

AMGT 599

Research in Arts Management

Spring 2012

Professor Carole Rosenstein

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Tuesdays 2:30 - 4 pm

Office Hours: Mondays 3:15-4:15 and Tuesdays 1- 2 pm
and by appointment

Truland 400HH

This course provides an in-depth, hands-on introduction to research in arts management. Students who complete the course will have professional-level experience conducting policy-relevant research in arts management.

Readings: The following are required texts. They can be purchased at the GMU Bookstore.

Charles Ragin. *Constructing Social Research*.

Electronic devices: Please turn your cell phone ringer off at the beginning of class. As a matter of courtesy to your professor and classmates, cell phones, text and email may only be used during formal breaks in the class session. Class lectures and discussions may be recorded.

However, these recordings are to be played only for your own personal use and may not under any circumstances be reproduced without the express written permission of Dr. Rosenstein. Reproduction or distribution of these materials without permission will be acted upon as a violation of the honor code.

Absence: Please inform Dr. Rosenstein of the reason for any absence. One absence will be excused. Each additional absence will result in one drop in grade (A to A- to B+, etc) for the attendance/participation/discussion portion of your final grade.

Late assignments: Each day that an assignment is late, it will drop one grade (A to A- to B+, etc). Extensions will be given on a case-by-case basis, only at the instructor's discretion, and are not to be discussed with other members of the class or program.

Course Requirements:

1. Attend class.
2. Complete research assignments in a timely and conscientious manner. Complete revisions to research assignments promptly and fully.
3. Exhibit professional demeanor with outside contacts in the arts community: timeliness, respect, informed commentary, attentiveness.

Grading: Students will be assessed according to the above criteria.

Once final grades have been recorded, faculty are not to accept any work to change a grade. Grade changes can only be approved when they are due to a calculation or recording error on the part of the faculty. An incomplete grade (IN) should be used only if the student requests it in writing. An IN counts as a failing grade until completed, and it automatically turns into an F if a grade is not turned in by the deadline in the Schedule of Classes. Some students may prefer a C to an IN, and faculty shouldn't assume that the student wants an IN rather than a grade or that it is in the student's best interest to get an IN.

In addition, faculty may assign an IN only if the student has a very limited amount of work to complete and there is a non academic reason they can't do so within the semester and if, in their best judgment, the student actually stands a good chance of passing the course by finishing the work satisfactorily. Typical situations for giving incompletes involve a final exam (missed due to illness) or a final paper (not completed because of a family emergency). Faculty are not to assign incompletes if the student has missed a substantial portion of the work of the semester and wants extra time to do it; Faculty are not to assign incompletes to give a student time to improve on work already completed.

Federal law (a law known as FERPA) requires us to protect the privacy of student information. Faculty should not speak about a student's record with anyone other than the student. The record includes how a student is doing in a course, whether a student has attended class, information about performance or grades, whether a paper has been turned in, etc. This prohibition includes parents, siblings, spouses, anyone. If faculty have questions about whether to respond to an inquiry about a student, please refer them to Linda Miller, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs. According to the University catalog, all students and faculty are to use their **GMU.EDU** email address. Some commercial email addresses may be filtered out of the **GMU.EDU** system. No official information can be sent to students unless on the Mason email system.

Disability: If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Resources at 703.993.2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office. The need for accommodations should be identified at the beginning of the semester and that the specific accommodation has to be arranged through the Office of Disability Resources. Faculty are not to provide accommodations to students on their own (e.g. allowing a student extra time to complete an exam because the student reports having a disability).

The GMU Honor Code: <http://www.gmu.edu/catalog/apolicies/index.html#Anchor12>

Honor Code: To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set forth this honor code: Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work.

GMU student information and resources: <http://www.gmu.edu/mlstudents/>

No grade is important enough to justify cheating, for which there are serious consequences that will follow you for the rest of your life. If you feel unusual pressure about your grade in this or any other course, please talk to me or to a member of the GMU Counseling Center staff.

Using someone else's words or ideas without giving them credit is *plagiarism*, a very serious Honor Code offense. It is very important to understand how to prevent committing plagiarism when using material from a source. If you wish to quote verbatim, you must use the exact words and punctuation just as the passage appears in the original and must use quotation marks and page numbers in your citation. If you want to paraphrase or summarize ideas from a source, you must put the ideas into your own words, and you must cite the source, using the APA or MLA format. (For assistance with documentation, I recommend Diana Hacker, *A Writer's Reference*.) The exception to this rule is information termed *general knowledge*—information that is widely known and stated in a number of sources. Determining what is general knowledge can be complicated, so the wise course is, "When in doubt, cite."

Be especially careful when using the Internet for research. Not all Internet sources are equally reliable; some are just plain wrong. Also, since you can download text, it becomes very easy to inadvertently plagiarize. If you use an Internet source, you must cite the exact URL in your paper and include with it the last date that you successfully accessed the site.

University and Departmental Policies: Each student is responsible for knowing Mason's rules, regulations, requirements, and academic policies. This catalog is the normal repository of policy statements but corrections, changes, or interpretations can be promulgated by other means, including electronic publication. When the university or one of its academic units makes changes in course requirements, grading procedures, or the level of qualitative performance expected of its students for acceptance into particular programs, academic standing, or graduation, the changes apply to all students enrolled at the time of implementation of the change and thereafter.

Official Communication with Students Web: www.gmu.edu/email. Mason uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Examples include notices from the library, notices about academic standing, financial aid information, class materials, assignments, questions, and faculty feedback. Students are responsible for the content of university communication sent to their Mason e-mail account, and are required to activate that account and check it regularly.

Please sign up for the Mason Alert System by visiting the website <https://alert.gmu.edu>. An emergency poster exists in each classroom explaining what to do in the event of crises and further information about emergency procedures exists on <http://www.gmu.edu/service/cert>.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND OTHER ASSIGNMENTS

1. January 24 – Introduction to the course
2. January 31 – Formulating a research question and structuring your inquiry
3. February 7 – Qualitative Research
4. February 14 – Case Studies
5. February 21 – Quantitative Research
6. February 28 – Literature Reviews
7. March 6 – Participant Observation
- March 13 – SPRING BREAK**
8. March 20 - Interviews
9. March 27 – Surveys
10. April 3 - Statistical Analysis
11. April 10 – **Writing week**
12. April 17 – Presentations
13. April 24 - Presentations
14. May 1 - **Revisions**