

APPROVED

## The University Of Toledo

## Existing Graduate Course Modification Form

OF RECEIVED

APR 27 2012

\* denotes required fields

Contact Person\*: Peter Lindquist Phone: 530-4287 (xxx-xxxx) Email: peter.lindquist@utoledo.edu

COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

## Present

## Proposed

Supply all information asked for in this column.  
( Supply core, research intensive and transfer module info if applicable)

Fill in appropriate blanks only where entry differs from first column.

College\*: Coll Lang, Lit, and Soc Sci

College: --Select a College--

Dept/Academic Unit\*:

Dept/Academic Unit:

Geography and Planning

--Select a Department--

Course Alpha/Numeric\*: SISS

Course Alpha/Numeric:

8040

Course Title\*:

Research Design

Course Title:

Credit hours\*: Fixed: 3 or Variable: to

Credit Hours: Fixed: 2 or Variable: to

CrossListings:

CrossListings:

To add a course, type in course ID and click the Insert button.

To remove a course, select the course on left and click the Remove button.

To add a course, type in course ID and click the Insert button.

To remove a course, select the course on left and click the Remove button.

Prerequisite(s)(if longer than 50 characters, please place it in Catalog Description):

Prerequisite(s)(if longer than 50 characters, please place it in Catalog Description):

Corequisite(s)(if longer than 50 characters, please place it in Catalog Description):

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Catalog Description (only if changed) 75 words max:

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Has

course  
content  
changed?☐ Yes☒ No

If course content is changed, give a brief topical outline of the revised course below( less than 1500 words)

Proposed effective term\*: 201240 ( e.g. 201140 for 2011 Fall)

Attach new syllabus reflecting course modifications\*

 [ Browse... ]

Additional Attachment 1:

 [ Browse... ]List any course or courses to be  
deleted.

Effective Date:

Effective Date:

**Approval:**

Department Curriculum Authority:

PT 5 Ly

Date

3/27/12

Department Chairperson:

Date

3/27/12

College Curriculum Authority or Chair:

David Black

Date

4/20/12

College Dean:

Christine A. Huchard

Date

4/26/12

Graduate Council:

PLH

Date

10-16-2012

Dean of Graduate Studies:

Date

Office of the Provost :

Date

Submit Course Modification

## Administrative Use Only

Effective Date:

  (YYYY/MM/DD)

CIP Code:

Subsidy Taxonomy:

Program Code:

Instructional Level:

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**SISS 8040  
Research Design  
Spring 2012**

**Class Location and Time:** Monday 1:00-3:30 p.m., SM 3036

**Instructor:** Daniel J. Hammel

**Office:** SM 3027

**Phone:** 419-530-4709

**Email:** [dan.hammel@utoledo.edu](mailto:dan.hammel@utoledo.edu)

**Office Hours:** M 10:00-11:30, T 10:00-11:00, R 3:00-4:00, and by appointment

**Course Description**

[2 hours] Introduces students to research and research technicalities, including what is research, how to write research papers and research proposals, and how to design and manage a research project.

**Introduction, Goals and Objectives**

The purpose of this course is to help you make the transition from being a critical consumer of knowledge in the spatially integrated social sciences, to being a producer of that knowledge. The focus will be upon the careful design of a major research project that will become your dissertation and the first step in that process is to produce a defensible research proposal. Topics will include the structure and components of a research proposal and of the dissertation itself. We will also discuss a series of related topics such as research ethics, data standards, and working with human subjects. We will conclude by exploring sources of funding and discussing the writing and publication process.

**Assignments and Evaluation**

The major assignment in the course is to produce a project description for your dissertation. The timeline for this Ph.D. program calls for you to present and defend a dissertation proposal about a year from now so it is unlikely that you will be able to finish a proposal by the end of this semester. However, a project description of about five pages is quite manageable. I will provide more information on specific requirements for this assignment during the semester, but components of this mini-proposal will be due throughout the semester. Part of the course will be conducted as a workshop so you will be required to read and critically comment on the proposals of other students in the class. We will have also complete several brief assignments that will require you to gather and synthesize information on some of the course topics and report them to the class. Of course, you will need to complete all the readings and be prepared to discuss them. Finally, in order to facilitate your comprehensive exams (that are scheduled for the beginning of next fall semester), you will need to identify the members of your dissertation committee.

**Course Schedule**

January 9 – Introduction

January 23 – Research ethics, the use of human subjects

January 30 – Creating a framework for research. The components of a dissertation/research project

February 6 – The use of the scientific literature

February 13 – Significance: applied and theoretical

February 20 – The purpose of the proposal

February 27 – Questions, Objectives and Hypotheses

March 12 – Developing a plan of work

March 19 -- Scholarly writing and the writing process

March 26 – Sources of funding

April 2 – The NSF, GSS, DDRI program

April 9 – Dealing with reviews and criticism, revising

April 16 – Planning publications, the publication process.

April 23 – Presentations