

ALS 3923 – Honors Orientation

Instructor

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Office hours: By appointment, or Wednesdays 3:45-4:45 pm in the classroom or on Zoom:

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/3840884788>.

Class Time & Location:

Wednesday 5:10-6:00pm McCarty Hall B 3096.

The class will meet live and in person, but you should join online if you are not cleared to come to class, if you or one of your close contacts have a health condition that puts you at high risk of severe COVID-19, or if you have any cold/flu/COVID symptoms. This course is also offered to distance students via Zoom.

Please join the Zoom meeting as an authenticated UF user: <https://ufl.zoom.us>

Meeting ID: 927 8004 9365

Password: calshonors

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/92780049365?pwd=OHp4TEpFSnFqTG01UUVEc2xaSkVUdz09>

Students are expected to participate in the live class. Students should communicate with Dr. Goss prior to the start of the course and in regard to any technical or logistical difficulties connecting to the course.

Course Description: 1 Credit. Introduces the CALS honors program and the skills needed to complete an honors thesis on a creative, scholarly project. Activities in and out of class, discussion, guest-speakers, writing and oral presentation are used to accomplish the learning objectives.

Course Objectives. At the conclusion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain the requirements and expectations for an honors thesis
2. Critically evaluate scholarly literature
3. Recognize the importance of proper research design
4. Begin to develop a thesis and/or a creative scholarly project
5. Complete a preliminary literature review and introduction for a thesis topic
6. Communicate the societal or scientific importance of their research

Text and resources: Course materials are on the Canvas E-Learning website. It contains the assignments, readings, links to resources, and more.

E-learning with Canvas: All students must use Canvas for this course. Syllabus, assignments, resources, grades, and other materials will be posted on the course Canvas page throughout the semester.

Attendance and Participation: Because this course relies heavily on classroom discussion and interaction, attendance is crucial to your success and that of your classmates. Only documented university excused absences will be honored. Students are expected to be present for all class meetings and actively participate in discussion. If a student has an excusable absence, arrangements should be made prior to the class date for opportunities to make up the missed discussion topics and/or work. However, because of the nature of this course, it is imperative that students not miss class meetings.

Attendance will be taken each class (using introductions, in-class exercise, or Zoom -- I do not call roll). If you miss a class for an absence that is not university excused (you must submit proper documentation for university excused absences), you will lose 2 points per class toward your final grade.

Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. I will verbally notify the class when I am recording. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image on these days are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded nor shared. Neither will the small group breakout rooms.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Grading Scale [this course does not use the +/- grading system]

- A = 90% to 100%
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- E = < 60%

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Course Assignments & Grading Value

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Points Possible</u>
Mentor Selection Sheet	10
Endnote Exercise	5
Peer Review of Thesis	10
Annotated Bibliography & Review	5
Ten Relevant References	20
Introduction	30
Introduction Revision	20
Presentation	20
Attendance & Participation	30

Total Points	150

Schedule: Dates are subject to change at instructor’s discretion – monitor Canvas site

Week	Date	Topics	Class Preparation or Assignment Due
1	8/25	Introductions, overview of program, contacting mentors	
2	9/1	Q & A with Director of CALS Honors Program, Dr. Wysocki	Bring questions; Contact potential mentors
3	9/8	Mentor status update; Research expectations	Reading and 3 mentor exercise; Continue to talk to potential mentors
4	9/15	Searching for references with librarian Suzanne Stapleton	Sign up for Endnote online; video

5	9/22	Building a strong thesis	Endnote exercise
6	9/29	Peer review of thesis	Peer review of thesis
7	10/6	Reading scholarly articles; Research design	Mentor Selection Sheet
8	10/13	Writing your introduction	Ten Relevant References
9	10/20	Communicating your research	The Message Box
10	10/27	Introduction workshop	Draft Introduction for Peer Review
11	11/3	Formal presentation of your research	Thesis Introduction
12	11/10	Guest speakers – current or previous CALS Honors students	
13	11/17	Presentations	
14	11/24 Thanksgiving – no class		
15	12/1	Presentations	

16	12/8	Presentations	Introduction Revision
Finals Week	12/15		Presentation self-critique

Assignments are graded individually (**in bold**) or contribute to your attendance and participation grade.

Late Assignments Policy: Assignments due dates and times are as indicated on the course Canvas site. Some assignments are due prior to class time. An assignment submitted after the deadline will receive a **10% deduction per day, up to four days** for late assignments.

In-Class Recording

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited

to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Online Course Evaluation Process

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Should you have any complaints with your live or distance experience in this course that cannot be resolved by the instructor, please visit:

- Residential Course: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf
- Online Course: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>

Academic Honesty

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: *"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."* You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."* The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. [Click here to read the Conduct Code](#). If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

Services for Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you require classroom accommodation because of a disability, you must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to you, which you then give to the instructor when requesting accommodation. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

Campus Resources

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students.

- *University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575,*
www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/
 - Counseling Services
 - Groups and Workshops
 - Outreach and Consultation
 - Self-Help Library
 - Wellness Coaching

- Crisis intervention is available 24/7 from Alachua County Crisis Center: (352) 264-6789.

******* Do not wait** until you reach a crisis to come in and talk. We have helped many students through stressful situations impacting their academic performance. You are not alone so do not be afraid to ask for assistance.

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center website](#).

University Police Department: [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the [GatorWell website](#) or call 352-273-4450.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

Library Support: Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints On-Campus: [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information](#).

On-Line Students Complaints: [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#).