

NEW 223, McNair Scholars Seminar, Fall 2010, University of Alabama, Tuesdays, 6:30 – 7:20, 137 Morgan

- Faculty Fellow:** **Dr. Carolyn Handa**, Professor of English, cphanda@ua.edu, 348-8498, 110 Morgan, office hours (for drop-in visits) 2:00 – 3:00 Tuesdays, 11 – noon, Thursdays; available for appointments also
- Facilitator:** **Dr. Nancy Campbell**, Director, McNair Scholars Program, nancy.campbell@ua.edu, 348-0580, 305 Lloyd Hall; leave messages with Stephanie Hicks, stephanie.hicks@ua.edu, 348-0572, 303 Lloyd Hall
- Course Description:** McNair Scholars Seminar: To provide knowledge and skills in a variety of areas to strengthen personal, academic, and research competencies vital to success in graduate programs (1 hour)
- Prerequisites:** 2009 McNair Scholar status; UH 305 or permission of instructor
- Goal:** This is the final seminar of a 3-part series designed to prepare McNair Scholars for successful entry into and completion of doctoral programs.
- Objectives:** Students will give effective oral research presentations; prepare for an additional research presentation or poster; write research reports suitable for publication, and (seniors) make application for admission into graduate school.
- Grading/
Requirements** Pass/fail; to pass: (1) participate regularly in seminar; (2) meet at least 4 times outside class with McNair GA/staff; (3) present at the UA McNair Scholars Research Conference on Oct. 15th; (3) submit research report ready for publication; (4) prepare poster (or oral presentation) for UA campus-wide undergraduate research conference to be held spring semester 2010; (5) return text and any other materials borrowed from the McNair Scholars Program by November 30, 2010.
- Attendance:** Expected; one unexcused absence permitted.
- Required Text:** **On loan from MSP:** Leedy, P. D., & Ormrod, J. E. (2005). Practical research: Planning and design (8th ed.). Prentice-Hall, Upper Saddle River, NJ.

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Class Calendar:

Dates	Topics	Outside seminar/also see GA, Drs. Campbell and Handa, Faculty Mentors as needed	Special Notes/Due Dates:
8/24/10	Transitioning from UH 305 to NEW 223: Scholars update Dr. Handa	Chpt. 12 in text; handouts posted on eLearning on scholarly writing and McNair publication “house style.” Access to Dr. Handa, Tracey Gholston at Writing Center, other writing resources also available.	Register for Graduate School’s McNair Scholars Visitation Day & Graduate School Preview on Sept. 16 th at http://graduate.ua.edu/events/previewday.html
8/31/10	For Seniors Applying to Graduate School: Preparing Graduate School Applications	Give names and mailing addresses for up to 10 guests to invite to the UA McNair Scholars Research Conference to Program Assistant Stephanie Hicks by Monday, Sept. 13th .	
Part I: Scholarly Writing and Publication			
9/7/09 Meet in lobby of Gorgas Library	Avoiding Plagiarism and Copyright Violations: Brett Spencer, Reference and Instruction Librarian, Information Services/Gorgas Library	Seniors: See GA and/or Dr. C. for assistance with grad school application materials & strategies; take GRE asap; complete applications as early as possible to be considered for financial support—note official deadlines!	Thursday, September 16, 9 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. Graduate School’s McNair Scholars Visitation and Graduate School Preview; see posted schedule at Graduate School website (and handout); note McNair breakfast, 307 Lloyd, 9:00 – 9:45, other McNair sessions/events, and Kaplan practice tests, 5:30–8:30. MSSA representatives to attend lunch to welcome visiting Scholars.
9/14/10	Class cancelled; participate on 9/16/10 in Graduate School’s McNair Visitation Day instead.		
9/21/10	Organizing Scholarly Writing and Editing for Clarity	Work on papers, presentations, and graduate school applications, as relevant.	
9/28/10	Class cancelled: individual conferences on writing for publication in UA McNair journal (and other writing) instead; sign up for appointment with Dr. Handa.		
10/5/10	Purpose of Scholarly Writing: Commonalities and Differences across Fields	Complete any needed revisions to PowerPoint presentation for upcoming 11 th UA McNair Scholars Research Conference	Schedule research presentation practice sessions with Raven and Keisha. Present for 15 minutes, with an additional 5 minutes for Q and A. Ask Raven and Keisha for videotaping!
10/12/10	The Culture of Publishing	Practice upcoming research presentations with GA: present 15 minutes + 5 minutes Q and A.	Email final version of PowerPoint presentation to stephanie.hicks@ua.edu by noon Monday, October 18th , for review by Dr. C. and loading onto laptops.

