

CI 411 (950) Syllabus: Research after College

Instructor's Name: Joshua Vossler

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Instructor's phone: 618-453-7539

Office Hours:

Monday 10:00-12:00; Wednesday 1:30-3:30; and by appointment

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S): N/A. All readings are online or included in My Courses.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

CI 411 is a **one credit course** that will acquaint students with concepts related to lifelong information literacy. How do our minds lie to us and lead us to believe things that aren't true, and how do we get at the truth despite these challenges? And how do we change our or other people's minds using information rather than emotional pleas? These questions are the heart of this class. Students will read articles about how human beings relate to information and apply what they learn to their own lives. They will be challenged to question their relationship with knowledge. Critical analysis of materials and resources will be **strongly emphasized** in the course.

PREREQUISITE TO: n/a

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Students will appreciate how our very minds can impede the gathering of useful and accurate knowledge about reality.
2. Students will learn how the questions we ask influence the answers we receive.
3. Students will learn how to employ facts to improve decision-making and dispel misinformation.

COURSE STRUCTURE:

All course materials are organized into modules. Each module will open on Monday at 8:00AM, unless otherwise noted in the course calendar, which you can find in this syllabus and in My Courses. Assignments and other materials with a due date will ALWAYS close on Sundays at 11:59PM. Just because the modules stay open does not mean that you will be able to complete an assignment after the due date has passed. Once an assignment is closed, it is closed. No late work will be accepted.

You are expected to watch and read weekly materials in their entirety, and to grasp their content thoroughly. There will be a weekly Writing Assignment. Your response must be posted by 11:59pm on Sunday. As an online course, the materials are self-paced each week, but budget your time wisely.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Quizzes

Quizzes make up the majority of your grade, so they are difficult. Questions will require you to understand the readings—this will not be a Control-F situation. Questions are designed to make you apply what you have learned in the readings to novel situations, not just regurgitating facts. Take your time and carefully absorb each week's materials—maybe more than once—before taking the quizzes. There will be no time limit once you start the quiz, but it does need to be finished before 11:59pm Sunday. Every semester students tell me that they underestimated the difficulty of the quizzes. Don't wait until 11:30 Sunday night to start it—you will probably run out of time.

Writing Assignments & Final Reflective Paper

Because this is an online class, your writing serves as the ambassador for your ideas. This means attention to punctuation, capitalization, and style all matter. This is not a writing class, but you will be expected to produce written material consistent with a 400-level college course. In other words, bad habits and lazy writing will harm your grade. If you have questions about the writing assignments, please ask me. And know that I am happy to review early drafts of your writing assignments and offer feedback, provided you get them to me no later than Thursday morning of the week it is due.

A	B	C	D	F
Exemplary Work. Took the assignment to heights I did not anticipate.	Very good work. Went beyond the minimum requirements of the assignment.	College-level work. Met all the requirements for the assignment.	Not college-level work. Did not meet all requirements for the assignment.	Unacceptable work.
Grammar and mechanics are flawless.	Grammar and mechanics are flawless.	Grammar and mechanics are acceptable and do not impede understanding.	Grammar and mechanics sometimes impede understanding.	

GRADING SCALE:

1000-900=A, 899-800=B, 799-700=C, 699-600=D, 599-0=F

COURSE DELIVERABLES:

70% Weekly Assignments
30% Final Reflective Paper

GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS

Choose a regular day and time each week to do the work for this class. I recommend Monday or Tuesday. That will ensure you have plenty of time to deal with technical problems (Windows updates, WiFi outages, broken computers, etc.), and if you have questions or need help from me, it will give us both time to figure things out. If you are confused about an assignment on Sunday at 10:00pm, I will have been asleep for over an hour, and totally unable to help you.

Be on top of your tech. The car you use to get to work is your responsibility to maintain, and so is your computer and Internet connection while you are taking an online class. A broken car does not excuse you from work, and a broken computer is not a legitimate excuse for late work. Any problems with your technology are yours to deal with, and will not be accepted as reasons for late or incomplete work.

