

Course Code & No. - Section:	INTD 250
Course Title (Credits):	Principles of Interdisciplinary Studies (3)
Term & Year:	Fall 2014
Course Ref. No. (CRN):	80245
Instructor:	Katie Zanto
Phone(s):	X 7529
Email:	kzanto@sierranevada.edu
Office:	Prim Library rm. 205
Office Hours:	T, W, TH by appointment or drop in. Office hours posted
Class Meeting Time:	T/TH 10:00- 11:15
Location:	TCES 106
Prerequisites:	Declared Major in INTD, Sophomore/ Junior on INTD track
Corequisites:	None

Course Description: This course introduces students to concepts and applications of interdisciplinary studies. Through case studies, research, and discussion, it will challenge students to see beyond the traditional compartmentalization of ideas and theory. Students will examine contemporary issues through the lens of multiple disciplines in order to create the groundwork for the development of their Interdisciplinary Studies majors.

Student Outcomes: Students will be able to:

- Identify and articulate their intellectual influences and commitments. (Assignments: Intellectual Autobiography; Portfolio Reflection)
- Explain the differences between disciplines in terms of concepts, methods, resources, academic skills and influential thinkers. (Assignments: Disciplinary Presentations; Word Symposium, Disciplinary Reflections)
- Approach complex problems and concepts from multiple disciplinary perspectives and to begin to integrate perspectives into interdisciplinary solutions. (Assignments: Word Symposium; Midterm; Independent Research Paper)

Methods of Assessing Student Outcomes: Written assignments, interviews, class discussion and participation, research projects, presentations, group projects, South Fork of the American field trip, self reflection, portfolio, quizzes and exams.

Instructional Strategies: Class will involve a range of instructional strategies including, lecture, guest visits, seminar discussion, group projects, field trips, and student presentations. As the course progresses, students will be more and more responsible for their own learning and application to individual interdisciplinary study plans.

Required Texts and Materials:

- 3 ring portfolio binder with dividers
- Class handouts.
- Lap-top computer
- Recommended- The Little Brown Compact Handbook

Attendance: Students are expected to attend every class. This seminar style class is largely based on attendance and participation. It is difficult to make up a missed class. Please be on time. If a student misses a class due to illness or other, the work due on that day as well as the material presented are the student's responsibility. A large part of the grading system will be based on attendance and participation, so if you miss classes and material, your grade will drop. You can miss two classes due to personal reasons but at three absences, your participation grade drops to a 75%, and loses 10 % points each absence after regardless of reason. Do not miss class!

Grading Policy:

Grades are based on the accumulation of points during the semester in approximately the following way.

- 200 points attendance and participation including in class assignments, reflections and research process
- 100 points intellectual autobiography
- 100 points disciplinary presentation
- 100 points word symposium
- 100 points field trip participation and reflection
- 100 points midterm
- 200 points research paper & presentation
- 100 points final portfolio (oral and written)

Assignments:

This class is shaped around seven key assignments and activities. They range from personal writing, to researching a discipline, to a visual representation project, to participation in and reflection on a field trip, to an interview assignment, to an interdisciplinary research project and presentation and, finally, to a portfolio. Some of these assignments are unusual; they are meant to push you outside of your comfort limits. Please take the opportunity to take risks through these assignments. Put effort into understanding the concepts and skills required and you may be surprised by which assignments inspire you the most. I will be available outside of class time during office hours to meet with you. Guest students will present their work throughout the semester.

Prim Library Resources:

Using the library's resources effectively (not just Internet resources) contributes to developing each of SNC's core themes by exposing students to high quality academic resources, diverse opinions, new ideas, and a future that includes building on a liberal arts education. In this course, you will be expected to utilize the library's resources (either on-site or remotely) as you complete your research in your fields and for your projects. In particular, the interdisciplinary research paper will require extensive use of EBSCO and incorporation of multiple peer reviewed papers.

Prim Library Resources include, but are not limited to:

1. Films
2. Reference materials (for use inside Prim Library):
3. Electronic databases (for peer-reviewed research articles, reviews, newspaper and magazine articles): EBSCO
4. Hardcopy periodicals: Prim Library has current subscriptions for many journals. Please check for journals in your discipline and content areas.
5. Books (can be checked out): a search the Prim Library Catalog using key words related to your content needs
6. Lib Guides: <http://Libguides.sierranevada.edu> These web pages contain instructions about how to use resources available at Prim Library, how to evaluate the appropriateness of information from the Internet for a research paper, how to cite sources, and other topics related to finding and using information.

Fall 2014 - LOGIN information for SNC Prim Library Electronic Databases:

When you need to access SNC's licensed database content from off campus, you will need the following information:

- **Students:** Use your first initial and your last name as the username and your 9 digit student ID number as the password.
- **Faculty/Staff:** Use your SNC email username as the username and your Banner (SNCSIS) ID number as the password.

