

LIBRARY 150: Fundamentals of Library Research in the Social Sciences

(Spring 2008 / SYLLABUS)

Prof. James Tasato Mellone

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Class: RO 223 and 101A, Thursday 10:15am-12:05pm
Office Hours: RO 326; Thursday, 12:15-1:00pm, and by appointment
My Mailbox: RO 317; **leave** your completed assignments in my mail slot
Class Mailbox: RO 317; class box for **pickup** of your graded material – remove your graded material and leave the envelope for future use
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DESCRIPTION & GOAL

This is a 2-credit introduction to library research in the social sciences (anthropology, economics, history, philosophy, political science, psychology, sociology, urban studies). It is intended for students with at least sophomore standing who are majoring in the social sciences, or interested in the social sciences.

The goal of the course is the development of research skills using specific resources and strategies for the social sciences. You will learn to identify research needs, select and evaluate sources, and integrate resources into a scholarly product. This is a success-based course whose primary aim is to enable every student to learn the process of doing library research through learning about a specific social science topic.

COURSE STRUCTURE & REQUIREMENTS

The course is designed to offer you formal instruction through lecture and demonstration, hands-on experience with in-class assignments, and research experience through out-of-class homework assignments.

You are required to research a topic, and write an annotated bibliography. You are also required to demonstrate the ability to perform the research techniques you learn in class on group projects and an individual final exam.

GRADING EQUIVALENCIES

A+	97-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69
A	93-96	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	60-66
A-	90-92	B-	80-82	C-	70-72	F	0-59

REQUIREMENTS

8 Assignments	(50 pts. each)	400 pts.
4 Quizzes	(25 pts. each)	100 pts.
Annotated Bibliography		100 pts.
2 Team Projects	(50 pts. Each)	100 pts.
Final Exam		50 pts.
Class Participation		50 pts.

QUIZZES (4 x 25 pts. each = 100 pts.)

The quizzes are multiple choice, or fill in the blank. Some will test your familiarity with the definitions that we will cover in class: history and concepts in social science, libraries, and technology. Knowing the vocabulary will help you understand the research process better, and make your questions more intelligible when you ask librarians and professors for assistance. Other questions may be based upon the research techniques and skills you will be learning.

Library Locations and LC Easy Classification

Library and Information Science Concepts

Social Science History

Social Science Concepts

ASSIGNMENTS (8 x 50 pts. each = 400 pts.)

The assignments are arranged to give you practical experience doing research using Library resources. There is no substitute for doing real research and reading material that is written by knowledgeable people. Simply searching the Web and using whatever you most easily find is not considered research. You will be shown how to evaluate websites, but most of what you will be doing is locating published material owned by the Library, to read and use in writing your annotated bibliography. You will begin most assignments in class and complete them by the next class meeting.

Basic Facts: Websites and General Encyclopedias (50)

Summary Critique of your Book Selection (50)

Books and Reference Books (50)

Books and Parts of Books (50)

Magazine Articles (50)

Newspaper Articles (50)

Journal Articles (50)

Book Reviews (50)

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY (100 pts.)

You will compile a bibliography of readings on your social scientist and book topic, then read and annotate the readings. You must submit copies of the readings to me with your bibliography.

- 1 to 1 ½ page summary critique of the book selection
- 1 to 1 ½ page summary of the social scientist's life based on 2 entries from two specialized reference books
- ½ page annotations each of:
 - 4 book reviews
 - 2 book parts (book essay or book part)
 - 2 magazine articles
 - 2 newspaper articles (1 NYT obituary)
 - 4 scholarly journal articles

TEAM PROJECTS (2 x 50 pts. each = 100 pts.)

You will demonstrate the research skills and techniques you have learned in the course. Working in teams, you will be required to locate different types of reading material on an assigned research topic, and answer questions on the topic based on those readings.

FINAL EXAM (50 pts.)

Similar to the in-class projects, you will individually research an assigned topic.

CLASS PARTICIPATION (50 pts.)

I cannot compel you to attend class, but class participation is part of your grade, and I will be taking attendance. Since our learning experience in the class is cumulative, one week's work building on the previous week's work, even with one absence you can fall behind easily. If you miss a class, check Blackboard for any assignments, instructions, or handouts you may have missed.

CLASS BEHAVIOR

We will treat each other with courtesy and respect, acting with decorum and politeness.

- Do not talk in class or lab; raise your hand if you have a question or a response.
- Do not pass notes or draw; only work on class assignments in the lab.
- Do not eat, drink (bottled water is permitted), read, or sleep in class.
- Do not leave during class, except for rest room use or an emergency (inform me).
- Do not put your feet on the desks or other furniture.
- Do not turn on your cell phone.
- Do not connect your laptop or pda to the Web (taking notes is permitted).

WHAT IF...

