



BABCOCK UNIVERSITY

School: EAH

Department:

LANGUAGES AND LITERARY STUDIES

Semester/Session:

1ST SEMESTER/ 2014/2015 SESSION

Course code:

ENGL 971- Research Proposal Writing in English Language and Literature

No of units: 3

Venue for class: PG RM/5

Lecturer(s): **Prof. Mobolanle E Sotunsa.** / Dr O A Idowu SSOffice Address: Rm 015 EAH

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OUR VISION STATEMENT

A first-class Seventh day Adventist institution, building servant leaders for a better world.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Building leadership through Christian education; transforming lives, impacting society for positive change.

To achieve our mission, we are committed to:

- Achieving excellence in our teaching, research program, and service delivery
- Imparting quality Christian education
- Instilling Christ-like character to the members of our community

OUR CORE VALUES

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| • Excellence | our culture |
| • Integrity | our promise |
| • Accountability | our moral |
| • Servant leadership | our strength |
| • Team spirit | our dignity |
| • Autonomy and responsibility | our passion |
| • Adventist heritage | our commitment |

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Babcock University's philosophy is anchored on the harmonious development of the intellectual, physical, social, and spiritual potential of our students, inspiring stable and notable character needed for effective leadership and service in the society.

CORPORATE IMAGE STATEMENT: A centre of excellence for character development and scholarship; a society responsive, responsible and accountable institution in matters of commitment and action.

1. DESCRIPTION AND FOCUS OF THE COURSE: This course consists of a practical and analytical study of the nature and forms of language and literature proposals, the methodologies, approaches and the writing of research proposals, abstracts, synopsis and conclusions. Issues of the "need", "aims" and "objectives of a research", the "research problem" and "outcomes" are discussed, especially in relation to what is entailed in a doctoral

research project in language and literature. Empirical and field work and the use of the computer and relevant software as assistive tools are also taught in the course.

2. **Further description of course by the teacher.** This course will be practical oriented in that students will be expected to write a research proposal. There will be ongoing conferencing and editing of the research work which will be evaluated and form the substantial part of the continuous assessment.

Course Objectives: At the end of this course students will be able to:

- a. Understand the concept and nature of research
- b. Recognise and formulate interesting research topics, research questions and objectives
- c. Craft concise statements of problems for research works
- d. Identify and practice various principles of gathering, using and documenting high quality research materials
- e. Apply the various tips on writing review of literature
- f. Write a research proposal
- g. Orally present a research work on an approved topic of their choice under the guidance and supervision of the lecturers and other resource persons
- h. Appreciate the importance of ethical principles in carrying out research.

Required Textbooks/Journal:

1. Dobie, Ann (2009) *Theory into Practice*. Boston: Wadsworth Cengage Learning,.
2. Eagleton, Terry (1983). *Literary Theory: An Introduction*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press
3. Sotunsa Mobolanle (ed) (2011) *From Theory to Practice: Advanced Literary Text Analysis* Lagos: Asaba Publications,
4. Akporobaro F B O et all (2010) *Landmark and New Essays in Literary and Linguistic Theory and Criticisms*, Lagos : Princeton Publishing

Course Requirements:

Class Attendance: “Every student is required to attend classes regularly and punctually unless ill or prevented by some recognized emergency. Students who absent themselves from class more than three weeks during the semester shall merit F grade. Authorized leave of absence from campus does not excuse the student from classes, or relieve the student of the required course work’ (BU *academic Bulletin 2012-2015 p. 13*).

Participation: Students are to actively engage in topic discussion and sharing of idea in class.

Tardiness/Conduct of Students in Class: lateness to class is unacceptable; students are not allowed to operate their cell phones, IPod and other electronic mobile gargets during classes, except with the permission of the teacher. Eating and chewing of bubble gums and drinking (water exempted) is also not allowed except with the permission of the teacher. Very importantly, students are required to dress in compliance with the university dress code and wear their identity cards while in class.

Short Devotionals/Prayer: Spiritual nurture is a part of whole person development, and team spirit is our strength; thus, every student is required to participate in the devotional exercise and prayer in class.

Submission of Assignment: All assignments must be submitted on or before the time line given in class. No late submissions will be entertained.

Late assignment: assignment could be turned in earlier, but not later than the deadline set by the teacher.

Guideline for written work: All assignments should be typed written in New Roman font, 12 points and double spaced except for indented quotations. **In-text** references must be made and all references also reflected at the **Works Cited** portion at the end of the assignment. Plagiarism and mere copying from internet is not encouraged. It will attract penalties.

Academic Integrity/Honesty: “Babcock University has a zero tolerance for any form of academic dishonesty. Morality and spiritual, the institution is committed to scholastic integrity. Consequently, both students and staff are to maintain high, ethncial Christian levels of honesty. Transparent honest behaviours is expected of every student in all spheres of life.

Academic dishonesty include such things as plagiarism, unauthorized use of notes or textbooks on quizzes and examinations, copying or spying the text or paper of another student (formal or take home), talking to another student during examination, academic matter would automatically result in a failing grade for the examination and suspense, or outright dismissal from the university. Academic dishonesty issues are referred to SPEAM (senate panel on examination and academic misconduct) who investigates and makes recommendations to senate. Penalties for examination and academic misconduct are spelt out in the *student’s handbook* and in other regulations as published from time to time” (BU *academic Bulletin 2012-2015 p. 18*).

