

Course Code & No. - Section: INTD 250
Course Title (Credits): Principles of Interdisciplinary Studies (3)
Term & Year: Fall 2019
Course Ref. No. (CRN): 80131

Instructor: Katie Zanto
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Office: Prim Library rm. 205
Office Hours: T, W, TH by appointment or drop in. Office hours posted
Class Meeting Time: T/TH 9:00- 10:45
Location: PL 214

Prerequisites: Declared Major in INTD, Sophomore/ Junior on INTD track
Course Fee: None

Course Description: This course introduces students to concepts and applications of interdisciplinary studies. Through self-exploration, 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; Service Brainstorm, Portfolio Reflection)
- Explain the specifics of disciplines in terms of concepts, methods, resources, academic skills and influential thinkers. (*Assignments:* Disciplinary Presentations; Word Symposium, Midterm Interview Project, Disciplinary Reflections)
- Approach complex problems and concepts from multiple disciplinary perspectives and to begin to integrate perspectives into interdisciplinary solutions. (*Assignments:* In class work, Word Symposium; 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 (spring only), 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 and to show respect to peers and instructor by arriving on time for class. This seminar style class is largely based on attendance, discussion and workshop participation and student presentations. Directions and in class workshops are difficult or impossible to make up. 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. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the instructor to discuss the missed material. A large part of the grading system will be based on attendance and participation, so if a student misses several classes and material, his/her grade will drop. In the semester, a

student can miss two classes due to personal reasons but at three absences, 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 Project 1: Intellectual autobiography
- 100 points Project 2: Disciplinary report and presentation
- 100 points Project 3: Word symposium
- 50 points Project 3: Word project materials and reflection
- 100 points Project 4: Interview project
- 50 points Project 5: Service learning brainstorm
- 200 points Project 6: Research paper & presentation
- 100 points Project 7: Final portfolio and final writing

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 an interview assignment, to an interdisciplinary research project and presentation and, finally, to a portfolio and reflection. 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 may present their work throughout the semester.

** If you have not missed more than 1 class for the entire semester, you may write a petition letter to the faculty member to request the dropping of one grade (of the 100 points or fewer assignments). You will qualify if you have been present and active in all class discussions and have put significant effort into other assignments. This option is meant to reward hardworking students who have taken a chance or a risk in attempting their assignments all semester and who may have had one assignment that could bring the grade down.

Do not be afraid of trying new things!

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**
Make sure to select "ALL DATABASES"
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 evaluation the appropriateness of information from the Internet for a research paper, how to cite sources, and other topics related to finding and using information.

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.

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

QUESTIONS? 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
9/17 Tuesday	Introductions Define Interdisciplinary- Introduce Intellectual Autobiography Questions and Issues that matter Discuss midterm interview project Discuss binder Look at Canvas and resources	-
9/19 Thursday	Six-word memoire Examples of Intellectual Autobiographies Library overview- Group activity	Read Mary Catherine Bateson and other readings posted on Canvas Due: Draft- timeline of intellectual history. Bring a paper copy to class
9/24 Tuesday	Intellectual Autobiography roundtable Disciplines- Guest visit- Rosie Hackett- Director of Outdoor Adventure Leadership Workshop Discipline Introduce assignment: research groups in the Disciplines	Due: Intellectual Autobiography- Turn it in class typed, double spaced , 12 pt. font
9/26 Thursday	Guest visit -Andy Rost Chair of Science Department and Brennan Lagasse- Sustainability Faculty Discuss your article Library Resources Go over Part 1 Canvas Assignment	Library assignment- Find a journal/ periodicals and a text related to one or both of your disciplines. Bring the journal to class and come prepared to discuss at least one article
10/1 Tuesday	Guest visit: Jim Scripps, Journalism Director and Eagle's Eye Advisor Jonathan Breiter - Entrepreneurship and Business faculty Workshop Part 1 and Part 2	Research your discipline! Canvas Part 1 due Research Questions, Methods, Vocabulary and works cited/ references
10/3 Thursday	Guest visitors: Chris Lanier- Digital Arts Faculty Workshop Part 2 and Part 3	Research your discipline Canvas Part 2 due History and Context and Foundational Theories
10/8 Tuesday	Review guidelines of discipline report and presentation	All research due Canvas Part 3: Influential Individual

4		Workshop compile Parts 1-3, prepare discipline presentations in groups	and Association- Resources And revise other parts 1&2
	10/10 Thursday	Student Discipline Presentations	Due: Student Discipline Reports (in paper in class) and group presentation
5	10/15 Tuesday	What is Interdisciplinary? Integrative Learning/ Thinking Eric Berlow, Biomimicry Student articles Discussion Reminder upcoming interview opportunity Find Interdisciplinary Example (article, video)	Read an article in your scholarly journal related to your interests/ your major. Come ready to discuss Due: revised Intellectual Autobiography
	10/17 Thursday	Interdisciplinary/ Integrative Introduce Word Symposium Project- Research the word in your two Disciplines Past Student Examples	Interview Plan for Week 8 (11.4-11.8)
6	10/22 Tuesday	Past Student Examples Word Symposium workshop Identify the theme and the metaphor	Research your word in your disciplines Word Symposium Project Prepare- Minimum of 2 sources for two disciplines
	10/24 Thursday	Past Student Examples Develop the Theme ARC presentation: "Literacy" Word Symposium workshop	Research your word in your disciplines Word Symposium Project Research Due: works cited- minimum 3 sources for each discipline.
7	10/29 Tuesday	Word Symposium Presentations Gallery Walk And reflection	Due: Final Word project Turn in abstract, works cited and all material from the presentation
	10/31 Thursday	Interview guidelines and Assignment review Interview techniques and outreach strategies Identify leads, brainstorm questions Midterm Check in	Confirm Interview
8	11/5 Tuesday	Service Presentation and Service Brainstorm Project Daryl Teittinen Guest Visit	Conduct Interview Transcribe and Reflect
	11/7 Thursday	Complete Service Brainstorm and Introduce Connect Research	Conduct Interview Transcribe and Reflect

	Assignment Issues and Topics that matter	Service Brainstorm Due at end of class
11/12 Tuesday ⁹	Interview Project Presentation And Student example (Research) Introduce Research Project Guidelines	Due: Interview Project (mini presentation and all materials)
11/14 Thursday	Student Research Example, Databases review Narrowing the topic Complete Research Proposal in Class Create Research Plan	Canvas: Draft Research Proposal
11/19 Tuesday ¹⁰	<i>Student example</i> Research Workshop Sign up for presentations Introduce Grid and fill in background research and sources	Research – minimum of 2 sources Background: history, context , definitions, organizations etc.
11/21 Thursday	<i>Student example and Research</i> <i>Grid (Gabby Dodd Guest Visit)</i> <i>How to make the paper INTD</i> Research Workshop and Conferences	Draft Research Grid with Background info and Sources
	Thanksgiving Break	
12.3 Tuesday ¹¹	Presentations: (5) and peer feedback Portfolio Requirements and End of Course	<i>Research Grid with Interdisciplinary</i> <i>Sections</i>
12.5 Thursday	Presentations (7) and peer feedback	Research work! Draft Research Paper Research and take notes on research topic
12/10 Tuesday ¹²	Presentations (7) and peer feedback Review portfolio requirements	Due: Research Paper
12/12 Thursday	Final class- Write intro to portfolio	Assembled Portfolio: Revised Work Compiled in Portfolio

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*
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