

**LIBS 300**  
**Introduction to Liberal Studies**  
**Spring 2018**  
**Texas A&M University-Commerce**

Instructor: Dr. Beth Shively  
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Meeting: ONLINE  
Office phone: 936-294-4650

**LEARNING GOALS**

- Demonstrate and communicate the core concepts of interdisciplinary scholarship
- Construct a personalized plan of study informed by interdisciplinary academic principles
- Create an annotated bibliography based on research of a topic from multiple disciplinary fields

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

*Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies* by Allen F. Repko

*Using Sources Effectively: Strengthening Your Writing and Avoiding Plagiarism* by Robert A. Harris

Additional required readings are posted on Learning Studio/eCollege. Articles, book chapters and other materials **posted on Learning Studio/eCollege are required reading.**

**EVALUATION**

Weekly Quizzes:	(5% x 10)	=	50%
Discussion Board:			10%
Individual Education Plan:			15%
Annotated Bibliography:	(5% + 5% + 15%)	=	25%

**ASSIGNMENTS**

Quizzes and discussion board participation will be due most 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 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.

### **READING AND DISCUSSION SCHEDULE**

#### **WEEK 1            *Introductions & Syllabus Review***

Jan. 16            Introductions & Syllabus Review

#### **WEEK 2            *Understanding Interdisciplinary Studies I***

Jan. 22            Reading 1:        Repko et al. Chapter 1

                      Reading 2:        Repko et al. Chapter 2

**WEEK 3**      ***Understanding Interdisciplinary Studies II***

Jan. 29      Reading 1:      Repko et al. Chapter 3

Reading 2:      Repko et al. Chapter 4

**WEEK 4**      ***Understanding Interdisciplinary Studies III***

Feb. 5      Reading 1:      Repko et al. Chapter 5

Reading 2:      Repko et al. Chapter 6

**WEEK 5**      ***Thinking Critically About Interdisciplinary Studies***

Feb. 12      Reading 1:      Repko et al. Chapter 7

Reading 2:      “Introduction, Science and Inequality: Controversial Issues” by  
Sandra Harding

**WEEK 6**      ***Thinking Critically About Interdisciplinary Studies II***

Feb. 19      Reading 1:      Repko et al. Chapter 8

Reading 2:      “Difference Matters: Studying Across Race, Class, Gender, and  
Sexuality” by Sharlene Nagy Hesse-Biber and Michelle Yaiser

**WEEK 7**      ***Thinking Critically About Interdisciplinary Studies III***

Feb. 26      Reading 1:      Repko et al. Chapter 9

Reading 2:      “Whose history is it? Selection and Representation in the Creation  
of a Text” by Caroline Brettell

**WEEK 8**      ***Interdisciplinary Research and Writing***

March 5      Interdisciplinary Education Plan Work Week

\*Interdisciplinary Education Plan Due March 11, 11:59 p.m.\*

**SPRING BREAK**      ***Spring Break***

March 12

**WEEK 9**      ***Interdisciplinary Research and Writing***

March 19      Reading 1:      Repko et al. Chapter 10

Reading 2: Repko et al. Chapter 11

Reading 3: Repko et al. Chapter 12

**WEEK 11**      ***Using Sources Effectively***

March 26      Reading 1:      Harris Ch. 1

Reading 2:      Harris Ch. 2

**WEEK 12**      ***Using Sources Effectively II***

April 2      Reading 1:      Harris Ch. 3

Reading 2:      Harris Ch. 6

**WEEK 13**      ***Research Week***

April 9      Annotated Bibliography Research Work Week 1

\* Bibliography (before annotations) Due April 15, 11:59 p.m.\*\*\*

**WEEK 14**      ***Using Sources Effectively III***

April 16      Reading 1:      Harris Ch. 8

Reading 2:      Harris Ch. 9

**WEEK 15**      ***Using Sources Effectively IV***

April 23      Reading:      Harris Ch. 5

**WEEK 16**      ***Annotated Bibliography Work Week***

April 30      Annotated Bibliography Research Work Week 2

\*\*\*Annotated Bibliography Due May 6, 11:59 p.m.\*\*\*

**FINAL EXAM WEEK**

May 7      No Final Exam Scheduled