



Course **The Nature of Intellectual Inquiry BIS 3320-003**
Professor Dr. Tonja Wissinger
Term Fall 2013
Meetings MW 10:00-11:15 HH 2.502

Professor's Contact Information

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Office Hours MW 11:15-12:00 & 1:00-2:00 and by appointment.

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General Course Information

Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, & other restrictions No prerequisites

Course Description

This course is concerned with the systematic study of science and the academic experience. Science is part of the search for knowledge and each approach to science contributes to the totality of knowledge. BIS 3320 will assist students in understanding the pervasive influence of science in our culture and will increase the student's breadth of intellectual inquiry. In addition, the class is designed to assist the students in understanding the importance of clear communication, documentation, and the use of detailed information to support arguments.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to locate primary sources and evaluate the usefulness of each source based on the criteria discussed in class.
2. Students will be able to concisely paraphrase the findings of studies and properly document sources according to the guidelines set forth by the APA manual.
3. Students will be able to develop a thesis statement and write a paper that discusses the scientific studies that support their claim.
4. Students will be able to describe the differences and similarities between philosophical ideas and scientific facts and/or theories.

Required Texts & Materials	<i>Sophie's World</i> Jostein Gaarder <i>Aging with Grace</i> David Snowdon <i>Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association</i> (6 th ed) Additional readings are available online.
Suggested Texts, Readings, & Materials	n/a

Assignments & Academic Calendar

[Topics, Reading Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates]

Re: Written assignments

The assignments will be explained on the specified day and discussed throughout the semester.

****All** written assignments must be well organized, free of spelling and grammatical errors, double-spaced, and printed in a 12-14 font. Handwritten work will not be accepted. **Do not** e-mail the written assignments to me without permission.

Re: Assigned readings

I require that students complete the assigned readings prior to class. I strongly recommend that students keep a *Sophie's World* notebook.

**** These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.**

Aug 26 & 28	M Introduction W Lecture: What is science? and Choosing a Topic. <i>Sophie's World</i> (SW), chapters 1-3.
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Sept 2 & 4	M No class. W Reading: Snowdon, prologue and chapter 1-2. Lecture: Writing a Proposal.
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Sept 9 & 11	M Reading: SW, chapters 4-6. Reading: Snowdon, chapters 3-4. W Reading; SW, chapter 7-11.
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- Sept 16 & 18**
- M** Library Instruction Session
 **Meet in the library lobby at 10:00am.
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- W** Lecture: Sources and Writing an Annotated Bibliography.
 Reading: Chapter 6 and pp. 198-199 of the APA Manual.
***Proposals are due**
- Sept 23 & 25**
- M** Reading: SW, chapters 12-15.
- W** Lecture: Academic Tone
 Reading: Chapters 3-4 of the APA Manual
- Sept 30/Oct 2**
- M** Reading: SW, chapters 16-18.
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- W** Lecture: The Structure of an Argument and. In-text Citations
****Revised proposals and annotated bibliographies are due!**
- Oct 7 & 9**
- M** Reading: SW, chapters 19-21.
W Reading: SW, chapters 22-23.
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- M** Checklist for the midterm paper.
- Oct 14 & 16**
- W** **Midterm papers are due in my office before 1:00. Turn in the original proposal, the revised proposal, and the annotated bib along with your midterm paper (in a two-pocket folder). Remember to submit your paper to turnitin.com.**
- Oct 21 & 23**
- M** Guidelines for the final paper.
 Reading: SW, chapters 24.
- W** Reading: Snowdon, chapters 5-6.
- Oct 28 & 30**
- M** Reading: Snowdon, chapters 7 & 11.
W Reading: SW, chapters 25-26.
***Proposals are due**

- Nov 4 & 6**
- M** Reading: “The Perils of Obedience”
W Reading: The Stanford Prison Experiment
<http://www.prisonexp.org>
- Nov 11 & 13**
- M** Reading: “Whose Life Would You Save?”
carlzimmer.com
W Lecture: Contextualizing your topics.
****Revised proposals and annotated bibliographies are due.**
- Nov 18 & 20**
- M** Reading: SW, chapters 27-28.
W Reading: Snowden, chapters 9-10.
- Dec 2 & 4**
- M** Reading: SW, chapters 29-30.
W Reading: SW, chapters 31-32.
****Philosophical foundations are due.**
- Dec 9 & 11**
- M** Reading: Snowden, chapters 8 & 12.
W Reading: SW, chapters 33-35.
 Review guidelines for the final paper. (Last day of class)
- Dec 13-Friday**
- Final papers are due in my office before 5:00 pm. Turn in the original proposal, the revised proposal, and the annotated bib along with your final paper (in a two-pocket folder). Remember to submit your paper to turnitin.com.**

Grading (credit) Criteria	<p>Preliminary work (initial proposal - revised proposal and bib.) for midterm paper (10%) Midterm paper (25%)</p> <p>Preliminary work (initial proposal - revised proposal and bib-10%, and philosophical foundation-5%) for final paper Final paper (25%)</p> <p>Pop quizzes (15%) Class Participation (10%)</p>
Make-up Exams	In-class work cannot be made up. Pop quizzes may be made up at my discretion.
Extra Credit	There will be no extra credit work. No exceptions.
Late Work	Late work will receive a substantially lower grade.
Special Assignments	n/a
Class Attendance	<p>Remember that attendance, class participation, and classroom citizenship (see section below) constitutes 10% of your course grade.</p> <p>Class participation means arriving on time, contributing to discussions, active listening, and peer editing. Bring your textbooks, notebook paper, and a pen to each class session.</p> <p>*If you are unable to attend class, you are responsible for obtaining the lecture notes from another class member.</p> <p>*Be aware that pop quizzes and peer-editing will normally take place at the beginning of class. No extra time will be allowed for those who come in late.</p> <p>*Attendance will be taken during each class session. Missing class will have an adverse effect on your final grade.</p>
Classroom Citizenship	<p>Technology Policy: Cell phones must be silenced during class. I do not want to see them or hear them (absolutely no texting). Please, no laptops, ipads, or ear devices. Violation of this policy will affect your grade.</p> <p>Classroom Conduct: I expect students to be attentive during class. Please, no eating or sleeping! Additionally, reading newspapers, magazines, or studying for another class will not be tolerated. During discussions, I expect students to be respectful of the views of others. No name-calling, swearing, or racist/sexist/homophobic statements. Common courtesy is appreciated. Also, if you are having a problem with another student, please discuss it with me.</p> <p>Course Policies For additional syllabi policies: http://coursebook.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies</p>

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