ENST 201.01: Environmental Information Resources

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ENST 201: ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION RESOURCES  
Fall 2014

Room: NAC 014 & Library 283  
T/TH 9:40-11:00am

Rosalyn LaPier  
Office Hours: T/TH 12:30-2:00 pm, or by appointment  
rosalyn.lapier@msou.montana.edu  
Rankin Room 017, X 6787

Barry Brown  
Office Hours: Fri 3:10-4 pm, or by appointment  
barry.brown@umontana.edu  
Mansfield Library 327, x6811

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](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](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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Day/Session</th>
<th>Readings/Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SECTION 1: QUESTIONS, ARGUMENTS &amp; ANALYSIS</strong></td>
<td></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>
</tr>
<tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/9 Brown: Search Statements &amp; Electronic Indexes</td>
<td>Turabian 18, 19, 25 (LaPier: #1)</td>
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<tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/18 LaPier: Finding &amp; Engaging Sources, Citations</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SECTION 2: RESEARCH</strong></td>
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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>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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9/30 Brown: Reference Management, Newspapers & Library Catalogs (LaPier: #3)
10/2 Brown: Reference Management, Newspapers & Library Catalogs

10/7 Brown: Citation Indexes & Ejournal Packages (Brown: LSA #2)
10/9 Brown: Citation Indexes & Ejournal Packages

10/14 Brown: Web Information and Search Engines (Brown: LSA #3)
10/16 Brown: Web Information and Search Engines

SECTION 3: WRITING
10/21 LaPier: Presenting Evidence Turabian 8, 26 (Brown: LSA #4)
10/23 LaPier: Presenting Evidence

10/28 LaPier: Planning Your First Draft, Annotation Turabian 6, 7 (LaPier: #4 Outline)
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 Turabian 12, 13 (LaPier: #5 First Draft & Ann Bib)
11/13 LaPier: Rewrites & Oral Presentations

SECTION 4: PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
11/18 Group Work
11/20 Group Work

11/25 Group Presentations (LaPier: #6 Presentation)
11/27 NO CLASS: HOLIDAY

12/2 Group Presentations (LaPier: #7 Rewrite)
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
#4 Introduction/Thesis & Outline 5
#5 First Draft Paper w/ Annotated Bibliography (10 points) 10
#6 Power Point (5 points) & Presentation (5 points) 10
#7 Rewrite Paper (10 points) 10

Total Points, 100

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.