DESCRIPTION:

This course will expose students to frameworks and research methods in the information systems discipline. The students will develop an in-depth understanding based on articles published in top tier journals and conference proceedings. It is expected that the student will start the research apprenticeship as part of this course and produce a research paper worthy of submission to a national conference/journal. This course would also prepare the student for the further research development in Information Systems.

Course Materials:

- Extensive readings (see list of articles)
- ISWorld web site: http://www.isworld.org/phd/phd.htm
- AIS web site: http://www.aisnet.org/
- GITMA web site: http://www.gitma.org

Course Objectives:

1. Study, analyze and critique key MIS articles.
2. Introduce key topics in MIS, especially from a research perspective.
3. Review and critique MIS framework articles.
4. Examine different research methodologies in the context of MIS research.
5. Examine research models.
6. Conduct a broad survey of the MIS literature.
7. Help students learn the process of preparing research articles.
8. Help students understand the review process, and have them prepare professional reviews (do actual journal article reviews).
9. Identify and evaluate potential researchable areas.
11. Do literature analysis on a suitable research topic.
12. Do a "pilot" project on the selected research topic.
13. Develop “writing” skills for journal publications.
14. Understand various Ph.D. processes, including the dissertation.

**Evaluation:**

There are no formal exams in the course. Your grade is based on the following work and activities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation and presentations</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special (meta analysis) project</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic analyses</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two exams</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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**Readings:** This list is subject to changes and may be revised with more current articles. Articles may be added to or dropped from this list. In addition, you need to submit at least one article related to your area of interest. I may include some of them as required reading for the whole class.


The following schedule provides a general guideline only. Given the small class size, we will be informal at times, and are likely to make changes along the way. I fully expect to get into discussions of many related areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings &amp; Assignments</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>August 16</td>
<td>Ph.D. orientation, Introduction, What is MIS, Key MIS issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>August 23</td>
<td>Key MIS Issues, Global IT Issues, Selecting research topics, Frameworks, Methodologies</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>August 30</td>
<td>Research process, Frameworks, IS literature project, research topics assignment, Review two frameworks</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>September 6</td>
<td>Frameworks, Research Models Review two frameworks</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>September 13</td>
<td>Research approaches, Topic analysis assignment, Review meta research project</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>September 20</td>
<td>IS success, Meta research, How to review, Catch up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>September 27</td>
<td>Present topic analyses, Case research, Research paper assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>October 4</td>
<td>Case research</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Fall Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>October 19</td>
<td>Survey research</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>October 26</td>
<td>Review survey research and field studies, Review meta research project</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>November 2</td>
<td>Experimental Research, How to write,</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>November 9</td>
<td>Qualitative research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>November 16</td>
<td>Mathematical/simulation research + classic articles + Catch up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>November 23</td>
<td>No class – work on research projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>November 30</td>
<td>Classic articles &amp; present research papers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>December 7</td>
<td>Classic articles, present research papers &amp; meta research results</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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