

**SC 760 – Second Year Graduate Writing Seminar
Part II
Spring 2007**

Instructor: C. Shawn McGuffey, Ph.D.
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Office Hours: M, W 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Classroom and Time: McGuinn Hall 437, M noon – 2:20 (every other Monday)

This course will focus on writing for a social scientific audience. There are many different styles of social scientific writing. Some approaches resemble the natural sciences while others take a more literary approach; many fall somewhere in between. This course will help you develop your own writing style as you prepare for an academic career. We will focus on key elements of sociological writing such as: devising an argument, relating evidence to theory, and specifying a unit of analysis (see attached worksheet).

This writing and participation intensive course will work more as a workshop than a seminar. All students enrolled in the course must be working on a thesis, comprehensive examination, and/or preparing an article for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

Course Expectations and Evaluation:

1) This is a *writing* and *participation* intensive course. You will be responsible for:

- a. writing a journal quality paper;
- b. reading, reviewing, and giving constructive feedback to classmates;
- c. presenting your work to the class

2) Your course grade will be evaluated in the three areas above (a final grade, however, will not be given until the Spring semester). Fifty percent of the grade will be based on the final paper, thirty percent on peer reviews, and the remaining fifteen on class presentations.

3) Missing more than two courses in any given semester will constitute failing the course.

Grading Scale:

94-100= A	70-73= C
90-93= A-	66-69= C-
86-89= B+	62-65= D+
82-85= B	58-61= D
78-81= B-	54-57= D-
74-77= C+	53-00= F

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a standard of utmost importance in this class. Guidelines for academic integrity in written work are posted on the Boston College website at:

www.bc.edu/integrity

If you have any questions pertaining to the academic integrity guidelines, please come and talk with me or with the teaching assistant. If you are caught violating Boston College's policies on academic integrity, you will receive a failing grade for the assignment and the appropriate Dean will be notified in accordance to the rules set forth by Boston College.

Course Schedule:

Jan. 22: First Day of Class – Summary of Progress

Feb. 5: NO CLASS – Email classmates work -to-date

Feb. 19: Return feedback to classmates via email and/or hard copy; discuss each others work;

March 5: NO CLASS – Enjoy your Spring Break

March 19: One -on-one appointments

April 2: One -on-one appointments

April 16: NO CLASS (Enjoy your holiday) – Email your revisions to the class

April 30: Meet to discuss everyone's work

May 7: Turn in Final Paper