Effective Semester / Session: Spring 2020

Type of Action:  
- New
- Modification  
- Move to Inactive (Stop Out)
- Cancellation

Course Alpha and Number: ED102

Course Title: Introduction to Research and Scholarship

Reason for initiating, revising, or canceling:
This course guide is being modified to incorporate the course as a Social Science elective for the A.A. degree in Liberal Arts, the A.A. degree in Business, and the A.S. degree in Natural Resource Management; increase the number of credits to 3 credits; update the Catalogue Course Description, Degree or Certificate Requirements met by Course, Course Prerequisites, Method of Evaluation, Course Outline, Instructional Goals, Student Learning Outcomes, and Assessment Measures of Student Learning Outcomes sections of the course guide.

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1. Department
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2. Purpose
   Introduction to Research and Scholarship is designed to introduce students to the ways that knowledge is both exposed and generated in multiple disciplines. It will consider various means, materials, methods, nature, and ethics of academic inquiry. It will incorporate empirical and quantitative analysis, qualitative analysis, investigation, problem solving, and acquisition of knowledge in varying fields of study. This course will also provide critical research skills needed for students interested in STEM fields and in the social sciences.

3. Description

   A. Required/Recommended Textbook(s) and Related Materials
      Required:

      SPSS Statistics Software

      Recommended: N/A

   B. Contact Hours
      1. Lecture: 3 per week / 45 per semester
      2. Lab: N/A
      3. Other: 30 hours of classroom observations

   C. Credits
      1. Number: 3
      2. Type: Regular degree credits

   D. Catalogue Course Description
      This is an introductory research course that provides an opportunity for students to establish or advance their understanding of research through critical exploration of research language, ethics, and approaches. The course introduces the language of research, ethical principles and challenges, and the elements of the research process within quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods approaches. Students will use these theoretical underpinnings to begin to critically review literature relevant to their field or interests and determine how research findings are useful in forming their understanding of their work as well as their social, local, and global environment. Prerequisites: BE111 and EN101 with a grade of a "C" or better. English Placement Level: EN202. Math Placement Level: MA091. (Offered Fall and Spring).
E. Degree or Certificate Requirements Met by Course
This is a required course for all BUILD EXITO Scholars. This course also fulfills part of the General Education requirements for Social Sciences for the A.A. degree in Liberal Arts, the A.A. degree in Business, and the A.S. degree in Natural Resource Management.

F. Course Activities and Design
This course will incorporate readings, research, reflective essays, discussions, presentations, seminar participation, and lectures relating to the development of research and activities in various fields of research.

4. Course Prerequisite(s); Concurrent Course Enrollment
Prerequisites: BE111 and EN101 with a grade of a "C" or better

Concurrent Course Enrollment: None

Required English/Mathematics Proficiency Level(s)
English Placement Level: EN202
Mathematics Placement Level: MA091

5. Estimated Cost of Course; Instructional Resources Needed
Cost to the Student: Tuition for a 3-credit course, SPSS statistics software package, instructional material fee, and textbook.

Cost to the College: Instructor's salary, supplies, materials, and internet.

Instructional resources needed for the course include: internet, projector, and whiteboard.

6. Method of Evaluation
Students will be evaluated based on their attendance, participation, and collaboration in class; their research project; class assignments; journal article reviews, and presentations.

NMC's grading and attendance policies will be followed.
7. **Course Outline**

This is a topical outline and does not necessarily indicate the sequence in which the material will be presented.

1.0 Selection of a research approach

2.0 Review of the literature and the use of theory to support the research topic

3.0 Ethical considerations in research

4.0 Designing a research study

5.0 Data analysis and basic statistics
8. **Instructional Goals**
The course will introduce students to:

1.0 Critical analysis of published research;

2.0 Research methodology;

3.0 Ethical principles of research, ethical challenges and approval processes of an Institutional Review Board (IRB);

4.0 Empirical approaches to research;

5.0 Quantitative and qualitative analysis in research;

6.0 Investigation, problem solving, and acquisition of knowledge in varying fields of study; and

7.0 Collaborative and communication skills required for conducting research.
9. **Student Learning Outcomes**
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. **Demonstrate how knowledge is both exposed and generated in multiple disciplines;**

2. **Identify various means, materials, and methods in research;**

3. **Analyze ethical behaviors in academic inquiry;**

4. **Design a research project;**

5. **Differentiate between quantitative and qualitative analysis;**

6. **Demonstrate critical thinking and problem solving skills through reflective pieces.**

10. **Assessment Measures of Student Learning Outcomes**
Assessment of student learning may include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. **Written assignments;**

2. **Research project; and**

3. **Oral presentations.**