

University of Cyprus
Department of English Studies

ENG102: Research Skills in the Humanities

Instructor: Evi Haggipavlu (PhD)

e-mail: haggipavlu.evi@ucy.ac.cy

ECTS: 5

Office Hours: M 12-4

Fall 2018

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course aims to offer students of the Department more systematic guidance in writing academic papers. It aims to function as a preparatory course in order to enhance the research skills needed for papers and presentations in Literature, Linguistics and Translation. The course comprises four main areas (a) acquainting students with the University library and electronic catalogues, (b) working with the Internet, (c) introducing MS-Word and Power Point, and (d) dealing with problems of correct citation of bibliography.

BIBLIOGRAPHY /REFERENCES

Maimon, Elaine P., Peritz, Janice H. and Blake Yancey, Kathleen. *A Writer's Resource: A Handbook for Writing and Research (fifth edition)*. NY: McGraw Hill 2016. **(Required, on Reserve)**.

Du Bois, W. E. B. *The Souls of Black Folk*. London: Penguin, 1996.

Louis Gates Jr., Henry and McKay Nellie Y. (eds.). *The Norton Anthology of African American Literature*, New York: W.W Norton and Company, 2004.

<https://archive.org/index.php>

<http://www.openculture.com/>

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/>

<https://www.gutenberg.org/>

<https://www.ted.com/talks>

FILMOGRAPHY

Johnson, Clark. *Boycott* (2001)

Stevens, George Jr. *Separate But Equal (USA, 1991)*

Black America since MLK: And Still I Rise (USA, 2016)

****An additional list of films will be handed to you separately****

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Class Preparation and Participation

The technical nature of this course requires that you attend all of our class meetings without fail. Preparation includes reading and preparing the homework assigned, working on and handing in your exercises on time and noting down questions you may have. Excellent participation involves regular, thoughtful contributions to

discussions: expressing your understanding of the material, taking good notes, asking thoughtful questions and becoming a creative and technologically savvy researcher.

Attendance

Missing any class, coming in late to class, or leaving early will all detract from the final grade; if you do miss a class, you are still completely responsible for knowing what was covered in class that day and for finding out if there were any assignments given. Please call another student in the class to find out what you missed. **Note: *The use of cell phones is strictly prohibited during class time.*** Your phones must be switched off while you are in class unless there is an extremely serious reason for you to keep them on.

Late Paper Policy

All assignments for this course must be submitted on the dates, times and places indicated on your syllabus. No email submissions will be accepted unless you have checked with me in advance. Failure to meet deadlines will result in a **reduction** of your overall grade. No exceptions will be made. In cases of illness or other such unforeseeable circumstance please contact me and provide the necessary documentation.

Researcher's Journal

You should keep a journal (AS A WORD FILE) throughout the semester in which you should note down: (a) ideas that are generated in your mind or critical questions you want to ask as a result of your thoughtful engagement with the readings; (b) sources (books, articles, authors, films, databases, internet sites, manuals etc.) you may want to explore further; (c) important tips about research and writing you need to remember; **but most importantly please provide (d) annotations of all books, articles, poems, plays, short stories, novels etc. that you read and/ films that you view.** Please date each entry and give full bibliographical information for all of your sources. Keeping a journal will help you considerably in developing as a writer, thinker and researcher

Group Presentations

You will have the opportunity to apply the various research skills learned throughout the semester in a group research project that will result in a presentation at the end of the semester. Further information and specific instructions will be given to you during the semester.

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. It involves stealing other people's ideas and presenting them as your own. Some examples of plagiarism are: copying another's work, word for word, and presenting it as your own; "borrowing," without properly acknowledging the source, paragraphs, sentences, ideas, or even key concepts; and paraphrasing another's work and claiming it as your own. Additional information about plagiarism and citation rules will be provided during the semester. Exhibiting a lack of academic integrity in any of its varied forms will result in a failing grade.

Grading

Preparation, Participation, Attendance 10%

Researcher's Journal 10%

Research Project/Group Presentation 30 %

Final Exam 50%

SCHEDULE

Introduction: Understanding Research

Week 1: Sept. 3-6: Thinking, Researching and Writing as parts of the same process; Primary and Secondary Research, Keeping a Journal, Annotating Sources, Asking Questions.

Reading:

- *A Writer's Resource* 211-218 and 247-252

View:

- Jamila Lyiscott's TED talk 3 Ways to Speak English. At https://www.ted.com/talks/jamila_lyiscott_3_ways_to_speak_english
- Maya Angelou's, *Still I Rise*. Retrieve from <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/46446/still-i-rise>

Week 2: Sept. 10-13: Screening and Discussion of Clark Johnson's *Boycott* (USA, 2001).

Reading

- Martin Luther King's, "I Have a Dream" Speech.

Working with the Library and Online Databases

Week 3: Sept. 17-20: Finding and Managing Print and Online Sources; Searching through Library Catalogues and Online Databases for Books.

Reading:

- *A Writer's Resource*, 218-233
- ***** *Selection of Film for Presentations on Sept.20******

Week 4: Sept. 24-27: Searching Through Library Catalogues and Online Databases for Journal Articles.

Reading:

- *A Writer's Resource*, 218-233

Working with the Internet, Evaluating Sources, Copyright and Intellectual Property, Plagiarism

Week 5: Oct. 4: Searching the Internet and Evaluating Sources; Using the Credibility, Accuracy, Reasonableness, Support checklist (CARS).

Reading:

- *A Writer's Resource*, 240-247

Week 6: Oct. 8-11: Plagiarism, Copyright and Intellectual Property. Working with Sources and Avoiding Plagiarism.

Reading:

- *A Writer's Resource*, 252-275
- ******Research Proposal Due on Oct. 11******

Introducing MS Word and Power Point

Week 7: Oct. 15-18: Working on Research Project and Presentation

Reading:

- *A Writer's Resource*, 167-174 and 233-239

Week 8: Oct. 22-25: Working on Research Project and Presentation

Week 9: Oct. 29-Nov. 1st: Working on Research Project and Presentation

Citation Methods

Week 10: Nov. 5-8: Documenting your Sources: MLA Documentation style.

Week 11: Nov. 12-15: Documenting your Sources: APA Documentation Style.

Week 12: Nov. 19-22: In-Class Presentations

- ******Journals Due Nov.19******

Week 13: Nov. 26-29: In-Class Presentations