

Honors Research Symposium

IDH 2051

CRN 10926

Spring 2015, Version 1

6 January 2015

Nicola Foote & Charles (billy) Gunnels

College: Undergraduate Studies, Honors Program

Credits: 1

Meeting Times/Locations: Tuesday 5 – 6:15 pm/ Marieb Hall 200

Instructor Contact Information: nfoote@fgcu.edu or 590-7440
cgunnels@fgcu.edu or 590-7210

Instructor Office Hours: Foote: Thursday 3 – 4:30 pm, or by appointment
Gunnels: Tuesday 9 – 10:30 am, Thursday 10 – 11 am,
or by appointment

Required Texts: None

Description: This honors course will focus on introducing you to academic research. When most of us hear “research,” we think Google, Wikipedia, encyclopedias, etc. In common parlance, research is the process of finding information that is not already at hand. This common usage generally assumes that the answer to whatever question that one has is already available somewhere. “Certainly, someone has found it.” That, however, is not always true. For many questions, we have no answer. Some questions have multiple answers, yet we have no answer as to which is the best one. This is where academic research steps in.

Academic research is the process of attempting to answer questions for which new knowledge is required. It is also the process of finding out why we ask the questions that we do. Some academics try to discover what questions we are not yet asking, others to provoke people to ask new questions, and others to get people to question old answers. The fact of the matter is that

academic research takes place at the frontiers of the knowledge that is already available in databanks and wiki pages.

Gulfline Course Description: Students are introduced to the research of practicing researchers. Primarily taught by guest lecturers conducting primary research and generally includes multiple fields from across the academy and industry.

Course Specific Outcomes: Most credit for academic research goes to individual professors; however, the reality is that most research is done in teams. Many of these teams involve undergraduates just like you in the research process. This course will be designed to

- Give you a taste of what research is happening at FGCU
- Give you a sense of what other research possibilities are within larger fields and majors
- Assist you in getting involved in research during your undergraduate years
- Acquaint you with the ways in which undergraduate academic research is disseminated in your field allow you to reflect upon the types of research options that are available to you as an undergraduate at FGCU.

University Learning Goals: discipline-specific knowledge, information literacy, effective communication skills

Course Outline (Tentative and Subject to Change):

Week	Date	Lecturer
1	6 January	Go over syllabus The University as Generator of New Knowledge Importance of Undergraduate Research
2	13 January	Foote and Gunnels (Research)
3	20 January	Foote and Gunnels (Research Collaboration & Students)
4	27 January	Kris DeWelde – Sociology of Gender
5	3 February	
6	10 February	Jim Wohlpart – Environmental Literature
7	17 February	Portfolio Workshop
8	24 February	Tunde Szecsi - Education
	3 March	Spring Break
9	10 March	Student Researcher Panel
10	17 March	
11	24 March	Peer Review Session
12	31 March	
13	7 April	
14	14 April	Student Choice (date could change)
15	21 April	Funding Panel
16	28 April	Reflections, 3 – 5:15 pm

Assignments:

This is a pass/fail course. To pass, you must attend class and hand in a complete research portfolio.

The research portfolio will help you understand undergraduate research in your field. A complete research portfolio will include the following material:

Attendance: Students who miss attendance 2 times will receive a “U” grade for the class. If there is a real emergency, just let us know.

Arriving more than ten minutes late to class will count as half an absence. More than four late arrivals will result in not passing the class.

Academic Behavior Standards and Academic Dishonesty: All students are expected to demonstrate honesty in their academic pursuits. The university policies regarding issues of honesty can be found in the FGCU Student Guidebook under the ***Student Code of Conduct*** and ***Policies and Procedures*** sections. All students are expected to study this document which outlines their responsibilities and consequences for violations of the policy. The FGCU Student Guidebook is available online at <http://studentservices.fgcu.edu/judicialaffairs/new.html>

Disability Accommodations Services: Florida Gulf Coast University, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the university’s guiding principles, will provide classroom and academic accommodations to students with documented disabilities. If you need to request an accommodation in this class due to a disability, or you suspect that your academic performance is affected by a disability, please contact the Office of Adaptive Services. The Office of Adaptive Services is located in Howard Hall 137. The phone number is 239-590-7956 or TTY 239-590-7930

Student Observance of Religious Holidays: All students at Florida Gulf Coast University have a right to expect that the University will reasonably accommodate their religious observances, practices, and beliefs. Students, upon prior notification to their instructors, shall be excused from class or other scheduled academic activity to observe a religious holy day of their faith. Students shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in their absence. Students shall not be penalized due to absence from class or other scheduled academic activity because of religious observances. Where practicable, major examinations, major assignments, and University ceremonies will not be scheduled on a major religious holy day. A student who is to be excused from class for a religious observance is not required to provide a second party certification of the reason for the absence.