If you have questions or problems, please contact the library at library@sierranevada.edu.

QUESTIONS? Betts Markle – emarkle@sierranevada.edu – 775-881-7511 Library – library@sierranevada.edu

Sanctions for Cheating and/or Plagiarism**The Honor Code**

The faculty of SNC believes students must be held to high standards of integrity in all aspects of college life in order to promote the educational mission of the College and to encourage respect for the rights of others. Each student brings to the SNC community unique skills, talents, values and experiences which, when expressed within the community, contribute to the quality of the educational environment and the growth and development of the individual. Students share with members

of the faculty, administration and staff the responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment conducive to learning and personal development, where actions are guided by mutual respect, integrity, responsibility and trust. The faculty and students alike must make diligent efforts to ensure high standards are upheld by their colleagues and peers as well as themselves. Therefore faculty and students accept responsibility for maintaining these standards at Sierra Nevada College and are obligated to comply with its regulations and procedures, which they are expected to read and understand.

Consequences of Violating the Student Honor Code

SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for presenting the Honor Code and the consequences of violating it to students at the start of their classes AND for reporting all incidences of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes CHEATING, PLAGIARISM and FABRICATION and for refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. Violations of the Honor Code become part of a student's academic record.

- 1st Offense: Student receives a zero for assignment/exam and counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 2nd Offense: Student fails course and receives counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 3rd Offense: Student is expelled.

ADA Accommodations

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 x7534, hconover@sierranevada.edu or go to the OASIS offices on the third floor of Prim Library within the first week of the semester.

The SNC Email System

The SNC email system is the official communication vehicle among students, faculty members and administrative staff and is designed to protect the confidentiality of student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Act (FERPA). Students should check their college email accounts daily during the school year.

Students have a right to forward their SNC e-mail to another e-mail account (for example, @hotmail or @gmail). However, confidentiality of student information protected by FERPA cannot be guaranteed for SNC e-mail forwarded to an outside vendor. Having email redirected does not absolve a student from the responsibilities associated with official communication sent to his or her SNC email account.

The College Mission Statement:

Sierra Nevada College graduates will be educated to be scholars of and contributors to a sustainable world. Sierra Nevada College combines the liberal arts and professional preparedness through an interdisciplinary curriculum that emphasizes entrepreneurial thinking and environmental, social, economic and educational sustainability.

The College Core Themes:

Liberal Arts, Professional Preparedness, Entrepreneurial Thinking, Sustainability

Tentative Course Schedule: Note: This schedule provides a general plan for this course. Alterations may be necessary and students will be informed when changes in assignments are made. Students are responsible for the material covered and announcements made during all classes.

Date	Class Plan	Assignment Due
8/19 Tuesday 1	Introductions Define Interdisciplinary- Introduce Intellectual Autobiography Questions and Issues that matter Discuss Field Trip!	-
8/21 Thursday	Six word memoire Examples of Intellectual Autobiographies Library overview- Group activity	Read Mary Catherine Bateson Due: Draft- timeline of intellectual history
8/26 Tuesday 2	Intellectual Autobiography roundtable Disciplines- Guest visit-Outdoor Adventure Leadership/ Education- Rosie Hackett Workshop Discipline Introduce assignment: research groups in the Disciplines	Due: Intellectual Autobiography
8/28 Thursday	Guest visit- Kendra Wong- Business Department - Discuss use of the journal and articles Workshop Discipline research	Library assignment- Find a journal/ periodicals and a text related to one or both of your disciplines Bring the journal to class prepared to discuss at least one article
9/2 Tuesday 3	Guest visitors: Tanya Canino- Eagles Eye Faculty in the English/ Journalism Program Soraya Cardenas- Sociology and Sustainability	Research your discipline!
9/4 Thursday	Guest visitors: Rick Parsons- Faculty in Art Department Chris Lanier- Digital Arts	Due: Revision of Intellectual Autobiography And (extra credit) a short abstract describing yourself with a photo
9/9 Tuesday 4	Introduce Coloma Field Trip Group activity <i>Details: Carpooling, food, schedule , forms</i> Review guidelines of discipline report and presentation Workshop discipline presentations in groups	Bring all research on your disciplines Due: Draft Discipline Report

