

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

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The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

SPST690
Independent Study: Space Studies
3 Credit Hours
16 Week Course
Prerequisite(s): 24 Credit Hours

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Instructor Information

Instructor:

[\(Biography\)](#)

Email:

Mobile:

Work:

Online Office Hours:

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Course Description (Catalog)

An opportunity for Space Studies students to pursue an independent research project or examine a specific area of Space Studies under the mentorship of a single professor. Students must complete 24 credits of study before taking this course. Participation is at the discretion of the faculty member. The course will typically involve six or more telephone calls and produce a major research paper (50+ pages); there will be no examination. Students will submit a proposal prior to the start of the project, and a rough draft of the paper at week 10, both of which will count toward the final grade. Prerequisite: University approval and Upper Level standing. Prior to registering,

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students should first contact the professor with whom they wish to mentor their independent study, coordinate an agreement on the grading requirements, and then NOTIFY their Student Advisor with the name of their professor.

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Course Scope

At the end of this course and after writing your research paper, you will have a firm understanding and knowledge of your selected independent study.

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Course Objectives

TBD based on approved topic.

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Course Delivery Method

As with all APUS courses SPST690 is delivered to you via the Sakai software system. Be sure to review your welcome package and take the time to “test drive” the classroom areas/links before diving into the course! Sakai is optimized for the Mozilla Firefox web browser. To avoid any incompatibility problems it is highly recommended to download and use Firefox when utilizing the Sakai classroom.

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Course Materials

Supporting Documents

If required, such documents will be attached the Announcements area of the classroom as the course progresses.

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Supporting Websites

Be sure to use the APUS Online Library Research Center, as well as my Space Studies Homepage <https://sites.google.com/site/amuspst> in support of your research efforts!

Software Requirements

- Microsoft Word and PowerPoint
- Adobe Acrobat Reader ([Click here for free download](#))

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Evaluation Procedures

TASK	PERCENT
Research Paper	100
TOTAL	100

Research Paper

Your 50+ page paper will be due at the end of Week 16. The research paper is worth 100-percent of your total course grade; Turabian style must be used. Be sure to cite ALL facts/sources as you use them! *Don't forget about the draft copy that is due during week 10.*

All assignments in this course are given to you prior to the due date. The “due date” for all assignments is the week in which the assignment is due. For the purposes of this course, a “**week**” is defined as the time period between Monday–Sunday. The **first week** begins on the first day of the semester and ends at 11:59 PM EST the following **Sunday**.

During this course, we can maintain contact in several ways. The best will be through texting via my listed cell phone number; then email; next will be the online Chat Room; and lastly will be phone. Don't get me wrong – I don't mind phone calls, however most questions are best answered in writing so that the information can be referred to again in the future. Additionally, my full-time Air Force job has me either on the road or working in a vault where it's very difficult to get a hold of me.

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Grading Scale

*Please see the student handbook to review the University's grading scale.

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Course Outline

TBD and in accordance with established assignment due dates listed within the classroom.

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Policies

*Please see the student handbook to review University policies regarding Drops/Withdrawals, Plagiarism, and Extensions.

WRITING EXPECTATIONS

Research papers must adhere to a consistent format, which is described below:

- Typewritten in double-spaced format with a readable style and font and submitted inside the electronic classroom (unless classroom access is not possible and other arrangements have been approved by the professor).
- Arial 11 or 12-point font or Times New Roman styles.
- Page margins Top, Bottom, Left Side and Right Side = 1 inch, with reasonable accommodation being made for special situations and online submission variances.

CITATION AND REFERENCE STYLE

Assignments completed in a narrative essay or composition format must follow Turabian Citation Style guidelines. This course will require students to use the citation and reference style established by Kate Turabian in her *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 7th edition, 2003. Additionally, you can use either footnotes or endnotes for your citations (*parenthetical citations are prohibited*).

Make sure you review the rubric to ensure your paper meets all of the required criteria.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

This institution complies with the [Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act](#), and state and local requirements regarding students with disabilities. In compliance with federal and state regulations, reasonable accommodations are provided to qualified students with disabilities.

A request for accommodation is deemed reasonable if the request:

- is based on documented individual needs.
- does not compromise essential requirements of a course or program.
- is not of a personal nature (ex. paying for special software, eyeglasses, etc.).
- does not impose an undue financial or administrative burden upon APUS.

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A qualified student can, with or without reasonable accommodations, perform the essential functions of program or course requirements. The essential requirements of an academic course or program need not be modified to accommodate an individual with a disability.

Final responsibility for selection of the most appropriate accommodation rests with the University's Director of Registration and Enrollment Management and is determined on an individual case-by-case basis, based on the nature of the student's disability. Students are encouraged email registrar@apus.edu to discuss potential academic accommodations and begin the review process. **It is the student's responsibility to:**

- follow the accommodation procedure outlined in this section identify the disability to the staff and/or faculty of the university provide (and incur expense for) current appropriate documentation of disability and accommodation needed from a qualified medical or other licensed professional.
- request specific accommodations or services

NETIQUETTE

Online universities promote the advance of knowledge through positive and constructive debate--both inside and outside the classroom. Discussions on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and “flaming.” Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting--basic academic rules of good behavior and proper “Netiquette” must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the fun and excitement of learning that does not include descent to personal attacks, or student attempts to stifle the discussion of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Educator classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.
- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and--especially--satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add “emoticons” to help alert your readers: ;-), :), ☺

DISCLAIMER STATEMENT

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

COMPLETION OF ALL ASSIGNED TASKS:

The student must complete all assigned tasks to pass the course. You cannot skip any assignment because you accomplished another to perfection and still can accomplish 95% of the work. It doesn't work that way. You must complete EACH assignment.

REACCOMPLISHMENT OF WORK:

If a student has done very poorly on any assignment and wants to reaccomplish the work I will let them with the following stipulation: the highest grade the student can obtain is 85% the first resubmission; 80% the second resubmission; and 75% the third resubmission.

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Academic Services

ONLINE LIBRARY RESEARCH CENTER & LEARNING RESOURCES

The Online Library Resource Center is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Center provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to orc@apus.edu.

- **Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:** The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- **Electronic Books:** You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- **Electronic Journals:** The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- **Turnitin.com:** Turnitin.com is a tool to improve student research skills that also detect plagiarism. Turnitin.com provides resources on developing topics and assignments that encourage and guide students in producing papers that are intellectually honest, original in thought, and clear in expression. This tool helps ensure a culture of adherence to the University's standards for intellectual honesty. Turnitin.com also reviews students' papers for matches with Internet materials and with thousands of student papers in its database, and returns an Originality Report to instructors and/or students.
- **Smarthinking:** Students have access to 10 free hours of tutoring service per year through Smarthinking. Tutoring is available in the following subjects: math (basic math through advanced calculus), science (biology, chemistry, and physics), accounting, statistics, economics, Spanish, writing, grammar, and more. Additional information is located in the Online Research Center. From the ORC home page, click on either the "Writing Center" or "Tutoring Center" and then click "Smarthinking." All login information is available.

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N/A

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