PHIL 4699 Undergraduate Research

Spring 2027

Instructor Information

Instructor
Clint Johnson, Ph.D.

Email
clint.johnson@gatech.edu

Office Location & Hours
online, Mondays 4-5pm

General Information

Description

This course is for independent research conducted under the guidance of a faculty member. We will meet periodically to help craft the research agenda and method, monitor and guide research progress, generate a literature review, execute the research plan and write the final paper. The final paper should be of the quality and format that is suitable for submission to an appropriate academic journal.

Course Materials

Required Texts (eBooks available through GT library)

Determined in conjunction with the student(s)

Course Website

All electronic class materials are available through the Georgia Tech library as free eBooks/articles or on. All assignments should be submitted electronically in the Canvas assignment dropboxes.

Course Schedule

January: meet to determine research agenda and finalize topic refinement through initial research

February: begin initial research collection process and create detailed outline of literature review and argument structure

March: continue refining research direction, collecting materials and writing the paper

April: iterate on drafts for the final journal article submission, due by the end of the final exam period

Grading system

At the end, all your points will be transformed in letter grades according to the following scheme:
100-90 = A; 89-80 = B; 79-70 = C; 69-60 = D; 59-0 = F.

Additional Information and Resources

Academic Honor Code

Speaking with other people about the arguments for your papers is helpful and, indeed, is expected. Submitting any work other than your own however is a violation of the Academic Honor Code. Quoting other authors, of course, is common practice. You must however distinguish clearly between your own work and that of others. If you quote or paraphrase an idea from someone else, you must cite them. All sources should be listed in the references section of your papers. I have a zero tolerance policy for plagiarism. It is the student's responsibility to know what plagiarism is. Plagiarism will be dealt with according to the GT Academic Honor Code. That said, I have never pursued a plagiarism case for a student who did not properly cite by accident.