

## RESEARCH DESIGN AND GEOGRAPHIC APPLICATIONS

Geography 5800, ENV 346, W 6 to 8:50 pm

Steve Wolverton

Office: ENV 210D

Office Hours: Wednesday 5 to 6 pm, or by appointment

Email: [wolverton@unt.edu](mailto:wolverton@unt.edu)

### Course Objective:

This course is designed for students seeking to become better researchers; the course focuses on independent research by academic scholars and professionals. The class is writing and reading intensive. Students develop an area of research interest, choose a specific topic, and formulate research questions from which proposals are developed. The course culminates in the development of a research proposal for a topical research question. The goal of this course is to provide a transitional window between undergraduate classes to independent research necessary for success in the UNT Master's in Geography program. The only way to achieve this goal is through rigorous immersion in writing and reading.

### Required Text:

There are weekly research articles that will be shared via Canvas.

Booth et al. (2016). *The Craft of Research*. University of Chicago Press. BCW

Silvia (2018) *How to Write a Lot*. 2nd Edition. American Psychological Association. PS

Wolverton (2018) *Becoming a Researcher: Making the Transition to Graduate School*. Society of Ethnobiology. SW

### GRADING STRUCTURE

Assignment 1 Interest Essay	25 pts
Assignment 2 Time Management	10 pts
Assignment 3 Topic Essay	25 pts
Assignment 4: Question Essay	25 pts
Assignment 5 Degree Planning	15 pts
10 In-class Reflexive Exercises @ 5 pts each	50 pts
Annotated Bibliography – pre-semester section 1	25 pts
Annotated Bibliography – section 2	25 pts
Annotated Bibliography – section 3	25 pts
Annotated Bibliography – section 4	25 pts
Proposal storyboard presentation	100 pts
Proposal storyboard	100 pts
Attendance	50 pts
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>

<b>Class Grades</b>	450 to 500 pts = A	400 to 449 pts = B
	350 to 399 pts = C	300 to 349 pts = D
	Below 300 pts = F	

**Grading Subjectivity:**

Note—grading of written material is a subjective activity; I will try to be as objective as possible, but final judgment calls rest with me. Point totals may change during the semester.

*Participation* is graded subjectively. Types of participation include: peer review of other student's work; making points during class discussion; raising questions during office hours; asking questions of guest speakers; listening attentively when others are speaking; and showing other forms of interest in the course and its goals.

**DISABILITY ACCOMODATION**

The Department of Geography, in cooperation with the Office of Disability Accommodations, complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request by the second lab.

**EXTRA CREDIT**

The Department of Geography does not allow extra credit assignments (work not specified on a course syllabus).

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities for further review. According to the UNT catalog, the term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to: (a) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (b) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; (c) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; (d) dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s) (*you cannot dual submit in this class from previous semesters or this semester*); or (e) any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. Altering a returned test and claiming a grader or scanning machine made an error is also considered cheating. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to: (a) the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and (b) the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

**CLASSROOM COURTESY**

Please follow these guidelines to avoid disrupting the class:

- (1) Turn off cell phones before arriving.
- (2) Do not arrive late or leave early (except for a bathroom break or emergency).
- (3) Do not sleep or eat during class.
- (4) Do not work on other assignments during class.
- (5) Do not talk when the instructor is lecturing, unless prompted for feedback by the instructor.

**ATTENDANCE & TARDINESS POLICY**

Students will lose 5 attendance per absence.