

**ENV SCI & ENGINEERING DISSERTATION DESIGN PRINCIPLES  
& FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

**CRN#23709/ 27204**

**SPRING 2023**

Syllabus Draft: Subject to Change

**Instructor:** Peter Golding, Luis G Perez, Annalisa Perez

**Location:** *LART 208 or E-106*

**Time & Dates:** *TR, 3:00-4:20*

**Office:** ENG 230F & Kelly Hall 211

**Office hours:**

**Contact:** [pgolding@utep.edu](mailto:pgolding@utep.edu), 747-8125

[lgperez@utep.edu](mailto:lgperez@utep.edu), 747-5511

[perez@utep.edu](mailto:perez@utep.edu), 915-525-3007

### **Course Description**

This course is designed for graduate students intending to write a thesis in completion of course requirements for a master's or doctoral degree. The course will highlight the fundamental requirements needed in thesis writing and proposal and defense presentations, including design and implementation of research studies. Discussion of the dissertation framework will include formulation of research questions, basic concepts of research, understanding of literature reviews, research methods and application, and analysis of findings.

### **Goals of this Course**

This course invites students to develop and strengthen their research argumentation skills and understanding of general thesis/dissertation requirements. A review of these topics will assist towards the intended purpose of completing a draft proposal, and three chapters (Overview, Literature Review, Purpose of Study) of their thesis.

### **Learning Outcomes**

- Develop management skills: time, financial, leadership, productivity
- Develop the skills to move from general thesis ideas to a concrete proposal
- Develop a realistic timeline for the dissertation process and completion and tools to maintain the timeline
- Develop familiarity with writing practices

### **Readings & Resources**

Turabian, Kate L. 2018. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

How To Write A Dissertation or Bedtime Reading For People Who Do Not Have Time To Sleep: <https://www.cs.purdue.edu/homes/dec/essay.dissertation.html>

### **Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity and achieve excellence on the quality of work produced by the individual. Students are to adhere to standards of integrity and ethical work. Avoid acts of dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, etc. Students caught or suspected of engaging in dishonest acts will receive a full letter grade reduction for the course.

### **Class Management**

- a) Attendance: Students are encouraged to attend all class sessions. Absences are allowed for emergencies but must be justified/documented. Late assignments will not be accepted unless justified. Participation will be part of the course grade. An unexcused absence will account for a 5-point deduction.
- b) Electronic devices: Portable digital devices will be used for research during the class. Search engines on phones will be used, and individual headphones and media are not allowed without permission during the class. Please do not text, email, answer calls, etc., unless there is an important event or emergency.
- c) Students that have a disability or need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at phone 747-5148 or by email to [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or visit them in UTEP Union Building East, Room 106

### **Assessment and Evaluation: Grading**

Grades will be comprised of points gained through individual and teamwork activities. Grades will be determined according to the list below.

**A** = 90 - 100, **B** = 80-89, **C** = 70-79, **D** = 60-69, **F** =  $\leq$  59 points

### **Assessment and Evaluation: Points**

The final grade is comprised of individual work (85 points) and teamwork (15 points) for a maximum of 100 points as follows:

#### **Individual work: 85 points**

|                                    |                  |            |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------|
| Workshops:                         | (3 at 5 points)  | 15 points  |
| Proposal (Written and PowerPoint): | (2 at 10 points) | 20 points  |
| Chapters:                          | (3 at 10 points) | 30 Points  |
| Participation and Attendance:      |                  | 20 Points  |
| Teamwork & Final Presentation:     |                  | 15 points  |
| Total class points:                |                  | 100 points |