

HESA 431: McNair Scholars Research Seminar I

Fall 2009, 2 credits

Tuesdays 6:45pm – 8:45pm

Michener Library L-77

Instructor:

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McNair Scholars Program

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L-75 Michener Library

Office Phone: 351-1920

Office Hours: M 9-4pm, T noon-4pm, W 9-2pm, TH 9-4pm, F 9-4pm

Course Objectives:

As a result of the 2-semester McNair Research Seminar sequence, you will:

- (1) Learn the professional value of academic research and graduate study.
- (2) Conduct an original research study under the guidance of a faculty mentor.
- (3) Practice effective methods to search for, critically read, and apply source materials.
- (4) Develop a familiarity with the research traditions, methods, and current work in your discipline.
- (5) Gain personal and professional skills necessary for success in graduate study.

In this semester's seminar, specifically, you will:

- (1) Choose and develop a professional relationship with a faculty mentor in your field of study.
- (2) Engage in the initial steps of an original research project, including, but not limited to the following:
 - a. Select and refine a question for original academic research.
 - b. Find, read, and evaluate existing research that informs your own research project.
 - c. Summarize your reading and analysis in an annotated bibliography and literature review.
 - d. Explore the value of ethical research and submit an IRB approval request if warranted for your project.

Required Texts:

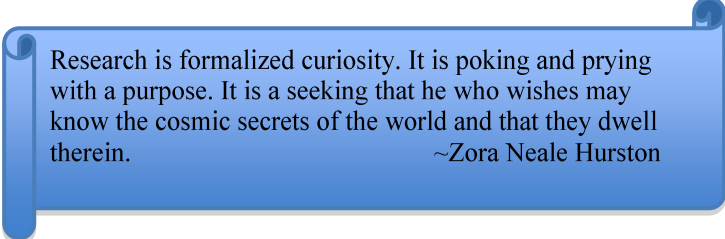
Required course readings will be available for short-term loan at the circulation desk and may also be downloaded and printed from Electronic Reserves. To access them, go to <http://library.unco.edu>; click on "Reserve Materials" under Finding Information; click on "By Course Number" and type in "HESA 431".

Policies:

Grading: You shall receive a grading rubric for each assignment to ensure we have shared expectations for what qualifies as an "A," "B," etc. In addition, you may return revised assignments until they meet the standards for an "A" or "B." You are responsible for handing in *all* assignments by the specified time (6:45 p.m. Tuesdays). Late assignments may receive no higher than a "B." After one week, assignments will be worth no more than 50% of their original value.

Attendance: This seminar constitutes your primary form of participation in the McNair Scholars Program this year. Seminar participation is critical to your learning so you will receive credit for attendance. You are allowed one absence without penalty -no questions asked. Subsequent absences shall each result in a 5-point deduction from your participation points for the course. If you must miss a seminar, please contact me; you are responsible for any course content missed.

Graded Assignments	Points	%
Class Participation	30	12%
Faculty Mentor Interview	30	12%
Research Proposal	30	12%
Subject Librarian Interview	15	6%
Annotated Bibliography	30	12%
Methodology Interview	15	6%
Literature Review	70	28%
IRB Proposal	30	12%
Total points possible	250	100%



Research is formalized curiosity. It is poking and prying with a purpose. It is a seeking that he who wishes may know the cosmic secrets of the world and that they dwell therein.
~Zora Neale Hurston

Accommodations Statement:

Students who believe they may need an accommodation in this class are urged to speak with the instructor and to contact Disability Support Services (351-2289) as soon as possible to ensure necessary accommodations may be implemented in a timely fashion. Students with needs that do not fall under formal accommodations should not hesitate to contact the instructor personally.