



**Course**    **The Nature of Intellectual Inquiry BIS 3320-003**  
**Professor**    Dr. Tonja Wissinger  
**Term**    Spring 2017  
**Meetings**    TR 11:30-12:45 CB2 1.204

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*Comet Creed*

*As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all I do.*

**Professor's Contact Information**

**Office Phone**    972-883-2814  
**Other Phone**    n/a  
**Office Location**    HH 2.114  
**Email Address**    twissin@utdallas.edu  
**Office Hours**    TR 1:00-2:00 and by appointment.  
**Other Information**    Additional information will be provided on the first day of class and throughout the semester.

**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 claims.
4. Students will be able to describe the differences and similarities between philosophical ideas and scientific facts and/or theories.

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

<b>Jan. 10 &amp; 12</b>	<p><b>T</b> Introduction</p> <p><b>R</b> Lecture: What is science? and Choosing a Topic.</p>
<b>Jan. 17 &amp; 19</b>	<p><b>T</b> Lecture: Writing a Proposal. Reading: <i>Sophie's World</i> (SW), chapters 1-3.</p> <p><b>R</b> Reading: Snowdon, prologue and chapter 1-2.</p>
<b>Jan. 24 &amp; 26</b>	<p><b>T</b> Library Instruction Session **Meet in the library lobby at 11:30am.</p> <p><b>R</b> Lecture: Sources and Writing an Annotated Bibliography. Reading: Chapter 6 and pp. 198-199 of the APA Manual. <b>*Proposals are due.</b></p>

<b>Jan.31/ Feb. 2</b>	<p><b>T</b> Reading: Snowdon, chapters 3-4.</p> <p><b>R</b> Reading: SW, chapters 4-7.</p>
<b>Feb. 7 &amp; 9</b>	<p><b>T</b> Lecture: Academic Tone Reading: Chapters 3-4 of the APA Manual.</p> <p><b>R</b> Reading: SW, chapters 8-11.</p>
<b>Feb. 14 &amp; 16</b>	<p><b>T</b> Reading: SW chapter 12-15.</p> <p><b>R</b> Lecture: The Structure of an Argument and In-text Citations.  <b>**Revised proposals and annotated bibliographies are due!</b>  <b>Submit in a two-pocket folder along with your original proposal.</b></p>
<b>Feb. 21 &amp; 23</b>	<p><b>T</b> Reading: SW chapter 16-18.</p> <p><b>R</b> Reading: SW, chapters 19-21.</p> <p>.</p>
<b>Feb 28/March 2</b>	<p><b>T</b> Reading: SW, chapters 22-23. Checklist for the midterm paper.</p> <p><b>R</b> <b>Midterm papers are due in my office before 1:00pm.</b>  <b>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.</b></p>
<b>March 7 &amp; 9</b>	<p><b>T</b> Guidelines for the final paper. Reading: SW, chapters 24.</p> <p><b>R</b> Reading: Snowdon, chapters 5-6.</p>
	<p><b>Spring break!!</b></p>

- March 21 & 23**
- T** Reading: Snowden, chapters 7 & 11.
  - R** Reading: SW, chapters 25-26.
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- March 28 & 30**
- T** Reading: "The Perils of Obedience"
  - R** Reading: The Stanford Prison Experiment  
<http://www.prisonexp.org>
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- April 4 & 6**
- T** Reading: "Whose Life Would You Save?"  
[carlzimmer.com](http://carlzimmer.com)
  - R** Lecture: Contextualizing your topics.  
**\*\*Proposals and annotated bibliographies are due.**

- April 11 & 13**
- T** Reading: SW, chapters 27-28.
  - R** Reading: Snowden, chapters 9-10.

- April 18 & 20**
- T** Reading: SW, chapters 29-31.
  - R** Reading: SW, chapters 32.  
**\*\*Philosophical foundations are due.**

- April 25 & 27**
- T** Reading: Snowden, chapters 8 & 12.
  - R** Reading: SW, chapters 33-35.  
Review guidelines for the final paper.

- May 2-Tuesday**
- Final papers are due in my office before 5:00 pm. Turn in the proposal, the annotated bib, and the rough draft of the philosophical foundation along with your final paper (in a two-pocket folder). Remember to submit your paper to turnitin.com.**

<b>Grading (credit) Criteria</b>	<p>Preliminary work for the midterm paper:          -initial proposal-ungraded-comments only          - revised proposal and bib (10%)          Midterm paper (25%)</p> <p>Preliminary work for the final paper:          - proposal and bib (10%)          -philosophical foundation (5%)          Final paper (25%)</p> <p>Pop quizzes (15%)          Class Participation (10%)</p>
<b>Make-up Exams</b>	In-class work cannot be made up. Pop quizzes may be made up at my discretion.
<b>Extra Credit</b>	There will be no extra credit work. No exceptions.
<b>Late Work</b>	Late work will receive a substantially lower grade. Assignments turned in one week after the due date will not be accepted.
<b>Class Attendance</b>	<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, <b>you</b> are responsible for obtaining the lecture notes from another class member.</p> <p>*Attendance will be taken during each class session <b>You</b> are responsible for signing the attendance sheet.</p> <p>* Pop quizzes and peer-editing will usually take place at the beginning of class. No extra time will be allowed for those who come in late.</p>
<b>Classroom Citizenship</b>	<p><b>Technology Policy:</b> 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><b>Classroom Conduct:</b> **When you enter the classroom, put all of your electronic devices away. I expect students to socialize with each other prior to class. Your peers are part of the university experience.</p> <p>When class begins, I expect students to be attentive. 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><b>Scholastic Dishonesty:</b> Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, submitting for credit any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, or any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.</p> <p>Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes (yes, it is possible to plagiarize yourself...), and from any other source, is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see below for details). This course will use the resources of <i>turnitin.com</i>, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.</p>
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## Sharing Confidential Information

