



**Creative Inquiry: Interdisciplinary Thinking**  
**MWSU 2003-Honors**  
**Fall 2019**

**Course: MWSU 2003 Creative Inquiry:**

10:00-10:50 MWF  
336 Dillard

**Instructors:**

Dr. Margaret Brown Marsden, Dean McCoy College of Science and Mathematics

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Office Hours: 9:00 am-2:00 pm TR

**Peer Leader:**

Haley Ferrell

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**Course Description**

This course is an introduction to the epistemological and methodological approaches used in the acclimation of knowledge. It is an interdisciplinary study of research methods, knowledge, and the search for truth in our world. We will examine the generation of knowledge in the natural sciences, social sciences, and the humanities as well as how it is expressed in the visual and performing arts and applied in the business and education professions. The format for the course will include lectures, discussions, and active exercises and requires student participation. Throughout the course you will complete various research exercises as you explore interdisciplinary research. Your final product will be the creation of an electronic learning portfolio that documents the knowledge gained during this semester's journey into research.

**Textbook and Other Resources**

All readings and assignments will be placed in D2L.

**Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able:

1. Explain the nature of knowledge in the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities.
2. Identify how knowledge is expressed in the visual and performing arts and applied in the business and education professions.
3. Utilize 21<sup>st</sup> century technology as well as traditional methods in each of these areas of human exploration.
4. Understand how new knowledge is generated in these various areas as well as the challenges or dilemmas associated with such research.
5. Identify a research question, develop a plan of investigation, and select an appropriate method for investigation.
6. Present research in the appropriate format for the associated area of human investigation.
7. Construct a learning portfolio to document your introduction to the research process.

**Expectations and Grading:**

Students are expected to attend class. Lectures will not reproduce the texts. During class, students are expected to behave in an adult fashion: i.e. no note passing, punching, kissing, kicking or other juvenile behavior. Disrespectful behavior towards other students or the teacher will not be tolerated and will result in your removal from the class. Also, please turn cellular phones off or put them away during class. Since this class is designed to develop your research skills you will primarily be evaluated on your ability to apply these skills in various assignments and exercises. This includes a larger group research project. Your course grade will be determined by the percentage breakdown below. The privilege of additional work will not be granted.

<b>Learning Activity</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Reflection Essays	30%
Campus Improvement Project	30%
Celebration of Scholarship Poster Presentation	10%
Research Exercises and Participation	10%
Learning Portfolio	20%

### **Disability Policy**

Any student in this course who has disability that may preclude demonstrating fully his or her abilities should contact me as soon as possible. We will discuss the accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and to facilitate education.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

We take academic dishonesty issues very seriously and will check your work. 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. The University's minimum penalty for cheating or plagiarism is a failure of the assignment. Cheating or plagiarism can lead to expulsion from the university. If you have questions about original work, please consult the Student Handbook Code of Student Conduct section 10.

### **Course Schedule**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>
Aug 26: Monday	Introduction	Syllabus
Aug 28: Wednesday	Honors program requirements	Honors Handbook
Aug 30: Friday	Overview of Research process	Leedy & Ormord Chapter 2
Sept 2: Monday	Labor day	No Class
Sept 4:	Library Tour & Literature Review	Leedy & Ormord Chapter 3
Sept 6	Learning Portfolio	306 Dillard
Sept 9	Mindfulness & Life	
Sept 11	Campus as Text	Campus as text exploration
Sept 13	Campus as Text Debriefing	Group reports
Sept 16	Is Knowledge learning or recollection?	Plato's Meno
Sept 18	Is Wisdom knowledge?	Aristotle's Metaphysics Book I. Parts 1-10
Sept 20	The acquisition of knowledge	Foucault's Archaeology of Knowledge, Introduction
Sept 23, 25, 27	The Role of Science and Faith in the Human World	Galileo's Daughter
Sept 30, Oct 2, 4, 7, 9, and	Natural Sciences	Scientific Method, experimental research

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	Reflection Essay One on Plato, Aristotle, Foucault and Sobel.	Reflection Essay One due
Oct 14	Social Sciences	D2L
Oct 16	Survey Research	D2L
Oct 18	Content Analysis	D2L
Oct 21 and 23	Research in the Humanities	D2L
Oct 25	Archival Research Reflection Essay Two on Natural Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities due	D2L Reflection Essay Two Due
October 28, 30 and November 1	Fine arts & Journalism	D2L
November 4, 6, 8	Campus Improvement Project Presentations	Administrator Panel
	Business	Org behavior/Economics
November 11, 13, 15	Research in Education	D2L
November 18, 20, 22	Research in Business	D2L
November 21	Celebration of scholarship	Poster Presentations
November 25	Essay three Due on Fine Arts, Business and Education	Catch up
November 27 and 29	Thanksgiving Holiday	No Class
Dec 2,4, and 6	Learning Portfolios	Presentations
Dec 11 (Wednesday) (10:30-12:30 )		E learning portfolios due