Grievance Procedure

“Students who believe in their academic rights have been infringed upon or that they have been unjustly treated with respect to their academic program are entitled to a fair and impartial consideration of their cases. They should do the following to affect a solution:

1. Present their case to the teacher(s) concerned.
2. If necessary discuss the problem with the head of department
3. If agreement is not reached at this level, submit the matter to the school dean
4. Finally, ask for a review of the case by the Grievance Committee
5. A fee is charged for remarking of scripts. If a student’s grievance is upheld after an external examiner has remarked the script, the grade would be credited to the student. The lecturer will be given a letter of reprimand and will asked to refund the fees to the student. If the student’s grievance is not sustained, the student will be given a letter and original grade retained” (BU *Academic Bulletin 2012-2015 p. 18*)

Teaching/learning methodologies: This course will adapt the following methodologies

- A. Teaching- Please note that students are encouraged to form notes. Come to the class with both your notes and jotters.
- B. Class group presentations- You will be divided into groups to make presentations on pre assigned topics/texts

Course assessment/evaluation

Continuous Assessment:

Class Attendance:	5%
Quizzes/Oral presentations	10%
Assignments:	10%

Final Semester Exam: 60%

Grade scale

Currently, the point grading system adopted by the University Senate translates as follows:

Grades	Marks- Quality	Range Points	Definition
A	80-100	5.00	Superior
B	60-79	4.00	Above Average
C	50-59	3.00	Average
D	45-49	2.00	Below Average
E	40-44	1.00	Pass
F	0-39	0.00	Fail

Incomplete Grade: an incomplete grade may only be assigned to a student upon request, due to an emergency situation that occurred within that semester, which prevented completion of an/some assignments, quizzes or examination. Such students would complete a contract form, obtained from the registrar, after agreement with the teacher. The form must be signed by the teacher, the student, the HOD, the dean, the registrar and the senior Vice Chancellor (SVP) before contract begins. The original copy of the incomplete form will be sent to the registrar with copies to the teacher, the student, the HOD, the dean, and the SVP. An incomplete grade (I) reverts to the existing grade if contract is not completed by the end of the following semester. (Including summer semester, except for examinations) (BU *Academic Bulletin 2012-2015 p. 20*).

Further readings:

Students with disability

“Babcock University seeks to provide a conducive environment for optimal living and learning experience. While the university is working towards facilities that accommodate persons with disabilities, provisions will be made for students with disabilities under the following conditions. Students with disabilities are to:

1. Report to students support services for assessment, and to obtain a clearance/recommendation at the commencement of the semester or as soon as disabling incidence occurs.
2. Show the clearance/recommendations to relevant university officials at the commencement of the semester or as soon as disabling incidence occurs.
3. Maintain ongoing contact with students support services” (BU *Academic Bulletin 2012-2015 p. 20*).

Proposed daily/weekly outline of schedule:

Date	Topic	Class Activities	Assignments Due
Mon, Sept. 1, 2014	Discussion of course outline	Introduction and sharing of expectations about the course	
Tue, Sept. 2, 2014	Meaning and nature of Research		
Mon, Sept. 8, 2014	The Research Process Steps in research	Note taking and discussions	Assignment - searching for research topics
Tue, Sept. 9, 2014			
Mon, Sept. 15, 2014	Components of the Research Proposal: Writing Background of Study, Making Statement of the Problem	Note taking and discussions	
Tue, Sept. 16, 2014			
Mon, Sept. 22, 2014	Writing Objectives of the Study, Crafting Research Questions	Note taking and discussions	
Tue, Sept. 23, 2014	Making Justification for the Study, Creating Significance of the Study.		
Mon, Sept. 29, 2014	Scope and Delimitation of the Study,	Note taking and discussions	
Tue, Sept., 30, 2014			
Mon, Oct. 6, 2014	Theoretical Frame work	Note taking and discussions	
Tue, Oct. 7, 2014			
Mon, Oct. 13, 2014	Review of the Literature	Note taking and discussions	
Tue, Oct. 14, 2014			
Mon, Oct. 20, 2014	Referencing Styles MLA	Note taking and discussions	Presentations on assigned referencing style
Tue, Oct. 21, 2014	Referencing Styles: APA.		
Mon, Oct. 27, 2014	Methodology and Choosing Research Methods		
Tue, Oct. 28, 2014			
Mon, Nov. 3, 2014	Ethics in Research		
Tue, Nov. 4, 2014			

Mon, Nov. 10, 2014	Choosing Research Participants		
Tue, Nov. 11, 2014	Conducting Interviews, Focus Groups Discussions		
Mon, Nov. 17, 2014	Constructing Questionnaires & carrying out participant's Observation		
Tue, Nov. 18, 2014			
Mon, Nov. 24, 2014	Writing the Research Proposal		
Tue, Nov. 25, 2014			
Mon, Dec. 1, 2014	Oral Presentations		Presentation
Tue, Dec. 2, 2014			Presentation
Mon, Dec. 8, 2014	Oral Presentation of Proposals		Presentation
Tue, Dec. 9, 2014			Presentation
Mon, Dec. 15, 2014	Final Exam		