ENGW4011: Academic Research and APA Citation Format
1 credit/Six Weeks/12 ½ contact hours
Primarily designed for graduate students in nursing, business, and the social sciences, this elective course teaches academic research skills including how to search and evaluate online databases and websites, and how to cite all sources using APA format. Open to undergraduate and graduate students.

Proposed Syllabus

Unit/Week One: Introduction to Academic Research: FDU Library Online
+Overview of resources available on FDU Online Library and CoolCat
+Techniques for performing productive searches in academic databases
+Locating articles using Journal Locator

Unit/Week Two: Academic Research on the Internet
+How to evaluate the legitimacy and quality of websites
+An overview of government (.gov), organization (.org) and education (.edu) sponsored websites useful for academic research
+Web search engines: Google and its advanced features; other useful search engines and their features
+Uses and abuses of Wikipedia

Unit/Week Three: Synthesizing Your Research
+How to write an abstract or a summary
+How and when to paraphrase and/or quote directly

Unit/Week Four: Introduction to APA Format: Citing Correctly and Avoiding Plagiarism
+What is and is not considered common knowledge
+How to use APA parenthetical in-text citation with signal phrases

Unit/Week Five: APA Citation Format Continued
+How to handle more complicated in-text citations (charts, graphs, surveys, etc.)
+How to identify types of source(s) used for correct documentation in the reference list

Unit/Week Six: Reference Lists and Overview
+How to create a reference list (including software options)
+Questions and review