HR 5203-493: Graduate Research and Writing for Human Relations

Course Description:
The purpose of this course is to prepare students in Human Relations to produce clear, effective, and well-argued graduate-level academic writing. Students will conduct online searches, evaluate sources, think critically about issues, and write various types of papers, including research papers. Expressing clear thoughts in a way that reflects respect for gender, difference, and inclusion will be part of all written exercises.

Course Dates:
January 2 – April 30, 2018
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: December 4, 2017

Site Director:
This is a three-credit hour online course. Please see your local Site Director or email our online site coordinator at aponline@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor: Susan Nash, Ph.D.
Mailing Address: 1108 Westbrooke Terrace
Norman, OK 73072
Telephone Number: (405) 314-7730
Email Address: smithnash@ou.edu
Skype: beyondutopia (8 a.m. – 7 p.m. Central time)
Professor availability: The professor will be available via email to students during the above listed Virtual Office Hours and other methods by arrangement.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:
Student materials are available at the OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK, and can be ordered online, by phone, by email, or by fax. Ordering online at http://www.bkstr.com/oklahomastore/home is strongly recommended – students can track the status of their order within 48 hours. If an order has not been shipped within three days, students can contact the Follett textbook manager by phone (405) 325-3511, (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or email 0831mgr@fheg.follett.com. Phone orders (ask for the textbook manager and identify yourself as an Advanced Programs student) can be placed 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). Fax orders can be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Text prices are available online.

1. Nash, S. S. (2016) Quick-start writing guide for graduate research and writing. Texture Press. ISBN 9781945784033. Note: this text will be made available for free in digital format within the course.


4. Materials posted on the OU Canvas learning management system: Access Canvas at [https://canvas.ou.edu](https://canvas.ou.edu), enter your OU NetID and password, and select course to access material. If you require assistance with Canvas, please click on the Help icon. You can search the Canvas guides, chat with Canvas support, or contact OU IT.

Note: Follett is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through Follett.

**OU Email:**

All official correspondence from instructors will be sent only to students’ ou.edu address.

**Online Orientation:**

The College of Arts and Sciences offers an online orientation for students who are enrolled in online or blended courses. The purpose of the orientation is to ensure that students are well prepared both technically and practically to take online courses. The orientation can be found on their website at: [http://www.ou.edu/content/cas/online/student-online-orientation.html](http://www.ou.edu/content/cas/online/student-online-orientation.html)

The College of Arts and Sciences Online and Academic Technology Services office is here to assist you with any questions, problems, or concerns you may have. For assistance visit their website at [http://www.ou.edu/content/cas/online/student-information.html](http://www.ou.edu/content/cas/online/student-information.html) or contact them by telephone at: (405) 325-5854 or email: [casonline@ou.edu](mailto:casonline@ou.edu)

**Learning Goals:**

1. To explain the definitions of and differences among several types of academic writing required of graduate students, such as literature reviews, class essays and comprehensive examination responses;
2. To define successful graduate-level academic writing;
3. To demonstrate specific practices and techniques associated with good academic writing;
4. To generate thesis statements, create good search terms, and conduct online library research;
5. To develop an ability to read and evaluate peer-reviewed journal and/or research articles critically and to grasp their major premises;
6. To write effective critical responses to peer-reviewed articles and student work;
7. To create short and longer research papers by following the writing process defined in class; and
8. To create a literature review that meets the detailed rubric shared with students.

**Assignments, Grading, and Due Dates:**

**Class Participation and Attendance:**

Active participation includes relevant in-class discussion, small group activities and respectful relations among your colleagues.

**Reading Assignments:**

All assigned readings must be completed prior to turning in your assignments for the corresponding unit.
Short Essays:
There are two short (300-word) essay assignments. Instructions and rubrics will be distributed and discussed in class. These essays will be submitted via the designated Canvas Dropboxes.

Individual Assignments:
There are three individual assignments. Instructions are included on the class schedule; they will be submitted via the designated Canvas Dropboxes.

Discussion Posts:
There are five discussion posts. They will be submitted via the designated Canvas Discussion board.

Literature Review:
Each student will identify, read, and analyze appropriate research articles to write an eight- to 10-page literature review on a topic in human relations study. Further instructions will be given in class.

