**RADS 6113 ~ Special Graduate Topics [3 credits]**

**Midwestern State University**

**Gunn College of Health Sciences and Human Services**

**Master of Science in Radiologic Sciences Program**

**Summer 2020**

**Course Overview – Project Development**

This course provides an opportunity for MSRS students to propose and complete a graduate level project. The course format explores principles of ***Contracted Learning***. Empirical evidence supports the premise that the format facilitates development of self-directed learning skills. Further, contracted learning provides an opportunity for the student to critically explore a topic of interest and to formulate an investigation and activities to expand expertise on the topic. The nature of the project will vary to reflect needs and student interest. Contracted learning allows the student to identify activities equal to a specific grade from “A” – “F”. Proposals must be approved by both the faculty member(s) and student. For the record, a signed copy of the special topic agreement must be submitted to instructing faculty **(Refer to the Special Topics Learning Contracts).**

***Content***  
The course content is *contracted learning project* driven. Students will develop a project of personal interest and approved by faculty. Students who do not yet have a project idea should refer to the contracted learning project form for project ideas.

***Structure***  
Self-paced semester with an approved final project due at the end of the semester.

**Desire2Learn (D2L) is the course management system for this class. You can access D2L from MSU's homepage.**

***Objectives***At the completion of this course, the student will be able to:

* Propose and complete a contracted learning project.
* Meet contracted learning contact and completed project due dates.

## Instructor Information

Instructor: Lynette Watts, PhD, RT(R)

Office Location: Centennial Hall, 430L

Office Hours: By appointment; from home until Fall 2020

Contact: [lynette.watts@msutexas.edu](mailto:lynette.watts@msutexas.edu); (940) 397-4833

## Course Requirements

### Textbooks

***Required***  
American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. [ISBN: 9781433805615]

### Assignments

***Project***

The course involves development of ***project*** ***learning contract*** that identifies project objectives and anticipated completion evidence. The contract allows students to determine the grade they expect to receive for the completed contract. The contract should reflect a project tailored specifically to the student’s interest and/or need. **Both contracted learning contract and final project documents** will be submitted through the appropriate D2L dropbox. The summer session starts June 3 and ends August 8. Due dates can be found within D2L .

**The *Special Topics Contracted Learning form* includes topic ideas to consider.**

***Course Design***

How this course works: Each student will propose a project that she/he wants to complete during the summer. The blank contracted learning contract form is available on the course homepage. This is an opportunity for students to work on any number of different ideas including, but not limited to:

**Exploring more thoroughly an area that may have interested them in a previous course.**

**Completing a work-related project and acquiring academic credit for it.**

**Creating a professional portfolio to make oneself more marketable and competitive.**

**Revising a previous literature review and submitting it for publication.**

**Designing a new orientation for the medical imaging department.**

The project opportunities are endless. Students decide WHAT they want to do, and predict project outcomes for which they will be evaluated. Students propose a contract to the instructor, and the two parties agree to the project objectives and declared evidence that fulfills the contracted grade.

**Due Dates:**

* Signed Special Topic Contract – June 11, 2020
* Completed Special Topic Assignment July 29, 2020

**Evaluation and Grading**

**Evaluation:** Determined in the project proposal contract.

# Grade Scale:

A = 100 - 90

B = 89 - 80

C = 79 - 70

D = 69 - 60

F = 59 and below

Deadlines for submission of assignments are provided in this syllabus. Failure to comply with the established deadlines may result in a grade reduction. **Assignment submissions will be considered complete and will be graded as such. Be sure to look at all requirements before submitting to the appropriate dropbox within D2L.**

This course extends over both summer sessions. **The last opportunity to drop this course with a grade of "W" is 4:00pm, CST, July 9, 2020.** Refer to the Graduate Bulletin for details about receiving a grade of “Incomplete” in a course. In an emergency or extenuating circumstance, a student may request a grade of “Incomplete” in a course before grades are submitted. If the instructor grants the “Incomplete,” the student has until ninety (90) days after the beginning of the next long semester to complete the course requirements. If the student does not complete the course requirements within the deadline, the grade of “Incomplete” will automatically convert into a grade of “F.”