Follow the rules. All assignments must be turned in through the appropriate box in My Courses. Unless I explicitly ask you to, never email an assignment to me. I do not accept emailed assignments, and I especially do not accept assignments that were emailed because the deadline has passed. Also, submit assignments in Word or PDF format. Anything else, especially anything I cannot read on my end (Apple Pages files come to mind), may result in a zero for that assignment.

Turn your work in on time. Late work will not be accepted and will result in a score of zero for that assignment. Do not let this happen.

If you know your work will be late, and have a good reason, let me know in advance that you will be unable to complete your work. To clarify, good reasons include serious medical situations, a death in the family, or significant school-related travel. I reserve the right to require a doctor's note, a death certificate, or other proof that your reason is legitimate. In advance means that you must email me and indicate that you will be unable to complete your work because of one of these reasons. I know that surprises happen, but it doesn't take more than a few seconds to dash off an email to me saying you're very sick, etc. If you do not arrange late work in advance, I may choose not to accept it, even if your reason for the late work is a good one.

Use formal email protocol. At the 400 level, you are about to enter the workforce or graduate school, and should get used to communicating like a professional. Formal email protocol demands that you begin emails with salutations (Dear Professor Vossler), use full sentences with correct punctuation and capitalization, and sign your name at the end (Sincerely, Your Name Here). I will respond within 48 hours—faster if I am able—not counting the weekend. For example, a message sent Friday at 5:00pm might not get a reply until Tuesday morning.

Write with care and imagine your audience. Every word you write in this class, I read. Unfortunate though it might be, your ideas and your writing are not separate, they intertwine. Be sure to reread everything you write and turn in immaculate prose.

Syllabus Attachment

Spring 2018

MISSION STATEMENT FOR SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE

SIU embraces a unique tradition of access and opportunity, inclusive excellence, innovation in research and creativity, and outstanding teaching focused on nurturing student success. As a nationally ranked public research university and regional economic catalyst, we create and exchange knowledge to shape future leaders, improve our communities, and transform lives.

IMPORTANT DATES *

Semester Classes Begin:.....01/16/2018
Last day to add full-term course (without Dean's signature):01/21/2018
Last day to withdraw from the University with a full refund:.....01/26/2018
Last day to drop a full-term course for a credit/refund:.....01/28/2018
Last day to drop a full-term course (W grade, no refund):.....04/01/2018
Final examinations:05/07–05/11/2018

The new final exam model will rely on actual registration data for the current semester in which final exams are to be scheduled, the final exam schedule will not be made available until the 4th week of the semester. Course syllabi will need to reflect a "to be announced" final exam date until that time.

Please verify the above dates with the Registrar calendar and find more detailed information on deadlines at <http://registrar.siu.edu/calendars>. For add/drop dates that apply to shorter-than-full-term courses, please look at the Schedule of Classes search results at <http://registrar.siu.edu/schedclass/index.php>

SPRING SEMESTER HOLIDAYS

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday Holiday 01/15/2018
Spring Vacation 03/10—03/18/2018

WITHDRAWAL POLICY ~ Undergraduate only

Students who officially register for a session must officially withdraw from that registration in a timely manner to avoid being charged as well as receiving a failing grade for those classes. An official withdrawal must be initiated by the student, or on behalf of the student through the academic unit, and be processed by the Registrar's office. For the proper procedures to follow when dropping courses and when withdrawing from SIU visit: <http://registrar.siu.edu/students/withdrawal.php>

INCOMPLETE POLICY~ Undergraduate only

An INC grade may be assigned when, for reasons beyond their control, students engaged in passing work are unable to complete all class assignments for the course. An INC must be changed to a completed grade within one full semester (undergraduates), and one full year (graduate students), from the close of the term in which the course was taken or graduation, whichever occurs first. Should the student fail to complete the remaining course requirements within the time period designated, the incomplete will be converted to a grade of F and such grade will be computed in the student's grade point average. *For more information visit:* <http://registrar.siu.edu/grades/incomplete.php>

REPEAT POLICY

An undergraduate student may, for the purpose of raising a grade, enroll in a course for credit more than once. For students receiving a letter grade of A, B, C, D, or F, the course repetition must occur at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Effective for courses taken Summer 2013 or later, only the most recent (last) grade will be calculated in the overall GPA and count toward hours earned.