Literature Review Benchmarks:
In order to help you stay on a targeted timeline in preparing your literature review, several benchmarks have been defined. You will complete each and upload into the Canvas Dropbox by the required due date.

Instructional Strategies:
Students will use written materials, lecture information, demonstrations, visuals, practice activities, and small and large group discussions and projects.

Grading:
This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short Essay 1</td>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Essay 2</td>
<td>March 12</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discovery 1</td>
<td>January 15</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discovery 2</td>
<td>February 16</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discovery 3</td>
<td>March 6</td>
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<td>Discussion Post 1</td>
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<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Post 2</td>
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<td>50</td>
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<td>Lit Review Benchmark 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lit Review Benchmark 2</td>
<td>January 26</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Lit Review Benchmark 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lit Review Benchmark 5</td>
<td>April 10</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Literature Review</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total points possible</td>
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<td>1000</td>
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</table>
Grading Scale:
A = 90% - 100% (900-1000 points)
B = 80% - 89% (800-899 points)
C = 70% - 79% (700-799 points)
F = below 60% (699 or fewer points)

Notice: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.

Policy for Late Work:
Please contact the professor regarding his/her policy for late work

Attendance Policy:
In addition to interaction via Canvas and email contact, students are required to contact the instructor via email or telephone before the beginning of the course term for an initial briefing. Although physical class meetings are not part of this course, participation in all interactive, learning activities is required.

Student assignments and student/instructor communications will be conducted via Canvas, although students may contact the instructor via telephone, postal mail, email, or fax as needed

Incomplete Grade Policy:
A grade of “I” is not automatically assigned, but rather must be requested by the student by submitting to the instructor a “Petition for and Work to Remove an Incompleted Grade” form. An “I” can never be used in lieu of an “F” nor can an “I” be assigned because of excessive failure to participate in class activities.

Technical Support Information:
If you experience technical problems, contact Information Technology by visiting their website at: http://webapps.ou.edu/it/ or contacting them by telephone at: (405) 325-HELP (4357).
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Note: Attendance/absences do not apply to online courses. However, participation in all course activities is extremely important to student success in online courses.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student’s own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc…in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc…; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity at http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at http://studentconduct.ou.edu/

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Adjustment for Pregnancy/Childbirth-Related Issues

Should you need modifications or adjustments to your course requirements because of documented pregnancy-related or childbirth-related issues, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss. Generally, modifications will be made where medically necessary and similar in scope to accommodations based on temporary disability. Please see http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo/faqs/pregnancy-faqs.html.
Title IX Resources

For any concerns regarding gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, stalking, or intimate partner violence, the University offers a variety of resources, including advocates on-call 24/7, counseling services, mutual no-contact orders, scheduling adjustments, and disciplinary sanctions against the perpetrator. Please contact the Sexual Misconduct Office at smo@ou.edu or (405) 325-2215 (8-5), or the Sexual Assault Response Team at (405) 615-0013 (24/7) to report an incident. To learn more about Title IX, please visit the Institutional Equity Office’s website at http://www.ou.edu/content/eeo.html

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA
Susan Smith Nash, Ph.D.

Education

- 1996 Ph.D. in English, University of Oklahoma
- 1989 M.A. in English, University of Oklahoma
- 1981 B.S. in Geology, University of Oklahoma

Current Positions

- Advanced Programs Professor since 1998
- Adjunct Professor, Human Relations, University of Oklahoma
- Director of Education and Professional Development, American Association of Petroleum Geologists

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

- HR 5013 Current Problems in Human Relations
- HR 5203 Graduate Research and Writing
- HR 5033 Leadership in Organization
- HR 5133 Change, Challenge, and Creativity in Organizations

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- Leadership, Strategic Decision-Making, Risk in Energy and Natural Resources
- Leadership in Difficult Times and the Apocalyptic Narrative
- Persuasive and Technical Writing
- E-Learning, Instructional Design, and Effective Knowledge Transfer
- Shale Plays / Unconventional Resource Plays (emphasis on North America)
- Drones / UAS systems and applications, with emphasis on sensors / missions
- Big Data / Deep Learning applied to problem-solving / pattern recognition

Representative Publications and Presentations (Partial)

• Full list of publications available at: http://www.beyondutopia.net/nashcv