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# LIBR300: Library Research for the Social Sciences (Winter 2012 - Online)

Deana Greenfield  
*National-Louis University*

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NATIONAL  
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## LIBR 300: Library Research for the Social Sciences SYLLABUS for Elgin Cohort (CRN 11010)

**Instructor:**

Deana Greenfield  
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**Meeting Dates & Location:**

Tuesday, January 10 through Tuesday, February 14,  
2012.

This course meets entirely online through Blackboard.

**Office hours:**

By appointment (phone or email)

**Problems accessing Blackboard?** Call the NLU

Helpdesk at [1-866-813-1177](tel:1-866-813-1177) (toll free)

**Course Description:**

This course introduces students to college research in the social and behavioral sciences. Students will learn important research techniques, including how to identify and determine the most appropriate sources required for an information need, how to find and critically evaluate sources, and how to ethically use and share the information. Through the use of online tools and collaboration, students will be able to identify and locate relevant literature in the field in order to compile an effective literature review.

**Major Topics:**

- Identifying topics for research
- Searching for information
- Evaluating sources for research

**In this course you will learn how to:**

- Participate effectively in an online environment
- Implement effective search techniques
- Evaluate resources in multiple formats to verify their authority, purpose, accuracy, relevancy, and context
- Identify types of published research and when to use them
- Search databases and use search techniques appropriate for the social and behavioral sciences

**Materials:**

No textbook is required for this course. Readings will be available online through library article databases or freely on the Web.

**Requirements:**

1. Participate in online discussions, includes discussion posts and response posts to classmates.
2. Complete online assignments. *Assignments turned in late will have points deducted – see “Late Policy” below.*
3. Complete final research project. *Projects turned in late will have points deducted – see “Late Policy” below.*

**Grading:**

	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Points</b>
<b><u>Week 1</u></b>	Introductions – Due Wednesday, January 11	2 points
	Statement & Online Success Strategy – Due Friday, January 13	3 points
	Share your topic, research question & keywords – Due Tuesday, January 17	5 points
	Literature Searching Discussion – Due Friday January 20th	5 points
<b><u>Week 2</u></b>	Creating Effective Search Statements – Due Tuesday, January 24	5 points
	Submit one book and one article – Due Friday, January 27	5 points
	How did you choose your sources? – Due Friday, January 27	10 points
<b><u>Week 3</u></b>	Peer-review quiz – Due Tuesday, January 31	5 points
	Evaluate a website – worksheet – Due Friday, February 3rd	10 points
	Your evaluation criteria Discussion – Due Friday, February 3rd	5 points
<b><u>Week 4</u></b>	Annotation Practice – Due Tuesday, February 7	10 points
<b><u>Week 5</u></b>	Final Project – Due Tuesday, February 14	35 points
	Total	100 points

**Final grades will be based on the following scale:**

A	100-90
B	89-80
C	79-70
D	69-60
F	59 and below

**Late Policy**

Assignments posted or turned in late will have points deducted according to the grading rubric. You will have three days after the due date to submit a late assignment. No points will be given for assignments that are not posted by the late posting deadline unless prior notice to the instructor is given and special arrangements made

## LIBR300: Course Schedule

In addition to completing the assignments below, please read all of the material in the corresponding Learning Module(s)

### **WEEK ONE: Becoming an Online Learner & Defining the Research Question Modules**

- Read the Course Orientation: “Becoming an Online Learner”
- Introduce yourself to the class and your instructors by posting in the Introductions board. (2 pts) - **Due Wednesday, January 11**
- Post to Discussion Board - **Statement & Online Success Strategy** (3 pts) - **Due Friday, January 13**

### **Defining the Research Question Module**

- Post to Discussion Board – **Share your topic, research questions & keywords** (5 pts) - **Due Tuesday, January 17**
- Read Chapter 5 “Literature Searching” in *Doing Your Research Project*. E-book available: <http://site.ebrary.com.proxy.nl.edu/lib/natlou/docDetail.action?docID=10413335>
- Post to Discussion Board - **Literature Searching** (10 pts) - **Due Friday January 20th**

### **WEEK TWO: Developing A Search Strategy & Searching Module**

- Post to Discussion Board – **Creating Effective Search Statements** discussion and activities (5 pts) - **Due Tuesday, January 24**
- **Submit one book and one article** assignment. Post two (2) citations for final project to Discussion Board (5 pts) - **Due Friday, January 27**
- Post to Discussion Board - **How did you choose your sources?** (10 pts) – **Due Friday, January 27**

### **WEEK THREE: Evaluating Information Sources Module**

- Take Peer-review Quiz (5 points) – **Due Tuesday, January 31**
- Complete Worksheet - **Evaluate a website** (10 points) – **Due Friday, February 3rd**
- Post to Discussion Board - **Your evaluation criteria** (5 points) – **Due Friday, February 3rd**

### **WEEK FOUR: Creating Annotated Bibliographies Module**

- Post to Discussion Board - **Annotation practice** (10 points) – **Due Tuesday, February 7**

### **WEEK FIVE: Final Project - An Annotated Bibliography**

- Complete Annotated Bibliography (35 points) – **Due Tuesday, February 14**

**ADA Statement:**

National Louis University seeks to ensure that its programs are accessible to all persons. Students in need of special assistance or an accommodation regarding any of the course requirements as outlined in this syllabus, the course objectives and/or course evaluation and assessment criteria, are advised to notify me within the first two weeks of class. We will meet privately to discuss resolution of your issue, which may or may not include an appropriate referral (e.g. a Writing specialist, the Academic Accommodations Coordinator, the Director of Diversity or the Office of Student Affairs). Confidentiality will be maintained regarding your special needs.

**Academic Policy Statement**

With respect to the academic honesty of students, it is expected that all material submitted as part of any class exercise, in or out of class, is the actual work of the student whose name appears on the material or is properly documented otherwise. The concept of academic honesty includes plagiarism as well as receiving and/or giving improper assistance and other forms of cheating on coursework. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary action and may be dismissed from the University.

Faculty has the right to analyze and evaluate students' course work. Students may be asked to submit their papers electronically to a third-party plagiarism detection service. Students who are asked to submit their papers, and refuse, must provide proof for every cited work comprising the cover page and first cited page for each source listed in the bibliography. When evidence of academic dishonesty is discovered, an established procedure of resolution will be activated to bring the matter to closure.

The Policy on Academic Honesty is in the Student Guidebook as a hard copy and online at <http://www.nl.edu/StudentServices/studentaffairs/StudentHandbook/>.

For resources on how to cite properly and avoid plagiarism, go to NLU's Library Website at <http://www.nl.edu/library/>.

**\*PLEASE NOTE:** Schedule is subject to change during the course. The instructor will give appropriate notice should changes occur. However, it is the student's responsibility to keep track of changes and submit assignments on time.