Students considering sharing personal information in email, in person, or within assignments or exams should be aware that faculty members and teaching/research assistants are required by UT Dallas policy to report information about sexual misconduct to the UT Dallas Title IX Coordinator. Per university policy, faculty have been informed that they must identify the student to the UT Dallas Title IX Coordinator. Students who wish to have confidential discussions of incidents related to sexual harassment or sexual misconduct should contact the Student Counseling Center (972-883-2527 or after hours 972-UTD-TALK or 972-883-8255), the Women's Center (972-883-8255), a health care provider in the Student Health Center (972-883-2747), the clergyperson (or other legally recognized religious advisor) of their choice, or an off-campus resource (i.e., rape crisis center, doctor, psychologist). Students who are sexually assaulted, harassed, or victims of sexual misconduct, domestic violence, or stalking, are encouraged to directly report these incidents to the UT Dallas Police Department at 972-883-2222 or to the Title IX Coordinator at 972-883-2218. Additional information and resources may be found at <http://www.utdallas.edu/oiec/title-ix/resources>.

## Campus Carry

The University's concealed handgun policy is posted on the campus carry website: <https://www.utdallas.edu/campuscarry/>

## Technical Support

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If you experience any issues with your UT Dallas account, contact the UT Dallas Office of Information Technology Help Desk: [assist@utdallas.edu](mailto:assist@utdallas.edu) or call 972-883-2911.

## Student Conduct and Discipline

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The University of Texas System (Regents' Rule 50101) and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UT Dallas online catalogs (<http://catalog.utdallas.edu>).

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the Student Code of Conduct, UTDSP5003 (<http://policy.utdallas.edu/utdsp5003>). Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of Community Standards and Conduct, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SSB 4.400, 972-883-6391) and online at <https://www.utdallas.edu/conduct/>.

A student at the University neither loses their rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating its standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

## Academic Integrity

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The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrates a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

***Academic Dishonesty:*** Academic dishonesty can occur in relation to any type of work submitted for academic credit or as a requirement for a class. It can include individual work or a group project. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, and collaboration/collusion. In order to avoid academic dishonesty, it is important for students to

fully understand the expectations of their professors. This is best accomplished through asking clarifying questions if an individual does not completely understand the requirements of an assignment.

Additional information related to academic dishonesty and tips on how to avoid dishonesty may be found here: <https://www.utdallas.edu/conduct/dishonesty/>.

## Email Use

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The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. All official student email correspondence will be sent only to a student's UT Dallas email address and UT Dallas will only consider email requests originating from an official UT Dallas student email account. This allows the University to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of each individual's corresponding via email and the security of the transmitted information. The University of Texas at Dallas furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Office of Information Technology provides a method for students to have their UT Dallas mail forwarded to other email accounts. To activate a student UT Dallas computer account and forward email to another account, go to <http://netid.utdallas.edu>.

## Class Attendance

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Regular and punctual class attendance is expected. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. Absences may lower a student's grade where class attendance and class participation are deemed essential by the instructor. In some courses, instructors may have special attendance requirements; these should be made known to students during the first week of classes.

## Withdrawal from Class

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The administration at UT Dallas has established deadlines for withdrawal from any course. These dates and times are published in the Comet Calendar (<http://www.utdallas.edu/calendar>) and in the Academic Calendar (<http://www.utdallas.edu/academiccalendar>). It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, a professor or



other instructor cannot drop or withdraw any student unless there is an administrative drop such as the following:

- Have not met the prerequisites for a specific course
- Have not satisfied the academic probationary requirements resulting in suspension
- Office of Community Standards and Conduct request
- Have not made appropriate tuition and fee payments
- Enrollment is in violation of academic policy
- Was not admitted for the term in which they registered

It is the student's responsibility to complete and submit the appropriate forms to the Registrar's Office and ensure that he or she will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if he or she chooses not to attend the class after being enrolled.

## **Student Grievance Procedures**

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Procedures for student grievances are found in university policy UTDSP5005 (<http://policy.utdallas.edu/utdsp5005>). In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding disputes over grades, application of degree plan, graduation/degree program requirements, and thesis/and dissertation committee, adviser actions and/or decisions, evaluations, and/or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originated.

## **Incomplete Grade Policy**

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As per university policy, incomplete grades may be given, at the discretion of the instructor of record for a course, when a student has completed at least 70% of the required course material but cannot complete all requirements by the end of the semester. An incomplete course grade (grade of 'I') must be completed within the time period specified by the instructor, not to exceed eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. Upon completion of the required work, the symbol 'I' may be converted into a letter grade (A through F). If the grade of Incomplete is not removed by the end of the specified period, it will automatically be changed to F.

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## AccessAbility Services

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It is the policy and practice of The University of Texas at Dallas to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. However, written notification from the Office of Student AccessAbility (OSA) is required. If you are eligible to receive an accommodation and would like to request it for this course, please discuss it with your professor and allow one week advance notice. Students who have questions about receiving accommodations, or those who have, or think they may have, a disability (mobility, sensory, health, psychological, learning, etc.) are invited to contact OSA for a confidential discussion. OSA is located in the Student Services Building, SSB 3.200. They can be reached by phone at 972-883-2098, or by email at [studentaccess@utdallas.edu](mailto:studentaccess@utdallas.edu).

## Religious Holy Days

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The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities, including examinations and travel time for the observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, of the *Texas Tax Code*.

Students are encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment.

Excused students will be allowed to take missed exams or complete assignments within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the President of UT Dallas or from the President's designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of *Texas Education Code* 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

For additional information go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>

