pap</td>
<td>LR ch 11-13</td>
<td>annotated biblio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Student presentations (6)</td>
<td>LR ch 14</td>
<td>e-res 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Apr 16, 18 Student presentations (6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Apr 23, 25 Student presentations (6)</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Apr 30, May 2 Student presentations (6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>May 7, 9 Student presentations (6) &amp; Class Evaluations</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 15: 8-10 am</td>
<td>Student presentations (6) (NOTE!! different time &amp; additional time may be needed)</td>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>Apr 30, T</td>
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<td>Note: Brown's assignments (LSA I to IV) are to be emailed to him by NOON on the due date.</td>
<td>peer review</td>
<td>May 15, W 20 pts</td>
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<td>Watson's assignments are due as hard copies at BEGINNING of class on due date. Loss of points after class starts. Late work loses 10 pts the first day &amp; 5pts/day after. (optional work can be emailed; put your name in file name)</td>
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**Grading:**
- 20 points each for final proposal & for your peer review of another student's paper
- 40 points each for your paper outline and annotated bibliography
- 40 points each for Brown's assignments (LSA 1-4)
- 100 pts for your lit review paper; turn in 2 hard copies & email a copy as an attachment
- 40 pts for your oral presentation
- 80 pts for participation (each day bring to class favorite tip from that day's reading)
  (assignments in parenthesis are ungraded, feedback only)

**Grade = % of 500 pts earned**

All readings and Instructions for all assignments are on e-reserve. Some texts on reserve
Save ALL your work (including drafts with comments on them) in a portfolio for possible check.

How to lose points: late work, missing class, coming to class late or leaving early, having no portfolio

**Assigned reading:** CT = Critical Thinking book by Browne & Keeley, LR = Lit Review book by Galvin; + guides & papers on e-reserve
**read about Lomborg & one rebuttal at** http://grist.org/series/a-skeptical-look-at-the-skeptical-environmentalist/

***Dropping or changing grading systems becomes progressively harder after 4:30pm on these dates: Feb 15, April 8, May 10 (no way!)

*** SEE FAQ