***Late Submission of Assignments***All assignments have due dates listed in the course schedule within this syllabus. Due dates are in place to keep students on target for the semester and allow for instructors to provide detailed, constructive feedback. Assignments not turned in on time will result in a "0" being assessed for that assignment. With that being said, the instructor understands students who are enrolled in the MSRS program tracks may be responsible for managing many employees/students and family matters. If you need any assistance regarding a deadline, you must contact the instructor at least two (2) days before the due date to discuss the issue. "After the fact" will not be accepted and will result in a grade of "0." Emergencies (death, severe illness, etc.) occur; thus, students should contact the instructor as soon as possible to resolve any due date conflicts. Extensions will be decided on a case-by-case basis.

# Communication with Professor and Other Policies

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DURING THE SUMMER SESSIONS MSU CAMPUS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES OPERATE FROM 7:00 AM – 6:00 PM MONDAY – THURSDAY, AND THE MSU CAMPUS IS CLOSED ON FRIDAYS. FACULTY MEMBERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM MONDAY - THURSDAY DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS, WITH LIMITED OFFICE HOURS, BUT WILL BE AVAILABLE VIA EMAIL.**

Contact information for the instructor is listed in this syllabus. Email is the preferred mode of communication. **Students must use their standardized MSU Student email for correspondence about this course.** Faculty members are not responsible for other email addresses for students. Students should set up their standardized MSU student emails by going to the website: [Information Technology](http://infosys.mwsu.edu/email.asp).

Individual questions and concerns should be handled through an email directly to the professor using the email address at the top of this syllabus. Students should include the course number (RADS 6003 X30) in the subject line of the email and include his/her name in the body of the email. The instructor(s) will respond or at least acknowledge email messages from students within a maximum of two (2) business days when MSU is in session.

Beyond standard university holidays and breaks, the instructor(s) will notify students of any extended periods of time when email contact is not practical (professional meetings, etc).

Throughout the semester, the professor may post announcements on D2L. Students should check every 2-3 days to be sure no new information has been added to the news items.

Academic DishonestyRADS 5013 adheres to the MSU Code of Student Conduct. In particular, academic dishonesty, however small, creates a breach in academic integrity. A student's participation in this course comes with the expectation that his or her work will be completed in full observance of the MSU Code of Student Conduct. A student should consult the MSU Student Handbook for answers to any questions about the code.

Some components of RADS 5013 are designed to be highly interactive with students helping each other learn; however, all written assignments are designed to represent the efforts of each student individually and not to be shared. When students submit their efforts for grading, they are attesting they have abided by this rule.

Plagiarism  
By enrolling in this course, the student expressly grants MSU a "limited right" in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The "limited right" shall include but shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the student's work product in order to verify originality and authenticity and for educational purposes.

***Special Needs***   
In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, MSU endeavors to make responsible adjustments in its policies, practices, services, and facilities to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational programs and activities.

The Office of Disability Services (ODS) provides information and assistance, arranges accommodations, and serves as a liaison for students, instructors, and staff. The ODS has assistive devices such as books on tape, recorders, and adaptive software which can be loaned to qualified individuals. A student/employee who seeks accommodations on the basis of disability must register with the ODS in the Counseling Center, Clark Student Center, Room 108. Documentation of disability from a competent professional is required.

Individuals with grievances related to discrimination or lack of accommodation on the basis of a disability are encouraged to resolve the problem directly with the area involved. If the matter remains unresolved, the ODS will provide advice and/or assistance. The grievance procedure may be found in the Student Handbook and Activities Calendar.

The Director of the Counseling Center serves as the ADA Coordinator and may be contacted at (940) 397.4618, TDD (940) 397.4515, or 3410 Taft Blvd., Clark Student Center, Room 108.

***Administrative Process***Unresolved issues related to this course should be first addressed between the student and the course instructor. If there is no resolution, students must follow this sequence:

Graduate Coordinator – Lynette Watts (940)397.4833

Department Chair – Dr. Beth Veale’ (940) 397.4611  
College Dean - Dr. Jeff Killion (940) 397.4594

Dean of Students - Matthew Park (940) 397.7500