

SYLLABUS
RESEARCH LITERATURE REVIEW:
In Spirituality and Health
Core Research Degree Course
Distance Learning, 3 credits
FACULTY: Caitlin A. Connor, MAcOM, DAOM
Date Revised: Fall 2017

FACULTY BIOGRAPHY

Caitlin Connor, MAcOM, DAOM was double major in Anthropology and Political Science as an undergraduate at Mount Holyoke College and the *ISSSEEM 2011* gold medal winner of the *Rustum Roy Emerging Scientist Award* for undergraduates and a 2014 *Bernard Grad Emerging Scientist* silver medal winner for graduate students. A Resonance Modulation energy practitioner, she is a graduate in acupuncture and oriental medicine of the Arizona School of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine in Tucson, AZ and she completed her doctoral work at the American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine/California Institute for Integral Studies in San Francisco, CA.

FACULTY CONTACT INFORMATION

Faculty Name: Caitlin A. Connor, MAcOM, DAOM

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

The goal of this course is to learn how to find, read, understand and analyze a research article with the goal of being able to utilize this information when writing scholarly papers. Students will do an in-depth exploration of selected topics. Students will use the internet and available libraries to select journal articles, thesis and dissertations and foundational books within topics of their choice. They will write a series of five papers on their selected topics over the course of the semester. Students will then read and critique the papers of other students, broadening their knowledge of other areas of scientific research.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To learn how to find appropriate and applicable scholarly text for a selected topic.
2. To develop skills in reading and evaluating appropriateness of journal articles including positive and negative aspects.
3. To apply skills developed in evaluating articles to specific topics.
4. To confirm through peer class discussion the quality of presented articles.
5. To develop skills in critiquing scholarly articles.

6. Develop a broad perspective of the research ideas being currently explored
7. To develop skills in using various journal articles to create a logical argument within the context of existing literature.

COURSE DELIVERY

There will be weekly zoom conference calls during the semester. 7 pm, Central Time, Students will receive an email containing the zoom link prior to the class.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

General requirements:

1. Unless otherwise specified papers are to be a **maximum of 10 pages**, double spaced, New Times Roman 12pt font. APA style referencing is preferred.
2. You must reference your work and include a bibliography. Papers without a bibliography will be given a grade of 0.
3. E-MAIL SUBJECT LINE: Always include your name and the Assignment number in the subject line of your E-mail and on the title page of your assigned papers.
4. FILE NAME: When you “save” your document, you **MUST** use the following format to name your Word file, or your file will be returned so that you can add the proper file name and format: The document you attach to your e-mail should be in the following format:
SmithJ_887_Assignment#1.doc. (Last Name, First Initial, Course #, Assignment#.doc)
5. Paper are due one week prior to the conference call so that class members can review the material. Paper are to be emailed to TA for distribution.

Assignments:

1. Assignment 1 **Due Week 2** Overview of a selected topic. Student may write on a topic of their choice. Please use a range of types of references.

Please read the following handouts:

How to use Pubmed.

Sample formatted references.

2. Assignment 2 **Due Week 4**: Select a single peer reviewed journal article in a field of your choice. Clearly reference good points and weak points in the articles and comment on errors in presentation of the material.

Please read the following handouts:

Key points in assessing Research

AHRQ Strength of Evidence

Analysis of Data

3. Assignment 3 **Due Week 7**: Select 3 journal articles and determine if they meet CONSORT report standards. Share specifics of your evaluation.

Please read the following handouts:

Revised CONSORT Report Standards

Systematic Reviews Literature Search

4. Assignment 4 **Due Week 10**: Select 5 articles which have a single theme or focus and compare and contrast the information presented in the each article.

Please read the following handouts:

Resistance by Scientists

Building an Evidence House

5. Assignment 5 **Due Week 15** : Final Paper - **Maximum of 20 pages**. Paper is to be a logical argument for why a particular type of research study needs to be done. Students are to use references that are no more than 3 years old unless they are foundational works. Please use a minimum of 20 sources.

Please Note:

1. You will be expected to complete and return the course evaluation form. You will receive a course evaluation form in December. You will receive notification of your final course grades only after you have submitted an evaluation for all courses you completed this semester.
2. Students who plan to take an Incomplete in a course must wait until finishing a course before returning the evaluation form for the course.

HOLOS FACULTY-STUDENT COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

Students and instructor communicate frequently via email, and phone conferences create a collegial forum for sharing ideas among class participants. Telephone conferences and calls with instructors are the student's expense. Faculty should inform students of any times that they are not available for email or phone communication. Students should inform instructors if they will not be available for scheduled phone conferences. If you have not received a response after three days, re-send the email, call the instructor and leave a voice message.