I anticipate everyone doing well in class, and hope you learn useful research skills that will help you. Nevertheless, just in case outside forces intrude into your work, or if you are temporarily distracted by other things in your busy life, your grade will be affected.

...you hand in an assignment late? Up to one week late, 5 points are deducted from the assignment grade; up to two weeks late, 10 points are deducted; more than two weeks late, the assignment grade is 0 points.

...your annotated bibliography is late? 5 points will be deducted for each day it is late, for a maximum of four days; more than four days late, the grade will be 0.

...you are absent on the day of a Quiz? Contact me right away, you must take a makeup quiz before the next class meeting. 5 points are deducted for a makeup quiz.

...you are absent on the days of the Team Projects? You receive 0 points for a missed Project. The makeup is the completion of another annotated bibliography, with 10 points deducted.

...you are absent on the day of the Final Exam? You receive 0 points for the Final Exam, and/or an Incomplete course grade. The makeup is the completion of another annotated bibliography, with 10 points deducted.

...your outline or writings read exactly like your readings or their abstracts? Plagiarism will not be tolerated. The penalty will be an F in the course and reporting of the offense to the Vice President for Student Affairs. It will be very obvious to me if what you write has been copied, or if it has not come from the readings you have submitted.

Social Science Readings

The readings are classics in the social sciences whose concepts and arguments still have relevance today. As such, you will be guaranteed to locate research material on them for the course. You will read a selection reprinted in one of these two textbooks which are on Reserve. The password to the E-Reserve course list is: mel150

++*Man in Contemporary Society*. N.Y.: Columbia University Press, 1962. [HM 101. C672]
==*The Making of Society: An Outline of Sociology*. N.Y.: Modern Library, 1959. [HM 15 .B5]

++Benedict, Ruth. *Patterns of Culture*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1934.

++Carr, Edward Hallett. *The New Society*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1951.

++Dewey, John. *Human Nature and Conduct*. New York: Henry Holt, 1922.

++Durkheim, Emile. *Suicide: A Study in Sociology*. Translated by John A. Spaulding and George Simpson. Glencoe, I.L.: Free Press, 1951 [1897].

++Freud, Sigmund. *Civilization and its Discontents*. Translated by Joan Riviere. London: Hogarth Press, 1930.

++Fromm, Erich. *Escape from Freedom*. New York: Rinehart, 1941.

++Galbraith, John Kenneth. *The Affluent Society*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1958.

++Hayek, Friedrich. *Road to Serfdom*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1944.

++Keynes, John Maynard. *The End of Laissez-Faire [Laissez-Faire and Communism]*. New York: New Republic, 1926.

++Malinowski, Bronislaw. *Sex and Repression in Savage Society*. New York: Humanities Press, 1953 [1927].

++Maritain, Jacques. *Christianity and Democracy*. Translated by Doris C. Anson. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1944.

++Michels, Robert. *Political Parties: A Sociological Study of the Oligarchical Tendencies of Modern Democracy*. Tr. Eden and Cedar Paul. Glencoe, I.L.: Free Press, 1949 [1916].

- ++Mills, C. Wright. *White Collar: The American Middle Classes*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1951.
- ++Myrdal, Gunnar. *An American Dilemma: The Negro Problem and Modern Democracy*. New York: Harper, 1944.
- ++Niebuhr, Reinhold. *Moral Man and Immoral Society*. New York: Scribner's, 1932.
- ++Ortega y Gasset, Jose. *Revolt of the Masses*. Authorized anonymous translation. New York: W.W. Norton, 1932.
- ==Parsons, Talcott. *The Social System*. Glencoe, I.L.: The Free Press, 1951.
- ==Ross, Edward Alsworth. *Social Control: A Survey of the Foundations of Order*. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1901.
- ++Sartre, Jean-Paul. *Existentialism*. Translated by Bernard Frechtman. New York: Philosophical Library, 1947.
- ++Schumpeter, Joseph. *Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy*. New York: Harper, 1942.
- ++Simmel, Georg. *Metropolis and Mental Life*. In *The Sociology of Georg Simmel*, ed. and tr. Kurt H. Wolff, 409-24. Glencoe, I.L.: Free Press, 1950 [1902].
- ==Sumner, William Graham. *Folkways: A Study of the Sociological Importance of Usages, Manners, Customs, Mores, and Morals*. Boston: Ginn, 1906.
- ++Tonnies, Ferdinand. *Gemeinschaft and Gesellschaft*. In *Fundamental Concepts of Sociology*. New York: American Book Company, 1940 [1887].
- ++Veblen, Thorstein. *Theory of the Leisure Class*. New York: Macmillan, 1899.
- ==Ward, Lester F. *Dynamic Sociology, or Applied Social Science as based upon Statical Sociology and the less Complex Sciences*. New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1883.
- ++Weber, Max. *Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*. Translated by Talcott Parsons. New York: Scribner, 1948 [1904]. {Excerpt translated by Peter Gay}

