IDS 206W
Introduction to Research (3 Credits)

Kerry Fina
kerry.fina@doane.edu
402-466-4774 (Work) 402-730-8238 (Mobile)

Course Description
The study of basic research methodology and the tools of research with instruction in principles and procedures applicable to all disciplines. Students are introduced to the concepts and skills necessary for data collection and analysis.

This course is a requirement of the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science in all majors except Paralegal Studies.

Texts (Required)


Course Objectives
Upon successful completion of the course, students will:
- Have an awareness of research methodology
- Be familiar with research tactics and terminology
- Know and understand ethical issues in research
- Be able to critically evaluate research outcomes
- Demonstrate an improvement in writing skills

Learning Strategies
- Students will read, discuss, and analyze the Keller text.
- Students will learn how to cite sources and create a reference page in APA style
- Students will learn how to utilize peer-reviewed (refereed) journals via Doane’s online library Website through a guest lecture with a Perkins librarian.
- Students will find, read, analyze, and report on news stories which cite research.
- Students will work in teams to dissect research used in arguing opposite sides of current, polarizing issues
Methods for Assessment

- Student reading and understanding of research methodology and terminology will be assessed through faculty observation of class discussions, projects, and analysis of research throughout the course.
- Students will write mini-reports on articles which will require APA citations and a reference page for faculty assessment.
- Student writing will be evaluated for proper use of grammar and punctuation.
- The team project will require critical analysis, discovery of refereed sources, appropriate APA style citations, and a reference page for faculty assessment.
- The ability of students to interact, communicate, and effectively work with team members will be assessed through faculty observation and student evaluations.
- Assessment of the final presentation will consider student demonstration of the learning objectives, creativity, innovation, participation, and team cohesiveness.

Policies

- **Attendance** - This class is experiential, participative, and collaborative. We are in this together. The absence of any one person will be felt by all so please plan to attend all class sessions. If you need to miss a class, contact me prior to the class.
- **Grading** - Students will earn a final grade of A+, A, B+, B, C+, C, D+, D, or F based on the average of assessments of all assignments. Assessments made by the undergraduate coordinator and assistant to the dean will apply toward the final assessment as a minority percentage analysis of the final presentation (the faculty member’s assessment will be applied as the majority grade).
- **Late Assignments** - Assignments turned in after the due date will be accepted **IF** the student contacts the faculty member prior to the assignment due date.
- **Academic Integrity** - Respect others and always cite the source of any ideas or words which are not your own. This is a strict policy but, more importantly, it is the right thing to do.

Please refer to the online catalog for all other policies.