

**Inquiry (INQR) 1000R: Fundamentals of Academic Inquiry**  
***Friends, Family and Food: Eating in a Social World***  
Class meeting: Fridays, 11:00 – 12:15, University Hall 327

Instructor: Deborah South Richardson, PhD  
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**Course Description**

Inquiry 1000 is a one credit hour, small group, discussion-based course designed to engage lower division students in the discovery, exploration, and analysis of ideas that faculty members, across a variety of disciplines, study and investigate. Throughout the course, students will discuss how professors, and ultimately students, formulate questions to research/explore, discuss ways to collect and analyze data to help answer questions, and convey the results to answer a specific question.

This section of the course will involve *psychological* inquiry. Food is much more than fuel for the body. It is also fun. Food is a big part of our relationships with other people, from family gatherings and special occasions to romantic dinners by candlelight. This course will examine how our relationships influence what, when, and where we eat; and how the food we eat affects our relationships.

Students in the class will develop a question about food and relationships that they want to answer using social science research strategies. At the end of the course, students will present the results of their research project – that will solve some of the mystery of why we eat.

**Assignments**

Assignments will be posted in D2L and ***will usually be due on Wednesdays by midnight***. Some assignments involve a reading and reflection to prepare for class discussion the following Friday. Other assignments will relate to your project/presentation. I will provide more detailed instructions and grading criteria for each assignment in D2L.

Assignments submitted after the deadline will lose points equivalent to one letter grade. If you have a documented, legitimate reason for missing an assignment deadline and that reason was communicated to the course instructor in a timely fashion, you may make up the assignment up to a week after the original deadline. Please allow 7 business days for the course instructor to grade and provide feedback to the respective make-up assignment.

Note that assignments later in the course are not defined clearly. This is intentional – to allow us to collaborate on developing assignments appropriate to the projects you choose to pursue.

**Project**

You, as a class, will be setting the pace for and determining the focus of your project(s). We will develop the topic of your project during the first few weeks of the course. Then you will collect and interpret data to answer your research question.

You will present the outcomes of your project(s) at an INQR EXPO on March 13. The format of the presentation will be decided later in the semester.

## Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to

- Develop and ask relevant questions which require discovery, research, and/or creativity to answer. In this section of the course students will be able to
  - ask and answer a question about how social context influences individuals' relationship with food, as consumers, producers, or thinkers
- Contribute effectively to a group to produce answers to a question using written, oral, and/or graphic skills
- Collect appropriate resources to help answer a question
- Engage in positive and meaningful discussions with individuals who represent multiple perspectives on a question
- Examine their personal relationship with food in social context

## Grading

Your grade in this course will be based on three categories of activity.

- **Participation** is critical for effective discussions and team work. So **40%** of your grade will be based on the extent to which you engage. You cannot participate unless you attend, so if you miss class, you will receive no points for that day. Otherwise, your points will be based on the extent of your participation in class activities. If you arrive late for class, you will receive only ½ of participation points for that class period. "Late is defined as coming into class after proceedings have begun.
- **Assignments** will account for **30%** of your final grade.
- Your **group project** will account for **30%** of your final grade.
- Final grades will be assigned as follows:
  - A: 90 - 100% of total points
  - B : 80 – 89% of total points
  - C: 70 – 79% of total points
  - D: 60 – 69% of total points
  - F: <60% of total points

## Course Schedule

week/date	topic	assignment posted in D2L (detailed instructions will be posted with each assignment)
1 1/9	Introduction to course, instructor, & students – sharing food memories What is psychology?	<b>Assignment 1:</b> Submit a food autobiography. <b>due no later than midnight 1/14</b>
2 1/14	Class discussion: What did you discover about your relationship with food? How do psychologists ask and answer questions?	<b>Assignment 2:</b> Read Bowen, Elliott, & Brenton's <i>Joy of Cooking</i> ? Reflection: develop hypotheses based on reading <b>due no later than midnight 1/21</b>
3 1/23	Groups will review and select questions that class may pursue for project	<b>Assignment 3:</b> Read Boothby, Clark, & Bargh's <i>Shared experiences are amplified</i> Respond to guided inquiry assignment

		<b><i>due no later than midnight 1/28</i></b>
4 1/30	Discuss hypotheses that develop from Boothby, et al. article. Groups refine research question(s) and develop study design	<b>Assignment 4:</b> Individuals propose a method for answering question/testing hypothesis
5 2/6	Develop study design, measures, & procedures Present study designs to class	Refine measures, procedures
6 2/13	Final study design	data collection and entry
7 2/20	Discussion of data collection experience	analyze & interpret data
8 2/27	plan presentation work with team to organize presentation	
9 3/6	practice presentation	
10 3/13	EXPO	
11 3/20	Review and evaluation	

## Policies

### Communication

Posting grades and feedback: Barring any unforeseen difficulties (e.g., illness), assignments will be graded within a week of the due date and returned in class. Please contact me with any questions about your grades or feedback.

### Email

- Email personal questions to me (rather than sharing them in public D2L discussion forums).
- Give each email a descriptive subject line. **I typically do not open email messages that have nothing in the subject line.** I will try to answer you within 48 hours.
- Assignments emailed to the instructor will not receive credit; please submit all course assignments through D2L, as noted in the assignment instructions.
- Please check your email regularly.

### Classroom Etiquette

This is a discussion based class in which your participation is critical.

- You cannot be participating if you are engaged with your cellphone or tablet. Please put those devices away during class, unless we need them for class-related activities. If you are expecting an emergency call and need to have your device at hand, please let me know at the beginning of class.
- Your participation in class discussions should remain accepting and respectful of others at all times – no interruptions, disparagement of another's ideas, or uncivil responses. You may certainly disagree with a classmate or the instructor, but that disagreement must be expressed in a polite manner that demonstrates respect for the other person and his/her ideas.

### D2L

- You can access D2L, the learning management system, through PAWS.

- You will access and submit assignments in D2L. To learn how to get started with D2L, refer to D2L's Resource Center at <https://documentation.desire2learn.com/en/Getting%20Started%20in%20Learning%20Environment>.
- For information about accessing your D2L course from a mobile device, please see the University System of Georgia D2L Mobile Access page at [https://lms.gru.edu/shared/mobile%20information/Mobile\\_User.html](https://lms.gru.edu/shared/mobile%20information/Mobile_User.html).
- If you need technical assistance at any time, contact the 24-hour GRU Service Desk at (706) 721-4000 or at <http://gru.edu/its/help>.

#### Academic Conduct Policy

The GRU Academic Conduct Policy (available at <http://policy.gru.edu/3-1-4-academic-conduct-policy/>) states that:

"The University recognizes that honesty and integrity are necessary to its academic function.

The following regulations protect the equity and validity of the university's grades and degrees, and help students develop ethical standards and attitudes appropriate to academic and professional life.

Violations of academic honesty include cheating of all kinds, plagiarism, fraudulent research activity and/or scholarship, collusion, and false statements made to avoid negative academic consequences. [...]"

#### Accommodating Students with Disabilities

To request academic accommodation services, please contact the Testing and Disability Services office at [tds@gru.edu](mailto:tds@gru.edu) and/or (706) 737-1469 as soon as possible, to begin the process. Please note that all discussions with Testing and Disability Services or subsequently with your course instructor are confidential and are meant to insure that your accommodations are appropriately implemented throughout the course. For more information, please visit <http://www.gru.edu/admin/tds/>.