Course Description

This course is designed to help you see how a research question should be answered. We will focus on research, what it implies, and how to solve problems and answer research questions.

Materials: All readings will be made available on Course Den.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, each student will
- Understand different strategies to answer different research questions;
- Formulate a specific research question;
- Design, evaluate, and implement a strategy to answer the specific research question;
- Submit an Honors College thesis proposal identifying a project linked to the research question and a mentor; and
- Contribute to your e-portfolio.

e-Portfolio prompt: “Explain how an experience on campus (either in the classroom or extracurricular) informed your research project. How do you hope to develop this project into an Honors thesis?”
(a) Write about 300 words. (b) Place the essay into your Year 3 folder in your e-portfolio. (c) Share the essay with e-portfolio list (honors-college-portfolio-list@westga.edu). (d) Share the essay with your Honors 3102 Professor.

Grading policy:
Your final grade will be calculated as follows:
20% Journaling/Self-Reflection Papers (due dates vary) + 30% Class Participation (weekly, includes presentation of thesis proposal) + 10% e-portfolio (due April 27th, 9am) + Draft of Research Question 10% (due March 1st, 9am) + Thesis Proposal 30% (May 1st, 9am)

➢ 90%: A, 80 – 89%: B, 70 – 79%: C, 60 – 69%: D, < 60%: F

Late submission: Unless an extension is granted under very special circumstances and well in advance, 10 points per day will be deducted by day an assignment is turned in after the due date.

Class participation: It is crucial that you participate in the class discussions. Complete each reading assignment before class starts. Be prepared to answer questions about and discuss each reading.
Punctuality and Consideration for Others: Like most professors, I expect you to behave professionally in this course, which means considering the effect that your behavior will have on other people involved in the course.

- Please come to class on time, and do not leave early. If you must come to class late, enter as quietly as possible to avoid disrupting class and be aware that points will be deducted.
- Turn off cell phones, and do not use them in class. Please do not text during class.
- Please be sensitive of the perspectives of your classmates. Vigorous discussion of controversial issues is terrific, but we ought not belittle the opinions of others. I expect you to disagree with me and with one another, but do so in a respectful manner.
- Students who are disruptive will receive a zero for the activities of the day and attendance/participation, regardless of having turned them in or not.

Please see the Common Language for Course Syllabi for official information on UWG’s Academic Integrity Policy. Note that I will enforce this policy.

Communication Rules: All email communication will be conducted through our official UWG email and/or Course Den email. Check your email account and Course Den on a regular basis and make sure that you are not missing any messages.

More Course and UWG Policies

Americans with Disabilities Act Statement:
If you are a student who is disabled as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act and require assistance or support services, please seek assistance through the Office for Accessibility Services. UWG also provides Accessibility Statements for Technology that you may be required to use for this course.

For more information on the Americans with Disabilities Act, UWG Email, Credit Hour, and UWG Honor Code policies as well as information on Academic Tutoring, Student Services, and Technical Requirements, Privacy Policy, and Accessibility Statements, please see the Common Language for Syllabus document.

I strongly recommend that students make an electronic copy of everything submitted to me via the dropbox.

Extra credit: There is no extra credit for this class.

Additional Support Information

Technical Support
Technical support for Course Den, as well as the technological requirements, accessibility statements, privacy statements, tutorials, and other information can be found at Technology Requirements.
Center for Academic Success

The new Center for Academic Success (CAS) provides services, programs, and opportunities to help all undergraduate students succeed academically. The CAS offers free appointment-based peer tutoring in core courses, as well as supplemental instruction (SI)—which is peer-facilitated collaborative learning—in a variety of disciplines. Students seeking help with study skills and strategies can attend workshops though the Academic Success Workshop series, or work individually with either a staff or peer Academic Coach. Beginning Fall 2014, the CAS will also offer “Back on Track,” a voluntary academic recovery program designed for students who want to improve their grades and academic standing. The Center for Academic Success is located in UCC 200, and can be reached at 678-839-6280. Our email address is cas@westga.edu.

Student Services
Here is a great resource of Student Services for all students at UWG, whether or not they are taking online courses. This link provides students with most of the information they need. If a student is experiencing distress and needs some help, check out UWG Cares.