Course Objective:

An overview of the nature and purposes of research, and common methods and methodologies in information studies.

Pursuing a Ph.D. is a commitment to a research career. The Research Enterprise will introduce students to the diverse interdisciplinary landscape of research methods and theories, and prepare students for careers in research, including seeking jobs, seeking funding, and building a research program. The course will also introduce students to the research areas and approaches of faculty and fellow Ph.D. students within the School of Information at the University of Texas at Austin.

Specific Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, you will:

- Gain a broad sense of the research communities represented at the School of Information, including their research approaches.
- Build competency in accessing and applying prior scholarship, including how to find scholarly literature, organize studies for comparison and evaluation, write (and re-write) a scholarly literature review, and critique a peer’s literature review.
- Develop a research proposal for conducting original research that can help you both to learn how to seek funding and learn appropriate research design.

Readings

Readings must be done prior to class. They are listed by class name in the Class Zotero group. Students should complete all readings and expect to present, discuss, and critique them in class. Nonetheless, emergencies occur and even well laid plans to complete the readings can be upset. For this reason I number the readings in priority order (to ensure maximal overlap), using tags in the repository. Participation will necessarily be less for students who consistently don’t complete the readings.
Week 1: Introduction (no readings)

Week 2: The Information Field  
[https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/XM6NZKSN](https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/XM6NZKSN)

Week 3: Models of the role of research  
[https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/C6ZANVCW](https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/C6ZANVCW)

Week 4: Research Essentials  
[https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/LDDJYA9A](https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/LDDJYA9A)

Week 5: Epistemology  
[https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/48IC26PZ](https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/48IC26PZ)

Week 6: Evaluating Research  
[https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/CNJKFTUN](https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/CNJKFTUN)

Week 7: Reviewing the Literature  
[https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/T2AZLUFK](https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/T2AZLUFK)

Week 8: Research Questions  
[https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/YM9QEG37](https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/YM9QEG37)

Week 9: Qualitative Research  
[https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/63IQGVJE](https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/63IQGVJE)

Week 10: Quantitative Research  
[https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/JNCUYV3R](https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/JNCUYV3R)

--Spring Break--

Week 11: Humanistic Research  
[https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/JE6HSQRB](https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/JE6HSQRB)

Week 12: Mixed Methods  
[https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/Y767NQH5](https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/Y767NQH5)

Week 13: Presenting Research  
[https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/LLQERD9U](https://www.zotero.org/groups/4576195/research_enterprise_texas_ischool/collections/LLQERD9U)

Week 14: Research Presentations

Assignments

Assignments are listed, with due dates, in the Canvas assignment pages:  
[https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6210633](https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6210633)
Assignment submission policy

All assignments must be submitted via Canvas. They are due as noted on the assignment, usually 11:59pm Sunday night.

Any assignment can be submitted prior to the deadline for draft comment. I am unlikely to look at drafts over the weekend, however, so if you are planning to work on the weekend, submit drafts on the Thursday prior.

Late assignments will only be excused in situations following university policy (illness, religious holy days, etc.) with proper documentation and timely notification (prior to the deadline for non-emergencies). Otherwise late assignments will not be graded and will receive zero for that assignment.

Policies

Academic Integrity

Each student in the course is expected to abide by the University of Texas Honor Code: “As a student of The University of Texas at Austin, I shall abide by the core values of the University and uphold academic integrity.” Plagiarism is taken very seriously at UT. Therefore, if you use words or ideas that are not your own (or that you have used in previous class), you must cite your sources. Otherwise you will be guilty of plagiarism and subject to academic disciplinary action, including failure of the course. In particular, students are reminded that proper citation requires mentioning sources when you use them, not just in a general list of references at the end of a document. You are responsible for understanding UT’s Academic Honesty and the University Honor Code which can be found at the following web address: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acint_student.php

I always report and deal with through the processes outlined here: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/conduct/reportanincident.php

Student rights and responsibilities

- You have a right to a learning environment that supports mental and physical wellness.
- You have a right to respect.
- You have a right to be assessed and graded fairly.
- You have a right to freedom of opinion and expression.
- You have a right to privacy and confidentiality.
• You have a right to meaningful and equal participation, and to self-organize groups to improve your learning environment.
• You have a right to learn in an environment that is welcoming to all people. No student shall be isolated, excluded or diminished in any way.

With these rights come responsibilities:

• You are responsible for taking care of yourself, managing your time, and communicating with the teaching team and with others if things start to feel out of control or overwhelming.
• You are responsible for acting in a way that is worthy of respect and always respectful of others.
• Your experience with this course is directly related to the quality of the energy that you bring to it, and your energy shapes the quality of your peers’ experiences.
• You are responsible for creating an inclusive environment and for speaking up when someone is excluded. In particular, you are responsible for ensuring that your participation does not exclude the participation of others. Office hours are available for in-depth further discussion of advanced topics or other interests that pursuing in depth during class would exclude others.
• You are responsible for holding yourself accountable to these standards, holding each other to these standards, and holding the teaching team accountable as well.

**Personal Pronoun Preference and Pronunciation**

Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. Changes can be made in Canvas, see guide here [here](http://www.utexas.edu/ugs/csacc/academic/adddrop/qdrop).

I encourage students to provide a pronunciation guide using respellings. for example my respelling to help people pronounce my name is Jaymz HOW-i-sin. See suggestions for respellings here on Wikipedia: [here](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:Pronunciation_respelling_key).

