

JS 499-7501 – Senior Research Project  
Lewis-Clark State College  
Fall 2009

CREDITS: 3 credits

PREREQUISITE: Arrangement with Instructor

INSTRUCTOR: Heidee McMillin (208) 292-2680 cell (509) 220-7607  
E-mail: [hemcmillin@lcsc.edu](mailto:hemcmillin@lcsc.edu)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a senior level course designed to allow the student to use his/her accumulated knowledge to further study research issues in Justice Studies, and apply research methods to complete a topic of the student's choosing.

FOR STUDENTS WHO COMPLETED RESEARCH METHODS LAST SEMESTER:

1. Turn in your graded paper from Research Methods to me during the first week of this semester.

I will review the paper and provide editing comments for you to more fully complete the paper for Senior Research purposes.

Your edited paper will be returned to you for updating in the first few weeks of the semester.

2. The second draft of your paper will be due back to me by midterm – **Monday, October 12, 2009.**\* Please turn in the original edited copy along with your corrected copy so I can refer back to the specific changes I asked you to make.
3. The final paper is due Monday, December 7, 2009.
4. Completed papers should be typed, double-spaced, and written to national APA standards (see [http://www.lesley.edu/library/guides/citation/apa\\_citation\\_format.doc](http://www.lesley.edu/library/guides/citation/apa_citation_format.doc) for examples) or other nationally recognized standards for research papers. The final paper must be at least 15 - 20 pages (excluding bibliography).

\*It is common to have 3 to 4 re-writes on your paper. As your paper begins to transform from a research methods proposal to a senior research paper, items you are asked to address in later drafts may not be mentioned in earlier drafts. The sooner you make the necessary changes and return the edited drafts for review, the better your final paper is likely to be.

JS 499-7501 – Senior Research Project  
Lewis-Clark State College  
Fall 2009

FOR STUDENTS CONDUCTING AN ORIGINAL RESEARCH PROJECT (Collecting their own data):

1. Traditional research methods must be used, such as:
  - a. Observations
  - b. Surveys
  - c. Interviews
  - d. Document Review
  - e. Statistical Analysis
  - f. Case Studies
2. The subject and method of research must be approved by the instructor. Students may work together on a research project with instructor approval.
3. An initial outline of the research project should be turned in to the instructor by the 4th week of the semester.
4. Your research design must be completed by the midterm, Monday, October 12, 2009.
5. The final paper is due Monday, December 7, 2009.
6. Completed papers should be typed, double-spaced, and written to national APA standards (see [http://www.lesley.edu/library/guides/citation/apa\\_citation\\_format.doc](http://www.lesley.edu/library/guides/citation/apa_citation_format.doc) for examples) or other nationally recognized standards for research papers. The final paper must be at least 15 - 20 pages (excluding bibliography).

CHECKLIST FOR RESEARCH PROJECT:

1. What are you trying to find out? (What is your research question?)
2. What is the value of the research? (Why is it important to Justice Studies?)
3. What variables will you use to measure your research question?
4. What obstacles will you have to overcome to gain the knowledge?
5. What methods will you use to gain the knowledge?
6. Are the conclusions drawn justified by the data and methods used?

The initial outline you turn in should briefly address items 1 – 5 above. Once the outline is finalized and approved by the instructor, the research paper will expound on each of the five items, and provide an answer to item 6.

JS 499-7501 – Senior Research Project  
Lewis-Clark State College  
Fall 2009

7. As part of this class, you are required to take the ACAT exam. This exam assesses what you have learned while in the LCSC Justice Studies Program. Your score on the exam will **not** affect your grade in this class. You will take the exam at an agreed upon date and time near the end of the semester.

## LCSC Student E-Mail Account

Because this class does not meet in person, it is *vital* that your e-mail account work properly. According to college policy, your LC student e-mail account is the only e-mail we can use to communicate with you. We send you important information in e-mails that must be viewed in a timely manner. ***Please check your e-mail regularly!*** Another simple option is putting a forward on your LCMail to an account that you check more regularly. To do this:

1. Get logged into your LCMail account
2. Go into your inbox
3. Click on "settings"
4. Click on "Forwarding and POP/IMAP"
5. Click on "Forward A Copy of Incoming Mail to:"
6. Insert your other e-mail address into the blank field
7. Select "Keep LCSC Mails Copy in the Inbox" (if you choose)
8. Scroll to bottom and Save Changes

## Students with Disabilities

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504/508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, LCSC-CdA provides services and accommodations to students who experience barriers in the educational setting due to learning, emotional/psychiatric, physical, visual, or hearing disabilities. For more information please contact Lewis-Clark State College, 1000 W. Hubbard Street, Coeur d' Alene, ID 83814 (208) 666-6707.

Please also let your instructor know of any special needs you may have to achieve a successful learning environment.