Syllabus

COURSE NUMBER: MSCC 697
COURSE TITLE: MSCC 697 – IT Research Methods

Course Overview:

Through discussions of article reviews, secondary research, and literature reviews, students in a College of Computer and Information Sciences (CC&IS') Masters degree program will become familiar with the foundational concepts of developing a problem statement for further investigation. While the need to work with the knowledge from a field of study is readily apparent for those who go into academia or take a research position, the need to use these very same abilities in the rest of the world are equally important. IT Research Methods presents students with the skills and knowledge to develop their capabilities to identify, categorize, evaluate, and synthesize a body of knowledge for a specific purpose. That purpose may be descriptive documentation, training materials, corporate white papers, position papers and other commentary, convention/meeting papers, or refereed journal papers.

This course will also establish a solid foundation for you in graduate level research, study and communication, by introducing you to graduate research techniques and approaches, and guidelines for using the American Psychological Association (APA) written communications style and formatting. You will also begin construction of an individual annotated bibliography to support your individual research.

PREREQUISITE COURSES: MSCC 610 and a minimum of four degree program courses; or MSDS 600 for Data Science students required to take MSCC 697 after completion of MSDS 600 and three degree courses; or Master of Science in Health Informatics (MSHI) students only need to coordinate with their academic faculty advisor to ensure proper course placement as this course is an elective in the Information Technology Track.

COURSE OUTCOMES: Upon completion of this course, learners should be able to:

1. Critically evaluate the literature surrounding an area of information science/information technology.
2. Develop and articulate a problem based on this review of the literature.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of research ethics.
4. Communicate a critical analysis of a body of research in both written and virtual presentation formats.
5. Demonstrate proficiency in correctly applying APA format and APA writing style in all assignments.
6. Demonstrate collaboration and productive teamwork in all team/group assignments and discussions.
COURSE MATERIALS:

Required Texts:


Required Resources:

*Design Science Readings (Instructor will identify required readings)*


Additional research article readings as provided in the course by the instructor.

**PRE-ASSIGNMENT (for week 1)**
2. Review Library Tutorial: [http://libguides.regis.edu/tutorials](http://libguides.regis.edu/tutorials)
3. Begin developing an explanation about what constitutes plagiarism. Search out several Websites that you think discuss plagiarism well to share with the class.

**COURSE MATERIALS AND RESOURCES**

**Computer and Information Science (CIS) Research Guide: Home**
*Research Guide by Subject area, see [http://libguides.regis.edu/computer_informationsciences?hs=a](http://libguides.regis.edu/computer_informationsciences?hs=a).*

*Library Resources for CC&IS’ graduate students.* Copy and paste the this URL into your Web browser.
[https://mediaspace.regis.edu/media/Regis+Library+-+Resources+for+computer+and+information+science+/0_blk905nh/10579702](https://mediaspace.regis.edu/media/Regis+Library+-+Resources+for+computer+and+information+science+/0_blk905nh/10579702)

At Regis MediaSpace, authenticate yourself by entering your RegisNET User ID and password. Click to sign into Regis MediaSpace, which will take you to the tutorial titled, Regis Library - Resources for Computer and Information Science.

Academic Resources for non-traditional students: [http://www.regis.edu/CPS/CPS-Student-Portal/College-for-Professional-Studies.aspx](http://www.regis.edu/CPS/CPS-Student-Portal/College-for-Professional-Studies.aspx)

Citation tool: [http://www.citeulike.org/](http://www.citeulike.org/) (free reference tracking and citation tool)

