ESCI 2105: Research In Environmental Science Part II (CRN 25643)
Spring 2021 (W 12:00-12:50, Virtual and synchronous)
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Instructors:	Dr. Lixin Jin
Office:	Geology 221A
Office hours:	W 10:30-11:30 am
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Teaching Assistant:

COURSE OBJECTIVE
Continue training in conducting and communicating research through workshops and active research with a faculty mentor and his/her graduate students. Students are required to:
- Spend on average *3-4 hrs per week* continuing on a research topic
- Attend class
- Present a poster on the research project at Department colloquium AND COURI research symposium
- Write a scientific report

Specific skills learned will include:
- How to apply for summer internships
- Ethics in Environmental Research
- Time management
- Poster presentation
- Scientific writing
- Communication to the general public and professionals

Grade Determination (points)

Attendance:	10
Lab note (monthly check):	5
Elevator Talk 2:	10
Elevator Talk 3:	10
Practice presentation:	10
Colloquium Presentation:	10*
Final COURI presentation:	15*
Final report:	30
Total:	100

Assignments of grades: 90-100 (A); 80-89 (B); 70-79 (C); 60-69 (D); <60 (F)

Required Textbook: None required.

Technology requirements:

- A computer or laptop,
- Stable, consistent internet,
- Blackboard,
- Your UTEP email account.

Course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system (LMS). Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Mozilla Firefox and Google Chrome are the most supported browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications with the LMS. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.

If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the Help Desk as they are trained specifically in assisting with technological needs of students.

Course expectations:

- All course materials will be posted on Blackboard and there will also be synchronous online meetings Content is provided in modules that are released weekly or biweekly.
- The rule of thumb for time planning for any university course is approximately 3 hours for every credit hour taken. So for this 3-credit course you should expect to spend (on average) 9 hours watching/reading online content, participating un synchronous lectures and labs and completing any assigned work.
- We expect you to check your email regularly for course announcements. We will be using the announcement system in Blackboard, so make sure you are checking the email linked to that system.

Netiquette:

- o Always consider audience. Remember that members of the class and the instructor will be reading any postings.
- o Respect and courtesy must be provided to classmates and to instructor at all times. No harassment or inappropriate postings will be tolerated.
- o When reacting to someone else's message, address the ideas, not the person. Post only what anyone would comfortably state in a face-to-face situation.
- o Blackboard is not a public internet venue; all postings to it should be considered private and confidential. Whatever is posted on in these online spaces is intended for classmates and professors only. Please do not copy documents and paste them to a publicly accessible website, blog, or other space. If students wish to do so, they have the ethical obligation to first request the permission of the writer(s).

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE - Spring 2021

Date	Topic
Jan 20	Research Refresher, introduction
Jan 27	Report back- What is the status of your research?
	Feedback from 2204, Poster Development and Rubric
Feb 3 (lab note check)	Scientific writing (CV, resume)
Feb 10	Library resources, literature search
Feb 17 (Report 1 due)	Data analysis, graphs, and statistics using Excel
Feb 24	How to find a summer internship?
Mar 3 (lab note check)	Practice presentations
March 5, Thursday*	**Department Colloquium**
Mar 10 (Report 2 due)	Time management
Mar 17	**(Spring Break – No Class)**
Mar 24	Elevator Talk round 2 (3 min, Research project)
March	(Course drop deadline)
March 31(lab note check)	Scientific Writing (reports)
April 7	Communication skills
April 14 (Report 3 due)	Elevator Talk round 3 (3 min, job interview)
April 21	No Meetings, prep for your poster presentation
April 24, Saturday*	**COURI Symposium**
April 28	Future plan: how early to prep your career?
May 5	Mixer with mentors/**Final Report due**

Department Colloquium: abstract submission through emails.
COURI: http://couri.utep.edu/index.php/symposia
Abstract submission window **Feb 14 – Mar 25, 2021**; Final presentation on

COURSE POLICIES

POLICY ON CIVILTY: Please come to class on time. It is disturbing and distracting everybody if people come in late. Please do not hold private conversations during lectures, but feel free to ask questions or start a discussion at any time. Cell phones MUST be turned off during class. DO NOT answer phones while in class.

Disability Statement: I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please see me personally before or after class in the first two weeks or make an appointment, to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) in the East Union Bldg., Room 106 within the first two weeks of classes.

Military Statement: If you are a military student with the potential of being called to military service and /or training during the course of the semester, you are encouraged to contact me no later than February.

POLICY ON HOMEWORK: All assignments are to be individual efforts unless specifically told otherwise. This policy will be strictly enforced.

POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY: Cheating is unethical and not acceptable. Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording: it is also not acceptable. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP catalog policy. Refer to http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm for further information.

POLICY ON ELECTRONIC DEVISES: Use of **laptops** during class is not permitted, except for class assigned presentations. The necessity of classroom interaction in this course negates the usefulness of laptops as a note-taking device. The use of your laptop during class can also prove distracting to your classmates, so please refrain from using your laptop during class. Use of **cell phones or other wireless devices are not permitted.**
- Set your phone to mute or silent mode before coming to class.
- Do not answer incoming calls or make outgoing calls except in an emergency.
- Do not use text messaging or web browser features while in class.

If you choose not to comply with these policies you will be asked to leave the classroom

Student Resources:

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support:

- [UTEP Library](): Access a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.
- [Help Desk](): Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus.
- [University Writing Center (UWC)](): Submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help and explore other writing resources.
- [Math Tutoring Center (MaRCS)](): Ask a tutor for help and explore other available math resources.
- [History Tutoring Center (HTC)](): Receive assistance with writing history papers, get help from a tutor and explore other history resources.
- [Military Student Success Center](): UTEP welcomes military-affiliated students to its degree programs, and the Military Student Success Center and its dedicated staff (many of whom are veterans and students themselves) are here to help personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.
- [RefWorks](): A bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial and Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide.