PROJECT PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

HONORS 143 (one unit)

Fall, 2013

Instructor: Dr. Cynthia Wagner Weick
Time: Mondays at 6:00 pm
Location: Callison Hall seminar room
Office Hours: by appointment cweick@pacific.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Original research and creative activity allows students to develop skills that will enhance their undergraduate experience as well as prepare them for advanced work in graduate school and/or fellowships. This course focuses on developing a proposal for a research or creative project aligned with student interests and expertise. Through interaction with colleagues in the classroom and research outside of class, each student will identify and refine their interests, investigate what related activity has been accomplished in the past, identify an appropriate methodology to undertake the project, select ways to disseminate findings after the project is undertaken, develop a budget for the project, identify sources of funding and other support, and delineate next steps for undertaking the proposed project. The course will culminate with a formal presentation of the project proposal to colleagues and appropriate faculty.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

In this course students will:

- Apply tools for generating and refining research and creative projects aligned with interests and needs in the research or creative communities.
- Undertake a well referenced literature search that represents related work that has been accomplished previously
- Choose an appropriate methodology for accomplishing the research or creative activity
- Develop a budget, funding strategy and timeline for undertaking the project
- Present their project effectively to peers and appropriate faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>week</th>
<th>In Class Discussion/Activities</th>
<th>Your contribution in class</th>
<th>Your preparation prior to class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Aug 26</td>
<td>Introduction to course purpose, organization, and expectations</td>
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<td>2 Sept 2</td>
<td>Labor Day holiday</td>
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<td>3 Sept 9</td>
<td>WHAT ARE YOU INTERESTED IN? Domain interests – brainstorm</td>
<td>Your own research/creative interests and expertise; help shape that of your colleagues</td>
<td>Think about your interests/passions, your expertise/abilities.</td>
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<td>4 Sept 16</td>
<td>Domain interests – present and refine</td>
<td>Present your domains and brainstorm more specific project ideas</td>
<td>See output to Sept 9 class and refine further</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Sept 23</td>
<td>Specific project interests and rationale</td>
<td>Present your specific project interest and rationale for it</td>
<td>See output to Sept 9 class, refine further, and consider why this project is important to you and a wider audience</td>
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<td>6 Sept 30</td>
<td>WHAT HAS BEEN DONE BEFORE?</td>
<td>Summarize findings from your literature search, and how if at all it has changed your project.</td>
<td>Search databases on Pacificat, summarize literature found in writing (order articles if necessary)</td>
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<td>7 Oct 7</td>
<td>Fall Break</td>
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<td>8 Oct 14</td>
<td>Literature search – prior work</td>
<td>Summarize findings from your literature search, and how if at all it has changed your project.</td>
<td>Search databases on Pacificat, summarize literature found in writing (order articles if necessary)</td>
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<td>9 Oct 21</td>
<td>INTERIM PRESENTATIONS</td>
<td>Present: what you’ll do, why, how it relates to prior research/creative activity in the literature and your experience.</td>
<td>Prepare your interim power point presentation.</td>
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<td>10 Oct 28</td>
<td>HOW WILL YOU ACCOMPLISH THE PROJECT? Methodology</td>
<td>Share research/creative methodologies you are considering.</td>
<td>Consider methodologies you will use to accomplish your project. (Note methodologies that have been used in prior work in the literature or in your experience; speak with faculty if it helps.)</td>
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<td>11 Nov 4</td>
<td>Methodology</td>
<td>Share research/creative methodologies you are considering.</td>
<td>Consider methodologies you will use to accomplish your project. (Note methodologies that have been used in prior work in the literature or in your experience; speak with faculty if it helps.)</td>
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<td>12 Nov 11</td>
<td>Dissemination</td>
<td>Provide 2-3 manners in which you will disseminate the findings of your research.</td>
<td>Consider how you will disseminate the results of your project: conferences, journals, other? (Be specific)</td>
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<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<td>13 Nov</td>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>Present your budget chart and methods of funding.</td>
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<td>Timeline and Milestones</td>
<td>Present your timeline and milestone chart</td>
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<td>Create a chart that represents all the costs anticipate as you pursue your project (see basic chart provided). Consider ways to fund the project.</td>
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<td>Consider what steps you’ll need to take stating now, and goals along the way (see basic chart provided).</td>
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<td>14 Nov</td>
<td>THANKSGIVING WEEK – no class</td>
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<td>15 Dec</td>
<td>PROPOSAL PRESENTATIONS*</td>
<td>Present your final proposal</td>
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<td>16 Dec</td>
<td>PROPOSAL PRESENTATIONS*</td>
<td>Present your final proposal</td>
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*faculty advisor is invited

**INTERIM PRESENTATION** (10 minutes apiece, plus 5 mins Q and A)

Topics covered include:
- Domains of Interest
- Specific Project Focus
- Rationale: why of interest to you and community
- Prior Literature
- How Your Project Concept Changed, if at all
(The power point presentation will be handed in.)

**FINAL PRESENTATION** (20 mins apiece, plus 5 mins Q and A)

Topics covered include:
- Project Abstract
- Domains of Interest
- Specific Project Focus
- Rationale: why of interest to you and community
- Prior Literature
- Methodology
- Budget
- Dissemination
- Timeline and Milestones
- How Your Project Concept Changed, if at all
(The power point presentation will be handed in.)
GRADING

Interim Presentation: 20% (verbal and slides)
Final Presentation: 50% (verbal and slides)
Daily Class Preparation and Participation: 30%

Attendance in all class sessions is expected. Absences should be indicated prior to class. Missing sessions may result in a reduction in the grade.

EVALUATION

The presentations will be graded on the following criteria:

Overall organization
Are headings and subheadings used well?
Are topics ordered meaningfully?
Are charts and figures clearly presented?

Breadth
Are key topics included?

Depth
Are topics covered meaningfully?
Are statements data-based?
Are implications drawn appropriately from the data?

Research Approach
Is a research approach identified?
Are relevant academic research resources used?
Are citations used correctly?
Has a faculty advisor been identified?

Presentation Effectiveness
Is speaking audible and confident?
Does speaker make effective eye contact with the audience?
Are slides free of spelling or grammatical errors?