University of North Florida

English 4930

Spring 2015

Research Methods in English

MW 12pm-1:15pm

Building 15, room 1204

Dr. James Beasley

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Office Hours: MW 11-12; 3:00-4:30pm

Building 8, room 2629

**Required Texts**: *Strategies for Empirical Research in Writing*, Mary Sue MacNealy.

**Description:**

English 4930, Research Methods in English, is designed to introduce final-year undergraduate students to the various methods of research methodologies available to them. The purposes of this introduction are 1). Preparing for graduate school research; 2). Preparing for teacher generated action research; 3). Aiding humanities students in not only being better producers of research, but thoughtful consumers of research reports and papers.

Department of English Academic Learning Compacts:

* Communication Skills--Students will use appropriate citation procedures.
* Content Knowledge Skills--Students will evaluate the influence of cultural, historical, and/or aesthetic contexts.
* Critical thinking Skills--Students will write clear, critical, creative, convincing papers that use primary and/or secondary sources.

**Coursework and Grading**

Attendance, Response Papers, and Participation 30% This is not a lecture course; therefore, attendance is required, especially on day in which papers are due. I will allow you two absences this semester without penalty. Absences after this must be accompanied by a doctor's note or notice from the dean of students. Absences not covered by a doctor or the dean of students will result in a letter grade deduction for every absence. **Failure to have work in class when it is due will also result in absence whether you are in class or not.** I will specify times when informal writing is due. I will let you know if your response meets the requirement or not. Failure to complete these papers by the next class period will result in an absence for every incomplete.

Take home quizzes: 30%

Midterm: 10%

Final project: 30%

Academic integrity: “In an instructional settings, plagiarism occurs when a writer deliberately uses someone else’s language, ideas, or other (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source.” Please see the university’s website for further information.

Disability: If you have a disability that would inhibit your success in this course, please see me during the first week of class so that accommodations can be made.

**Schedule of Classes**:

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| Wednesday, January 7 | Introductions | Readability Tests |
| Monday, January 12  Wednesday, January 14 | Readability Tests  MacNealy, pp. 35-49 | Readability Test workshop  Reading Quiz |
| Wednesday, January 21 | MacNealy, pp. 35-49 | workshop |
| Monday, January 26 | “Archival Methods” BB | Discussion |
| Wednesday, January 28 | “Archival Methods” (BB) | Possession  Reading Quiz |
| Monday, February 2 | “Archival Methods” (bb) | *Possession*  Discussion |
| Wednesday, February 4 | “Archival Methods” (bb) | *Possession*  Informal Writing Due |
| Monday, February 9 | Archival workshop |  |
| Wednesday, February 11 | Archival workshop |  |
| Monday, February 16 | MacNealy, pp. 195-213 | Reading Quiz |
| Wednesday, February 18 | Case Study (bb) | Workshop |
| Monday, February 23 | Case Study (bb) | Workshop |
| Wednesday, February 25 | MacNealy, pp. 123-147 | Reading Quiz |
| Monday, March 2 | MacNealy, pp. 123-147 | Workshop |
| Wednesday, March 4 | Discourse analysis take-home | Midterm exam |
| Monday, March 9 | “Clark,” Creative Writing | Reading Quiz |
| Wednesday, March 11 | “Clark,” Creative Writing | Workshop |
| Monday, March 23 | MacNealy, pp. 52-76 | Reading Quiz |
| Wednesday, March 25 | MacNealy, pp. 52-76 | Workshop |
| Monday, March 30 | Johanek, “MLA, APA, and Voice” | Informal Writing due |
| Wednesday, April 1 | “Gaming” and “Where is She” (bb) | Reading Quiz--Background |
| Monday, April 6 | “Gaming” and “Where is She” | Workshop—The Present Study |
| Wednesday, April 8 | “Gaming” and “Where is She” | Reading Quiz--Methods |
| Monday, April 13 | “Gaming” and “Where is She” | Workshop--Results |
| Wednesday, April 15 | “Gaming” and “Where is She” | Reading Quiz--Discussion |
| Monday, April 20 | Final project workshop |  |
| Wednesday, April 22 | Final project workshop |  |
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| Final Exam Time | Final project presentation |  |