This policy will be applied to all transferrable credit in that only the last grade will be used to calculate grade point average. Only those courses taken at the same institution are considered repeats under this policy. *See full policy at* <http://registrar.siu.edu/students/repeatclasses.php>

GRADUATE POLICIES

Graduate policies often vary from Undergraduate policies. To view the applicable policies for graduate students, please refer to the graduate catalog at <http://gradschool.siu.edu/about-us/grad-catalog/>

DISABILITY POLICY

Disability Support Services provides the required academic and programmatic support services to students with permanent and temporary disabilities. DSS provides centralized coordination and referral services. To utilize DSS services, students must contact DSS to open cases. The process involves interviews, reviews of student-supplied documentation, and completion of Disability Accommodation Agreements. <http://disabilityservices.siu.edu/>

PLAGIARISM

See the Student Conduct Code <http://srr.siu.edu/student-conduct-code/>

ADVISEMENT: <http://advisement.siu.edu/>

SAFETY AWARENESS FACTS AND EDUCATION

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources here: <http://safe.siu.edu>

SALUKI CARES

The purpose of Saluki Cares is to develop, facilitate and coordinate a university-wide program of care and support for students in any type of distress—physical, emotional, financial, or personal. By working closely with faculty, staff, students and their families, SIU will continue to display a culture of care and demonstrate to our students and their families that they are an important part of the community. For Information on Saluki Cares: call (618) 453-1492, email siucares@siu.edu, or <http://salukicare.siu.edu/>

SIU's EARLY WARNING INTERVENTION PROGRAM (EWIP)

Students enrolled in courses participating in SIU's Early Warning Intervention Program might be contacted by University staff during a semester. More information can be found at the Core Curriculum's Overview webpage: <http://corecurriculum.siu.edu/program-overview/>

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

We ask that you become familiar with **Emergency Preparedness @ SIU**. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, on the Emergency Preparedness @ SIU website, and through text and email alerts. *To register for alerts visit:* <http://emergency.siu.edu/>

STUDENT MULTICULTURAL RESOURCE CENTER

The Student Multicultural Resource Center serves as a catalyst for inclusion, diversity and innovation. As the Center continues its work, we are here to ensure that you think, grow and succeed. We encourage you to stop by the Center, located in Grinnell Commons, to see the resources available and discover ways you can get involved on the campus. *Visit us at* <http://inclusiveexcellence.siu.edu/>

LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Help is within reach. Learning support services offers free tutoring on campus and math labs. To find more information please visit the Center for Learning and Support Services website:

Tutoring : <http://tutoring.siu.edu/>

Math Labs <http://math.siu.edu/courses/course-help.php>

WRITING CENTER

The Writing Center offers free tutoring services to all SIU students and faculty. To find a Center or Schedule an appointment please visit: <http://write.siu.edu/>

DIVERSITY

Southern Illinois University Carbondale's goal is to provide a welcoming campus where all of our students, faculty and staff can study and work in a respectful, positive environment free from racism and intimidation. *For more information visit:* <http://diversity.siu.edu/#>

MILITARY COMMUNITY

There are complexities of being a member of the military community and also a student, and military and veteran related developments can complicate academic life. If you are a member of the military community and in need of accommodations please visit Veterans Services at <http://veterans.siu.edu/>

SIU ONLINE: <https://online.siu.edu/>

Need help with an issue? Please visit SALUKI SOLUTION FINDER at <http://solutionfinder.siu.edu/>