ENS 790 Seminar in Directed Readings
Spring 2017
Tue 7:00-9:40 pm
ENS 106

Instructor: Fred W. Kolkhorst, Ph.D.
Office: ENS 309
Office hours: 9:30-11:30 am Tu/Th and by appointment
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Course Eligibility
- ENS 790 Seminar in Directed Readings may be taken as an option by students pursuing an MA or MS degree under Plan B. ENS also offers Plan A (thesis) as an alternative to ENS 790.
- Students must have completed—not concurrently enrolled—ENS 602 Research Evaluation in ENS—no exceptions!
- Students selecting ENS 790 Seminar in Directed Readings must have filed an official program of study that indicates ENS 790 is a requirement for their degree completion.
- Students who register for ENS 790 MUST have already been "Advanced to Candidacy." Advancement to Candidacy requires that a student maintained a 3.0 GPA; is a classified graduate student; and has submitted an official program of study. See the ENS Graduate Advisor (Dr. Denise Lebsack) if you are unsure of your academic status.
- Students who successfully complete ENS 790 will have met the requirements of ENS or NUTR 799C, indicating the completion of the "Plan B" degree requirements. Paperwork will be completed by the ENS Graduate Advisor's office to indicate the student has completed requirements for the comprehensive exam (ENS 799C or NUTR 799C).

Course Requirements
There are two ways to complete this course. A contract signed by the faculty mentor is required for both plans.
- Plan A – following the standard directed readings route, or
- Plan B – completing a manuscript based on original research.

Students who follow Plan A will complete a comprehensive written report supported by scientific literature under the guidance of a selected faculty member. Except in special circumstances, the paper must follow the guidelines for authors from the peer-reviewed journal "Medical Hypotheses" (see http://www.elsevier.com/journals/medical-hypotheses/0306-9877/guide-for-authors). The paper may reflect a research issue, practical project, manual development, or other appropriate type of independent experience but must go well beyond what is found in a typical "term paper."

Students are expected to seek advice from ENS faculty regarding the appropriateness of the topic and depth of their paper. For the majority of the semester, students will be conducting independent research on their topic of interest. They will be required to meet all course benchmarks throughout the semester to ensure steady project development.

Students who follow Plan B will complete a research project and manuscript under the direction of an ENS faculty member. The manuscript style should follow the guidelines-to-authors of the journal selected by the student and their faculty mentor. For the majority of the semester, students will be conducting independent research on their topic of interest.
Course Grading

During the last weeks of the semester, students will present their topics to peers and ENS faculty. In addition, they will submit an electronic- and hard-copy of their paper that will be kept in the ENS Graduate Advisor’s office. Students are to also submit a Turnitin report with their paper. This can be done through Blackboard; instructions for using Turnitin are found in Blackboard. **Attendance at all presentations is required!**

Grades for the Plan A option are determined from the on-time completion of:
- Submission of focused research question with signature (5%)
- Reviews of 10 original peer-reviewed research articles (5%)
- Draft outline of paper (5%)
- Practice presentation (5%)
- Oral presentation (40%)
- Written paper (40%)

Grades for the Plan B option are determined from the on-time completion of:
- Practice presentation (10%)
- Oral presentation (45%)
- Written paper (45%)

This course utilizes a Credit/No credit system for grading. By University policy, a grade of "Credit" (CR) in graduate level courses is awarded for work equivalent to all grades which earn 3.0 or more grade points (A through B). A grade of "No Credit" (NC) is awarded for work equivalent to all grades which earn less than 3.0 grade points (B- through F).

Course Itinerary (tentative)
- All students are required to attend the first class meeting when an explanation of the course expectations and requirements are discussed. In addition, all students are required to attend the practice and oral presentation at the end of the semester.
- **Students following Plan A** will meet on an as-needed basis throughout the semester to develop their project purpose, literature review, and manuscript.
- Students following Plan B will not be required to meet again until the practice and oral presentations.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 24</td>
<td>Introduction to course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 3</td>
<td>Submit proposed research questions (everyone); <strong>Contract form due</strong> (everyone)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 7</td>
<td>Submit references for at least 10 research papers (Plan A)</td>
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<td>Feb 21</td>
<td>Discuss research papers individually (Plan A)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 7</td>
<td>Submit manuscript outline (Plan A)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 21</td>
<td>Submit first draft of manuscript (Plan A)</td>
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<td>Apr 4</td>
<td>Practice presentations (everyone)</td>
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<td>Apr 11</td>
<td>Practice presentations (everyone)</td>
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<td>Apr 18</td>
<td>Practice presentations (everyone)</td>
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<td>Apr 25</td>
<td><strong>Oral presentations</strong> (everyone)</td>
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<td>May 2</td>
<td><strong>Oral presentations</strong> (everyone); <strong>PAPERS DUE</strong></td>
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<td>May 9</td>
<td><strong>Oral presentations</strong> (everyone)</td>
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Final presentation schedule will be determined later in the semester. **Attendance at presentations is mandatory for everyone.**
Statement on Cheating and Plagiarism
Cheating is the actual or attempted practice of fraudulent or deceptive acts for the purpose of improving one’s grade or obtaining course credit; such acts also include assisting another student to do so. Typically, such acts occur in relation to examinations. However, it is the intent of this definition that the term ‘cheating’ not be limited to examination situations only, but that it include any and all actions by a student that are intended to gain an unearned academic advantage by fraudulent or deceptive means. Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating which consists of the misuse of the published and/or unpublished works of others by misrepresenting the material (i.e., their intellectual property) so used as one’s own work. Penalties for cheating and plagiarism range from a 0 or F on a particular assignment, through an F for the course, to expulsion from the University. For more information on the University’s policy regarding cheating and plagiarism, refer to the Schedule of Courses (‘Legal Notices on Cheating and Plagiarism’) or the University Catalog (‘Policies and Regulations’).

Students with Disabilities
The University is committed to providing reasonable academic accommodation to students with disabilities. The Student Disability Services Office provides university academic support services and specialized assistance to students with disabilities. Individuals with physical, perceptual, or learning disabilities as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact Student Disability Services office for information regarding accommodations at (619) 594-6473 (http://www.sa.sdsu.edu/dss/dss_home.html). Moreover, you should notify me so that reasonable efforts can be made to accommodate you.

This syllabus and schedule are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.