**Drop Policy**

If you want to drop a class after the 12th class day, you'll need to execute a Q drop before the Q-drop deadline, which typically occurs near the middle of the semester. Under Texas law, you are only allowed six Q drops while you are in college at any public Texas institution. For more information, see: [here](http://www.utexas.edu/ugs/csacc/academic/adddrop/qdrop).
International students must meet with the international office before dropping a class that would put them below full-time status. There are situations in which less than full-time is acceptable, including language difficulties near the start of your degree.

University Resources for Students

Your success in this class is important to me. We will all need accommodations because we all learn differently. If there are aspects of this course that prevent you from learning or exclude you, please let me know as soon as possible. Together we'll develop strategies to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. There are also a range of resources on campus, detailed below.

Accessible, Inclusive, and Compliant Statement:

The university is committed to creating an accessible and inclusive learning environment consistent with university policy and federal and state law. Please let me know if you experience any barriers to learning so I can work with you to ensure you have equal opportunity to participate fully in this course. If you are a student with a disability, or think you may have a disability, and need accommodations please contact Disability and Access (D&A). Please refer to D&A’s website for contact and more information: http://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/. If you are already registered with D&A, please deliver your Accommodation Letter to me as early as possible in the semester so we can discuss your approved accommodations and needs in this course.

Counseling and Mental Health Center

All of us benefit from support during times of struggle. You are not alone. There are many helpful resources available on campus and an important part of the college experience is learning how to ask for help. Asking for support sooner rather than later is often helpful.

If you or anyone you know experiences any academic stress, difficult life events, or feelings like anxiety or depression, we strongly encourage you to seek support. http://www.cmhc.utexas.edu/individualcounseling.html

The Sanger Learning Center

All students, including graduate students, are welcome to take advantage of Sanger Center’s classes and workshops, private learning specialist appointments, peer academic coaching, and tutoring for more than 70 courses in 15 different subject areas. For more information, please visit https://ugs.utexas.edu/slc/grad or call 512-471-3614 (JES A332).
Other services

University Writing Center free programs for grad students [](http://uwc.utexas.edu/grad/)

Student Emergency Services [](http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/emergency/)

Important Safety Information

If you have concerns about the safety or behavior of fellow students, TAs or Professors, call BCAL (the Behavior Concerns Advice Line): 512-232-5050. Your call can be anonymous. If something doesn’t feel right – it probably isn’t. Trust your instincts and share your concerns.

The following recommendations regarding emergency evacuation from the Office of Campus Safety and Security, 512-471-5767, [http://www.utexas.edu/safety/](http://www.utexas.edu/safety/) Occupants of buildings on The University of Texas at Austin campus are required to evacuate buildings when a fire alarm is activated. Alarm activation or announcement requires exiting and assembling outside.

Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of each classroom and building you may occupy. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building.

Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructor in writing during the first week of class.

In the event of an evacuation, follow the instruction of faculty or class instructors. Do not re-enter a building unless given instructions by the following: Austin Fire Department, The University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office.

Link to information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at: [http://www.utexas.edu/emergency](http://www.utexas.edu/emergency)

Course Summary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue Jan 10, 2023</td>
<td><a href="https://utexas.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=3454121&amp;include_contexts=course_1351488">Research Enterprise Class Meeting</a></td>
<td>2pm to 4:45pm</td>
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<td>📝 Research Enterprise Class Meeting (<a href="https://utexas.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=3454122&amp;include_contexts=course_1351488">https://utexas.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=3454122&amp;include_contexts=course_1351488</a>)</td>
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<td>Thu Jan 19, 2023</td>
<td>📝 Faculty Interests (<a href="https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6210626">https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6210626</a>)</td>
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<td>Sun Jan 22, 2023</td>
<td>📝 Movements nearby the Information Schools (<a href="https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6210632">https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6210632</a>)</td>
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<td>Sun Feb 5, 2023</td>
<td>📝 Book Chosen (<a href="https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6210622">https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6210622</a>)</td>
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<td><a href="https://utexas.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=3454125&amp;include_contexts=course_1351488">Research Enterprise Class Meeting</a></td>
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<td>Sun Feb 12, 2023</td>
<td><a href="https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6210628">Funding solicitation</a></td>
<td>due by 11:59pm</td>
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<td>Tue Feb 14, 2023</td>
<td><a href="https://utexas.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=3454126&amp;include_contexts=course_1351488">Research Enterprise Class Meeting</a></td>
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<td>Tue Feb 21, 2023</td>
<td><a href="https://utexas.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=3454127&amp;include_contexts=course_1351488">Research Enterprise Class Meeting</a></td>
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<td>Sun Feb 26, 2023</td>
<td><a href="https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6210631">Motivation</a></td>
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<td><a href="https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6210625">Data Transformation</a></td>
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<td>Sun Apr 9, 2023</td>
<td><img src="https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6214934" alt="Proposal Method" /></td>
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<td>Tue Apr 11, 2023</td>
<td>📅 Research Enterprise Class Meeting (<a href="https://utexas.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=3454134&amp;include_contexts=course_1351488">https://utexas.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=3454134&amp;include_contexts=course_1351488</a>)</td>
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<td>Tue Apr 18, 2023</td>
<td>📅 Proposal Presentation (<a href="https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6210633">https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6210633</a>)</td>
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<td>Tue Apr 25, 2023</td>
<td>📅 Final Research Proposal (<a href="https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6210627">https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6210627</a>)</td>
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**Attendance and Participation** (https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1351488/assignments/6210621)