Regis APA reference source: [http://libguides.regis.edu/apa](http://libguides.regis.edu/apa)
# COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Percentage of Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Weekly discussion participation and discussion activities comprise 20% of final grade.</td>
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| **Week 1** | Defining, Reading, & Consuming Research | 1. Introduction to Research  
2. Plagiarism  
3. Introduction to Literature Review  
2. Review Library Tutorials  
3. Discussion on Plagiarism  
4. Two article Review Activities | Article Reviews are 5% of final grade |
|      |        |            |             |                     |
| **Week 2** | Identifying a Research Problem | 1. Anatomy of Research Article  
2. Defining research worthy problems  
3. Annotated Bibliography  
2. APA Quiz  
3. Evaluating Research Articles Activity  
4. Start Idea Paper  
5. Start annotated bibliography | Article Reviews: Evaluating Research Articles  
APA quiz score is part of points earend for week 2 discussions. |
|      |        |            |             |                     |
| **Week 3** | Telling the Research Story | 1. Research Philosophy  
2. Evaluating Research  
2. Discussion on research as explanations  
3. Activity – critiquing research-worthy problems  
Peer Review of draft idea paper  
Peer review quality counts towards points earned for discussions this week. |
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|      |        |            |             |                     |</p>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Domain</td>
<td>3. Your problem definition</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
<td><strong>Investigating Research Approaches</strong></td>
<td>1. Read Locke et al., (2010) Part 3</td>
<td>Discussions</td>
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<td>2. Other assigned readings in the course</td>
<td>(Qualitative and quantitative article reviews)</td>
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<td>Annotated bibliography due (16 complete entries) due end of week 5.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 6</strong></td>
<td><strong>Design Science</strong></td>
<td>1. Read Design Science Articles as assigned by instructor</td>
<td>Discussions</td>
<td>LR draft is 15% of final grade</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>2. Design science article review jigsaw</td>
<td>Literature Review draft</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 7</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ethics &amp; Presentation Strategies</strong></td>
<td>1. CITI Responsible Conduct of Research</td>
<td>CITI RCR tutorial</td>
<td>AB = 15% of grade</td>
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<td>2. Logical Fallacies</td>
<td>Logical Fallacies</td>
<td>Tutorial completion counts towards points earned for discussions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3. Presenting Research</td>
<td>Peer review of draft lit reviews</td>
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</table>
| **Week 8** | **Presenting Research & Reflection**                                    | 1. Presentations of research topics                                         | Final, polished Literature Review due. Virtual presentations.               | Final Lit review & presentation: 30% of grade.  
|            |                                                                        |                                                                             |                            |   • Written 25%  
|            |                                                                        |                                                                             |                            |   • Presentation 5%  |
**ASSIGNMENT WEIGHTING TABLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Activities and online discussions</td>
<td>Activities and discussions are assigned each week</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article Review</td>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idea Paper</td>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft Literature Review</td>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Literature Review presentation</td>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>25% paper</td>
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<td>5% presentation</td>
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**COLLEGE OF COMPUTER & INFORMATION SCIENCES GRADING SCALE:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade Point</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93 to 100</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>A–</td>
<td>90 to less than 93</td>
<td>3.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 to less than 90</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 to less than 87</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B–</td>
<td>80 to less than 83</td>
<td>2.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77 to less than 80</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73 to less than 77</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C–</td>
<td>70 to less than 73</td>
<td>1.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67 to less than 70</td>
<td>1.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>63 to less than 67</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D–</td>
<td>60 to less than 63</td>
<td>.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Less than 60</td>
<td>0</td>
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</table>
**Note:** Regis University now has a **Writing Center** dedicated to support the writing endeavors of all Regis students. This service is free to you! Should you need assistance with your writing, please do not hesitate to contact them and schedule a virtual (online) or in-person consultation. For more information see: [www.Regis.edu/writing-center](http://www.Regis.edu/writing-center) For questions, email them at: writingcenter@regis.edu

**COLLEGE FOR COMPUTER & INFORMATION SCIENCES POLICIES** (Important links) You will be asked to enter a valid Regis University UserID and password to access the following policies.

Each of the following CC&IS Policies & Procedures is incorporated here by reference. Students are expected to review this information each term, and agree to the policies and procedures as identified here and specified in the latest edition of the University Catalog, available at [http://www.regis.edu/Academics/Course%20Catalog.aspx](http://www.regis.edu/Academics/Course%20Catalog.aspx)

- The CC&IS Academic Integrity Policy.
- The Student Honor Code and Student Standards of Conduct.
- Incomplete Grade Policy, Pass / No Pass Grades, Grade Reports
- The Information Privacy policy and FERPA. For more information regarding FERPA, visit the [U.S. Department of Education](http://www.ed.gov/)
- The HIPPA policies for protected health information. The complete Regis University HIPAA Privacy & Security policy can be found here: [http://www.regis.edu/About-Regis-University/University-Offices-and-Services/Auxiliary-Business/HIPAA.aspx](http://www.regis.edu/About-Regis-University/University-Offices-and-Services/Auxiliary-Business/HIPAA.aspx).

The CC&IS Policies & Procedures Syllabus Addendum summarizes additional important policies including, Diversity, Equal Access, Disability Services, and Attendance & Participation that apply to every course offered by the College of Computer & Information Sciences at Regis University. A copy of the CC&IS Policies & Procedures Syllabus Addendum can be found here: NOTE – you will need to login using your RegisNEt credentials.


**NOTE TO LEARNERS:** On occasion, your instructor may need to alter the Learning Activities shown in this Syllabus. The alteration of Learning Activities may not, in any way, change the Learner Outcomes or the grading scale for this course as contained in this syllabus. Examples of circumstances that could justify alterations in Learning Activities could include number of learners in the course; compelling current events; special facilitator experience or expertise; or unanticipated disruptions to class session schedule.