

**FCS 690M**  
**FCS Nutrition and Food Science and Other FCS Research**  
**Culminating Experiences – Spring 2015**

**Instructor:** Terri Lisagor, EdD. MS, RD

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**Course website:** <http://www.csun.edu/~lisagor>

**Office Hours:** Monday: 1:00-2:00; Tuesday: 2:00--3:00 (by appointment only);  
Wednesday: 11:30-12:30; or by appointment. You may also send questions by email.

**Prerequisites:** *Graduate standing; FCS major; Completion of FCS 681 and either completion of, or concurrent enrollment in FCS 682.*

*In addition, it is strongly advised that you have your Culminating Experience Chair (thesis, project, or comprehensive exam) already selected.*

**FCS Student Learning Outcomes:**

The FCS Department has developed specific Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) for all of our Options, two of which apply specifically to our course, and should guide you through the semester. Each student will:

1. ***Demonstrate and apply appropriate research, technology, and skills in professional practice.***
2. ***Demonstrate knowledge and application of ethical professional standards.***

**FCS 690M Course Description:** This course will build on the basics of nutrition, food science, and other FCS research. Students will work on individual research projects and will collaborate with other students in their research development.

**FCS 690M Course Objectives:**

By the end of the course, the student will demonstrate a working knowledge of the following topics:

- Culminating graduate experience choices (Thesis, Project, Comprehensive Exam);
- The expectations for each of these, including ethical conduct

In addition, the student will demonstrate skill in understanding, conducting, and writing scholarly research; and will present and discuss recent advances in nutrition, food science and other FCS areas, as reported in scientific journals, abstracts, or reports and reviews of selected topics. Further, the student will demonstrate an ability to present one's own research, and discuss how that research will add to the body of knowledge in our field.

**FCS 690M Required Textbook:** *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Washington, DC. American Psychological Association, 2010.

**Course Expectations and Requirements:**

- Attend research group meetings.
- Contribute to other students' research projects.
- Make significant progress on your thesis/project

## 690M TENTATIVE SCHEDULE Sp '15

| Week | Date  | Plan   |
|------|---|--|
| 1.   | January 19                                      | <b>MLK – NO CLASS MEETING</b>  |
| 2.   | January 26                                      | Orientation, goal setting, general procedures  |
| 3.   | February 2                                      | <b>OVIATT LIBRARY – LAB B - CONFIRMED</b>  |
| 4.   | February 9<br>Annotated<br>Bib/ Critique<br>due | Defining research topics; begin developing hypotheses, outlines;<br><b>DETERMINING YOUR TIMELINE</b>   |
| 5.   | February 16                                     | Defining research topics; begin developing hypotheses, outlines  |
| 6.   | February 23                                     | Defining assumptions and limitations; work on research definitions;<br>discuss methodology Introduction  |
| 7.   | March 2   | Stats/Data presentation (Dr. Flanagan)   |
| 8.   | <b>March 9</b><br>Online?                       | For Review of Literature, verify all References  |
| 9.   | <b>March 16</b><br>Online?                      | Results, Discussion and Conclusions (FCS 682 will use 246 5:30-6:45)   |
| 10.  | March 23  | Preparing a professional presentation/poster – Look at the ppts.<br>from previous semesters and critique them: font size, bullets,<br>readability, etc. (Chapters 1-3 due) |
| 11.  | March 30  | Work on theses, projects, PowerPoints  |
| 12.  | April 6   | <b>SPRING RECESS – NO CLASS MEETING</b>  |
| 13.  | April 13  | GROUP ADVISEMENT TL<br>**Work session – including have current theses distributed to<br>theses group, and critique.<br>Work on presentations (since grading of Ch. 1-3)    |
| 14.  | April 20  | Thesis and Project presentations: Daria/Diem, Alex/Nilo, Erin, Beth,<br>Janelle  |
| 15.  | April 27  | Thesis and Project presentations: Amanda, Mor, Lindsey, Nader  |
| 16.  | May 4   | Thesis and Project presentations: Jenna, Ashley, Ann-Marie   |

### **Useful websites**

CSUN Catalog <http://www.csun.edu/catalog/>

Catalog Graduate Programs and general information

<http://www.csun.edu/catalog/graduateprogramsandcredentials.html>

Graduate Studies <http://www.csun.edu/research-graduate-studies>

- Steps to Graduate

<http://www.csun.edu/grip/graduatestudies/currentstudents/steps.html>

- Graduate FAQs sheet <http://www.csun.edu/grip/graduatestudies/faqs.html>

Graduate studies thesis information: <http://www.csun.edu/research-graduate-studies/thesisdissertation-guidelines>

Thesis and project templates were expertly created by CSUN's Dr. Scott Plunkett, and are now on our class website. In addition, if you need a Human Subject's Approval Form, just go to <http://www.csun.edu/research-graduate-studies/human-subjects-research>, and then to the form you'll need.