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10/19/10	Class cancelled; present research on 10/21/10 at 11th Annual UA McNair Scholars Research Conference, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m., 3rd Floor, Lloyd Hall. See Stephanie Hicks for information about arrangements, inviting guests, and volunteering to help with the event and with clean-up afterwards. All members of the campus community are invited to the conference. Oral presentations will be structured similarly to those at the Berkeley conference: presentations will be for 15 minutes, with 5 minutes Q and A to follow each one.	
Part II: Careers and Culture of Academe		
10/26/10	Different Types of Institutions of Higher Education	Work on paper and graduate school applications, as relevant.
11/2/10	Faculty Roles, Tenure, and Rank	See “From Dissertation to Tenure in Five Years” at http://www.uic.edu/depts/oa/ptseminar07/KGB_TenureBook.pdf
11/9/10	Organization and Administration of a University: Dr. Lowell Davis	Work on paper and graduate school applications, as relevant.
11/16/10	Diversity in Higher Education: Dr. Jimmy Williams, A&S Assoc. Dean for Multicultural Affairs	Work on paper and graduate school applications, as relevant.
Part III: Maximizing the McNair Experience		
11/23/08	Course and Program Evaluations; Planning for Year 2 with McNair	Consider how you will build on your Research Year with McNair to continue your scholarship
11/30/10	Graduate School as Part of an Academic Career (panel)	Polished research articles for the University of Alabama McNair Journal due to Dr. C. by email attachment no later than noon, Friday, December 3, 2010.

Course Policies

Make-up Policy:

Scholars are encouraged to participate in all class meetings/scheduled events. One absence is allowed, with no consequences for grading or status in the McNair Scholars Program, but students are encouraged to **save** this in case of illness or emergencies. Scholars may also propose an alternative activity in addition to, or in lieu of, certain seminar meetings/events, if they identify another opportunity that would be particularly conducive to their success in applying for graduate school admission and/or completing graduate studies successfully, e.g., participating in a mock interview; such proposals must be made in writing (email is fine) and be approved in advance by the MSP Manager. The instructor will work with students individually to accommodate legitimate needs for flexibility beyond that allowed by the above policy, in the rare case that this might be needed. Scholars are expected, of course, to be responsible, e.g., by contacting the instructor in case of any problems completing the requirements for the class and by providing, if

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needed, any documentation of illness or other extenuating circumstances that might be relevant. Specific arrangements will be made on a case-by-case basis, depending upon circumstances.

Policy on Academic Misconduct:

All acts of dishonesty in any work constitute academic misconduct. The University of Alabama Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Policy will be followed in the event of suspected academic misconduct. For more information, see <http://facultysenate.ua.edu/handbook/append-c.html>

Student Conduct and Respect:

Students' behavior is governed by the UA Code of Student Conduct. Moreover, the McNair Scholars Program not only respects but actively supports diversity among members of the academic community, which enriches intellectual and personal experiences for all. The instructors and students in this course will act with integrity and strive to engage in equitable verbal and nonverbal behavior with respect to differences arising from age, gender, race, ethnicity, physical ability, religious preferences, and other differences among us.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

The University is committed to making programs and services accessible to individuals with disabilities and seeks to be responsive to the needs of qualified students with disabilities. Students who may have special needs because of a disability or chronic illness are invited to contact the Office of Disability Services at 348-5036. Students with disabilities who are in need of accommodations relative to class attendance/arrival, course requirements, or related aspects of performance are asked to initiate such requests with the instructor prior to their anticipated need. Such requests will be accommodated within constraints of fairness and timeliness with regard for all other students enrolled for the course.