This senior seminar is designed to help improve your ability to think theoretically and methodologically, synthesize research, and conduct original research. This class will also help you become a better communicator. By the end of the semester, you will not only become a better writer, but you will also be better at public speaking and in presenting yourself in the best light to prospective employers.

REQUIRED READINGS
Stephen Prince (2009). *American Film in the Age of Terrorism.*

There will also be a number of readings posted on Blackboard, which will be labeled *BB* in the syllabus.

POLICIES
No computers, electronics, or non-class materials can be used in class. Also, discussion must be with the entire class, not chatting with neighbors. The first violation of this policy results in a two letter grade deduction from your Participation grade. The second violation of this policy results in a Zero for your Participation grade. The third violation of this policy is automatic course failure.

You are strongly encouraged to print out the Blackboard readings and bring them to class (to save paper, do not print the bibliography and adjust settings to print multiple pages per sheet of paper, and print on the front and back). If you choose not to bring a hard copy, be sure to write detailed notes. Failure to do either will result in deductions from your participation grade.

You are expected to come to every class and be on time. Class absences and tardiness will result in deductions from your participation grade. You are expected to contribute to class discussion each class. You will receive a zero in participation on days that you are absent or silent.

Assignments that are not handed in by the beginning of class will be 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 the beginning of class time the next day (or its equivalent on a weekend/holiday), the assignment will receive a zero.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class Discussion</td>
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<td>Mock Job Interview—Career Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cover Letter and Resume—Career Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliography</td>
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<tr>
<td>Draft 1 (Literature Review)</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Draft 2 (Literature Review + Methods)</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Draft 3 (Literature Review + Methods + Results)</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
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**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. Any grade complaint that references how hard you worked or studied will be immediately rejected. 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 return of the exam.

ACE 10 course outcomes: Generate a creative or scholarly product that requires broad knowledge, appropriate technical proficiency, information collection, synthesis, interpretation, presentation, and reflection.

**Plagiarism and Cheating** (automatic course failure)

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 TTY.

1/12(M) Introduction: How to Write a Research Paper in this Class

*BB*: Writing a Quantitative Research Paper

1/14(W) Theoretical Framework, Thesis Statement, Research Question, Hypothesis


1/16(F) Finding Articles, The Annotated Bibliography, and The Literature Review

1/19 (M) MLK DAY

1/21(W) ***Annotated Bibliography Due (Minimum Six Sources)***

CAREER SERVICES DAY: Christina Fielder

1/23(F) Writing Survey Questions and Finding Data

1/26(M) Using SPSS—Meet In Computer Lab

1/28(W) Content Analysis


1/30(F) Content Analysis


2/2(M) Content Analysis

*BB*: W. Lance Bennett, Regina Lawrence, and Steven Livingston (2006). None Dare Call it Torture. *Journal of Communication*, 56, 467-485
2/4(W)  ***Draft 1 Due (5-7 Pages, 12 Sources)***
NO CLASS: Career Services Meeting

2/6 (F)  NO CLASS***Individual Meetings About Paper***

2/9 (M)  Research Ethics

2/11(W)  Interviews

2/13(F)  Case Studies

2/16(M)  NO CLASS: WORK DAY/ CAREER SERVICES

2/18(W)  NO CLASS: WORK DAY/ CAREER SERVICES

2/20(F)  Focus Groups
Willam Gamson. *Talking Politics* (1-27)

2/23(M)  Focus Groups
Willam Gamson. *Talking Politics* (31-58)

2/25(W)  Focus Groups
Willam Gamson. *Talking Politics* (59-83)

2/27(F)  Focus Groups
Willam Gamson. *Talking Politics* (84-109)
****Career Services Mock Interview and Cover Letter and Resume Due***

3/2(M)  Focus Groups
Willam Gamson. *Talking Politics* (135-162)

3/4(W)  ***Draft 2 Due: Lit Review and Methods (10-12 Pages, 15-20 Sources)***
Bring Hard Copy to Class


3/9(M)  NO CLASS: ***Individual Consultations***

Take IAT: [https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/selectatest.html](https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/selectatest.html)


3/20(F)  ***Due: Draft 3 (15-20 Pages, 20 Sources, Lit Review, Methods, and Results)***

3/23(M)  SPRING BREAK
3/25(W)  SPRING BREAK
3/27(F)  SPRING BREAK

3/30(M)  CONSULTATION


4/3(F)  Regina Lawrence and Melody Rose (2010). *Hilary Clinton’s Race for the White House* (21-46)

4/6(M)  Regina Lawrence and Melody Rose (2010). *Hilary Clinton’s Race for the White House* (47-71)


4/10(F)  Regina Lawrence and Melody Rose (2010). *Hilary Clinton’s Race for the White* (109-143)

4/13(M)  ***Final Draft Due*** (Submit Online—Due By Noon—No Class)


4/17(F)  Regina Lawrence and Melody Rose (2010). *Hilary Clinton’s Race for the White* (179-234)


5/1(F)  Presentations