Another updated (APA 6) is on our class website. Eric Garcia provided a wonderful synopsis of the APA 6, which can also be accessed via the Oviatt Library website.

General guidelines:

- We will be meeting every week to work on your research projects.
- You will be expected to complete sections of your research project or thesis and bring them to these meetings. Bring a disk, thumb drive, complete hard copy, as well as a printed copy of the sections you've worked on. We will be working on these during class.
- Feel free to use your own laptop, however it is not mandatory, as we will be working in the computer lab.
- We will be using a system of peer-review to evaluate these projects.
- At the end of the semester, you will give an oral (PowerPoint) presentation on your research. This will be in preparation for your oral defense or as a summary of the progress you've made this semester.
- In addition, you will be expected to turn in a complete outline for Chapters 1-5, if you are working on your thesis or project.

**IMPORTANT:** Dates to be mindful of for a target of graduation in 2015:

***Thesis Project Deadlines***

| <b>Semester</b> | <b>Forms</b>           | <b>Deadline</b> |
|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Spring 2015     | Planning Form          | March 13, 2015  |
|                 | Preliminary Formatting | April 10, 2015  |
|                 | Final Submission       | May 8, 2015     |

| <b>Semester</b> | <b>Forms</b>           | <b>Deadline</b> |
|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Summer 2015     | Planning Form          | June 1, 2015    |
|                 | Preliminary Formatting | July 2, 2015    |
|                 | Final Submission       | August 7, 2015  |

- Get thesis/project to your committee 2 weeks before defense date
  - Since the deadline for final submission (Spring grad) is May 8, try to schedule your defense at the latest the week of April 30<sup>th</sup>, remember to check with your committee to schedule a time for your defense.
    - Thesis needs to be checked for format **before** thesis final submission.
- Schedule enough time to make corrections to your thesis before you turn it in for final submission.

- **Grade will be based on an Annotated Bibliography (10 pts.), Circle of Goals (10 pts.), a written Research Project Proposal - Chapters 1-3 (50 pts.), written outline of total proposal (15 pts.) and oral presentation (85 pts.). Total possible: 170 pts.**
- **Attendance and tardiness will also be calculated, based on -10 points for each missed class, -2 points per being late.**

Course grades, using a **plus/minus** grading system, will be assigned as follows:

|                    |                    |                    |                 |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| <b>B+</b> : 87-89% | <b>A</b> : 94-100% | <b>A-</b> : 90-93% |                 |
| <b>C+</b> : 78-79% | <b>B</b> : 84-86%  | <b>B-</b> : 80-83% |                 |
| <b>D+</b> : 68-69% | <b>C</b> : 74-77%  | <b>C-</b> : 70-73% |                 |
|                    | <b>D</b> : 64-67%  | <b>D-</b> : 60-63% | <b>F</b> : <60% |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Using the suggested dates above as general guidelines, set your own deadlines for finishing the thesis:

- Thesis to my committee: \_\_\_\_\_
- Defense date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Format check: \_\_\_\_\_
- Turn in thesis for binding: \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

**Chair:** \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information:

Dates when not available:

**Committee member 1:** \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information:

Dates when not available:

**Committee member 2:** \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information:

Dates when not available:

## **CLASSROOM POLICIES**

- ◆ Assignments are to be turned in at the **beginning** of the class period on the day they are due.
- ◆ The penalty for late assignments is 10% of the total points possible for each 24-hour period that it is late (starting at 4:00 PM on the day it is due and including weekdays that we do not have class).
- ◆ **NO ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED MORE THAN 2 DAYS AFTER THE DUE DATE.**
- ◆ **Assignments must be word processed**, unless otherwise noted.
- ◆ **Class attendance and punctuality** are mandatory. (Attendance will be taken.) (-10 pts/absence; -2 pts. if late, however if > 30 minutes late = absence)
- ◆ If you miss class, you are still responsible for the assignments that are due on that day.
- ◆ There is information and discussion that take place during class that cannot be captured just by reading the texts. If you miss class you will still be responsible for anything you missed.
- ◆ **No make-up or early exams**
- ◆ **Cell phones** are to be “off” during class and counseling sessions.
- ◆ **Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated, and will result in an automatic” fail” in the course. The student may be subject to more severe University discipline. (Refer to the California Code of Regulations, Section 41301, Title 5, as found in the University catalog.)**
- ◆ **Honesty, ethical, and respectful behavior** are expected of each student.
- ◆ Requests for an Incomplete (I) must conform to University policies. Among other requirements, an “I” is possible only for instances in which a student is demonstrating passing work in the class.
- ◆ **For professional skill development, any and all emails must have a proper greeting and salutation** (e.g. Dear ..... Sincerely, .....).

### Special Needs

- **Requests for accommodation in test taking or other special needs must be made to the instructor by the second class meeting.**

## **AGREEMENT**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read, understood, and agree to the conditions as presented in the FCS 690M course syllabus.

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Signature

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Date