

LIBS 400
Liberal Studies Senior Seminar
Texas A&M University-Commerce, Spring 2017

Instructor: Dr. Beth Shively
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Meeting: ONLINE
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COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides each student in the Liberal Studies Program with opportunities for making connections among his or her concentration, support fields, other educational experiences, and possible careers. Must be taken in final semester.

COURSE OBJECTIVES¹:

- to demonstrate the effective application of interdisciplinary scholarship and its theoretical underpinnings through designing and carrying out an independent research project.
- to demonstrate the academic skill of researching a topic from multiple disciplinary fields and to then use the findings to inform one's project.
- to generate and effectively communicate scholarly material which is informed by critical thought and the student's personal academic career.
- to communally engage in the process of assessment, critique, and refinement as applied to the work of not only the student, but of their classmates as well.

REQUIRED TEXTS

There are no required texts. However, students will access, read, and integrate scholarly sources into their final projects.

EVALUATION

Discussion and Idea Board Participation: (7.5% x 4)	= 30%
Annotated Bibliography:	= 15%
Abstract and Outline:	= 10%
Draft	= 5%
Peer Editing	= 10%
Revised Final Project	= 25%
Executive Summary	= 5%

ASSIGNMENTS

Unless there are unusual circumstances, late work will NOT be accepted. If you experience an emergency or life event (use your discretion) that will prevent you from meeting a deadline, please let me know ASAP, so we can work out a plan. In most cases, missed work will be due within two weeks.

More detailed descriptions of other assignments will be posted on Learning Studio/eCollege.

COURSE POLICIES

Plagiarism & Academic Misconduct

Students are expected to know and understand the rules regarding academic misconduct and plagiarism. Sharing or accessing someone else's answers to exams or searching for answers on the internet during an exam constitutes academic misconduct. Plagiarism is the representation of another's

¹ Course description and objectives from Dr. Brad Klypchak, Dept. of Liberal Studies, Texas A&M U-Commerce

works or ideas as one's own. Always cite sources. If questions arise regarding what constitutes plagiarism, please ask. All cases of plagiarism and academic misconduct will be treated very seriously.

All coursework is to be an original work by the student and created specifically for fulfilling the requirements for this course. Plagiarism, cheating, or otherwise representing another's work or ideas as one's own without proper attribution will not be tolerated. It is the student's responsibility to:

1. research and write their own papers
2. give proper credit through documentation when using words or ideas of others
3. rely on their own knowledge when taking tests
4. refuse to give another student the opportunity to be dishonest

Any act of academic dishonesty will result in the automatic failure of the course and may be subject to further disciplinary action by the university

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See current Student Guidebook).

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu

Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

PLEASE NOTE

This senior seminar course is probably unlike others you have taken. There are no textbook readings, quizzes, or exams, but that does not mean you should fail to take this course seriously. The opposite is true. This course will require more creativity, initiative, organization, and time management skills than other courses. This is especially true since you are enrolled in an online version of the course. Keep up with assignments. Ask questions as you have them. Check eCollege/Learning Studio AT LEAST weekly. If something comes up, let me know right away. I am understanding and can be somewhat flexible, but I will NOT entertain last-minute mercy pleas from students who do not consistently “show up” throughout the semester. I look forward to sharing in this creative process with you.

Dr. Shively

ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

<u>WEEK 1</u>	<i>Introductions & Syllabus Review</i>
Jan. 17	Introductions & Syllabus Review
<u>WEEK 2</u>	<i>Concentrations and Careers</i>
Jan. 23	Discussion Board Due: Concentrations and Careers
<u>WEEK 3</u>	<i>Examples and Applications</i>
Jan. 30	Discussion Board Due: Examples and Applications
<u>WEEK 4</u>	<i>Proposal Brainstorming</i>
Feb. 6	Discussion Board Due: Proposal Brainstorming and Critique
<u>WEEK 5</u>	<i>Project Proposal</i>
Feb. 13	Project Proposal Due Feb. 15, 11:59 p.m.
<u>WEEK 6</u>	<i>Independent Research Week: Research & Annotated Bibliography</i>
Feb. 20	Independent Research Week
<u>WEEK 7</u>	<i>Independent Work Week w/Progress Report</i>
Feb. 27	Independent Work Week
	Discussion Board Due: Progress Report
<u>WEEK 8</u>	<i>Annotated Bibliography</i>

March 6	Annotated Bibliography Due March 8, 11:59 p.m.
<u>BREAK</u>	<i>Spring Break</i>
March 13	Spring Break
<u>WEEK 9</u>	<i>Writing Work Week</i>
March 20	Writing Work Week
<u>WEEK 10</u>	<i>Project Abstract and Outline</i>
March 27	Project Abstract and Outline Due March 29, 11:59 p.m.
<u>WEEK 11</u>	<i>Writing Work Week w/Progress Report</i>
April 3	Writing Work Week
<u>WEEK 12</u>	<i>Draft Due & Peer Editing</i>
April 10	Draft Due April 12, 11:59 p.m.
	Due Online: Peer Editing
<u>WEEK 13</u>	<i>Revisions Work Week</i>
April 17	Revisions Work Week
<u>WEEK 14</u>	<i>Revised Final Project</i>
April 24	Revised Final Project Due April 26, 11:59 p.m.
<u>WEEK 15</u>	<i>Executive Summary</i>
May 1	Executive Summary Due May 3, 11:59 p.m.