9/11 Thursday	Student Discipline Presentations	Due: Student Discipline Reports and group presentation
9/16 Tuesday	What is Interdisciplinary? Integrative Learning/ Thinking Eric Berlow, Biomimicry Student articles Discussion	Read an article in your scholarly journal related to your interests. Come ready to discuss
9/18 Thursday	Discuss student examples – Interdisciplinary/ Integrative Introduce Word Symposium Project- Research the word in your two Disciplines	Find Interdisciplinary Example (article, video)
9/23 Tuesday	Coloma Logistics (Drivers, timing etc) Past Student Examples ARC presentations: “Literacy” Word Symposium workshop	Research “Identity”, “Risk”, “Story” in your disciplines
9/25 Thursday	Group Activity Word Symposium workshop Service Learning Presentation	
9/26- 9/27	Coloma Trip	Field Trip to Coloma
9/30 Tuesday	Coloma Debrief Introduce upcoming interview project And Word Symposium Project Workshop	Due: Field Trip Reflection
10/2 Thursday	Word Symposium Project Workshop- conferences	Word Symposium Project Prepare
10/7 Tuesday	Word Symposium Presentations Gallery Walk	Due: Final Word project
10/9 Thursday	Discuss Midterm Interview Assignment Identify leads, brainstorm questions	
10/14 Tuesday	Interview Project Workshop	Make Contact- email, phone etc Conduct Interview

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10/16 Thursday	Interview Project Workshop	Follow – up and write
10/21 Tuesday	Midterm Class Presentations	Due: Midterm Interview Project
¹⁰ 10/23 Thursday	Introduce Research Project Hand out research proposal and source grid requirements. Interdisciplinary Research examples: (student example)	Brainstorm Interdisciplinary Research Topics. <i>What are you really interested in exploring?</i>
¹¹ 10/28 Tuesday	Research Grid Example Student example: Topic narrowing and discipline reflections Research databases review Works Cited/ Bibliography review	Due: Research Proposal- Identifies at least 2-3 clear disciplinary perspectives Research and Read! Academic Plan/ Advising conferences outside of class
10/30 Thursday	Peer review of research proposals Presentation sign-ups	Research and take notes on research topic Academic Plan/ Advising conferences outside of class
¹² 11/4 Tuesday	Student conferences and workshop Workshop, peer editing, thesis breakdown Review Presentation Guidelines	Due: Draft Research Grid- at least 4 good sources representing at least 2 different disciplines. (see example) Academic Plan conferences outside of class
11/6 Thursday	Student Conferences Workshop on interdisciplinary research-	research and write
11/11 Tuesday	Research Presentations (4)	research and write
¹³ 11/13 Thursday	Research Presentations (4)	research and write
11/18 Tuesday	Research Presentations (4)	Due: Draft 1 of Research paper
11/20 Thursday	Research Presentations (4)	research and write
11/24-11/28	Thanksgiving Week	research and write

12/2 Tuesday	Research process reflection Introduce portfolio	Due: Research Paper Note* <i>Service Learning Plans and Proposals are due on Monday 12/1!</i>
12/4 Thursday	INTD activity Class evaluations	Portfolio assignment revisions
12/8	Reading day	Portfolio assignment revisions
Exams 12/9-12/12	EXAM PERIOD 12/12 8am-11am	Portfolio and in class writing

Ideas for Interdisciplinary Research Papers:

You can start brainstorming early in the semester. Each topic must be studied through two or more disciplinary lenses. This requires both a narrowing and a broadening of your research topics.

Here are few example ones from past students:

Student topic examples:

- *A study of the obesity problem in the United States (specifically youth) using research in the fields of Psychology, Sociology and Outdoor Adventure Education.*
- *A Sociological, Psychological and Ecological Study of Ecovillages*
- *An analysis of sustainable construction issues using research from the fields of Business / ENTP, Architecture and Green Building Technology.*
- *Using Business, Education and Sustainable Agriculture to research and address Central Valley Water Shortage issues.*
- *An analysis of Geo-engineering (climate engineering) using Law and Policy, Environmental Studies, Sociology, and Education*
- *A study of growing rates of autism and the need for effective educational environments for autistic children using research in the fields of Sociology, Psychology, Music theory and Education.*
- *An analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of Special Education Inclusion Programs using research in the fields of Psychology and Education.*
- *A study of homelessness through the lens of psychological and sociological research*

For your Reference – Key Dates on the SNC Academic Calendar

Description	Date
Semester Begins (ADCP)	Aug 18, 2014
Labor Day (College closed)	Sept 1, 2014
Midterm grades filed with Registrar	Oct 17, 2014
Advising for Spring term 2015	Oct 27- Nov 7 2014
Last day to change grade status or withdraw from a full term course without academic penalty	Oct 27, 2014
Nevada Day (College closed)	Oct 31, 2014
Veterans Day (College closed)	Nov 11, 2014
Registration for returning students for Spring term	Nov 12-14, 2014
Thanksgiving break (College closed)	Nov 24- Nov 28, 2014
Prepare for Finals/No Scheduled Class	Dec 8, 2014
Final exam week	Dec 9- 13, 2014
Final Grades filed with registrar	May 21, 2014