Dr. Brandon Bosch  
Oldfather 722  
bbosch2@unl.edu  
402 472 6069  
Office Hours: Monday: 2:30-4:30, Tuesday, 10:00-11:00, 2:00-4:30, and by Appointment  

Welcome to SOCI 495: Senior Seminar. This class allows you to showcase your knowledge about sociology and methods through a research paper in an area of your interest. This class will be taught primarily in a seminar format. A seminar is driven by student discussion (not lecture), and thus it is critical that you come to class fully prepared to discuss the readings. You are also expected to show full respect to your instructor, classmates, and any guest speakers that we might have.

PARTICIPATION (30%)  
Unless otherwise noted, you will receive a participation grade for each class. Your final participation grade will be the average of these installments. Please note that coming to class late (i.e. after 12:30) will result in a 10-point deduction from your Participation score. If you are more than 5 minutes late, more deductions may occur.

| Participation Grading Rubric | Absent from class, attended very late, or left very early  
|                            | Used electronic device in class  
|                            | Chatted with neighbors  
|                            | Distracted me and/or students  
| 0%                         | 65% (Max)  
|                            | Attended class but did not speak  
| 75% (Max)                  | Comments not directly related to readings  
| 85% (Max)                  | Comments directly engage with the reading and are accurate  
| 86-100%                    | Comments move beyond mere regurgitation and demonstrates critical thinking  

QUizzes (20%)  
We will have a number of quizzes throughout the semester. Quizzes will typically have 5 questions and have a multiple-choice format. You may consult any handwritten notes for the quiz, but you cannot use your book, print-out, or any electronic device.

DRAFT 1 (5%)  
The first draft will be 5-7 pages, and will have at least 12 scholarly sources. This literature review should contain your hypothesis.
DRAFT 2 (10%)  
The second draft will be 10-12 pages long, and contain at least 15 sources. This draft should contain the literature review and the methods.

DRAFT 3 (10%)  
The third draft will be 15-20 pages and contain at least 20 sources. This draft will contain the literature review, methods, and results.

FINAL PAPER (20%)  
The final paper will be 15-20 pages and contain at least 20 sources. This draft will contain the literature review, methods, results, and conclusion.

PRESENTATION (5%)  
The presentation will be done in small groups on the last day of class.

CLASS POLICIES  
Late assignments will be immediately docked a Full Letter Grade. If the assignment is not handed in by midnight (via email), the paper will be docked an additional Letter Grade. If the assignment is not handed in by noon the next day, the assignment will receive a zero. If you do not do your presentation on the last day of class, you will receive a zero for that assignment.

Plagiarism, Cheating, or Recycling Past Papers will result in a zero for that assignment. Please consult me if you are thinking about “building” off an earlier course paper.

Appealing Grades: Wait at least 24 hours. Provide a written statement explaining why you think you have been graded unfairly. Since grades are based on results (what you actually wrote or said), do not invoke personal effort in your grade complaint. Upon re-reading your request, I reserve the right to keep your grade the same, raise your grade, or lower it. All appeals of grades must be made within 5 working days following the grading of an assignment.

Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the instructor for a confidential discussion of their individual needs for academic accommodation. It is the policy of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to provide flexible and individualized accommodation to students with documented disabilities that may affect their ability to fully participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. To receive accommodation services, students must be registered with the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) office, 132 Canfield Administration, 472-3787 voice or TT.

This course satisfies ACE Learning Outcome #10: “[generating] a creative or scholarly product that requires broad knowledge, appropriate technical proficiency, information collection, synthesis, interpretation, presentation, and reflection.” This learning outcome is primarily measured through the research paper. The opportunity to obtain knowledge or skills for this learning outcome primarily comes from the major paper assignment for the class. Students are required to write a major research paper for the class and to give an oral presentation at the end of the semester on the results of this research paper. The research papers must include all of the major components of good political science research, including hypothesis development and
testing, a review of past research on the topic, appropriate data gathering and analysis, interpretation and synthesis of the results, and quality writing.

**Grading Key**

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<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>97-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
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Aug. 23       HOW TO WRITE A RESEARCH PAPER (FOR THIS CLASS)

Aug. 25       LITERATURE REVIEW


Aug. 30       CONTENT ANALYSIS


Sept. 1       CONTENT ANALYSIS


Sept. 6       CONTENT ANALYSIS


***Come to Class with Ideas for Paper***

Sept. 8  
**CAREER SERVICES**  
**Christina Fielder**

Sept. 13  
**CONTENT ANALYSIS**


Sept. 15  
**INTERVIEWS**


Sept. 20  
**FOCUS GROUPS**


***Bring Hardcopy of Draft***

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Sept. 22  Due by 10:00 AM: ***Draft 1: Literature Review and Hypothesis (5-7 Pages, 12 Sources)***

Sept. 27  LAB DAY

Sept. 29  SURVEYS (Writing Survey Questions and Finding Data)


Pew Research Center (1/20/16). Republican Views of Donald Trump as President.  

Oct. 4  Career Services: Interviewing

Oct. 6  WORK DAY/CONSULTATIONS

Oct. 11  WORK DAY/CONSULTATIONS

Oct. 13  Due by 10:00 AM: ***Draft 2: Literature Review + Methods (10-12 Pages, 15-20 Sources)***

Oct. 18  FALL BREAK

Oct. 20  SURVEYS


Oct. 25  SURVEYS


Oct. 27  
ETHNOGRAPHIC


Nov. 1  
ETHNOGRAPHIC  

Nov. 3  
ETHNOGRAPHIC  

Nov. 8  
ETHNOGRAPHIC  

Nov. 10  
ETHNOGRAPHIC  

Nov. 15  
WORK DAY/CONSULTATIONS

Nov. 17  
WORK DAY/CONSULTATIONS

Nov. 22  
Due by 10:00 AM: ***Draft 3: Literature Review + Methods + Results (15-20 Pages, 20 Sources)***

Nov. 24  
THANKSGIVING

Nov. 29  
ETHNOGRAPHIC  

Dec. 1  
WORK DAY/CONSULTATIONS

Dec. 6  
***Paper Due by Noon***

Dec. 8  
PRESENTATIONS