

GEOG 2200 / ENVS 4200: Research Methods in Geography & Environmental Studies

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00 to 3:15 PM, Fall 2016, Social Sciences 3010

Instructor

Dr. Paul McDaniel, Assistant Professor of Geography

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Office Location: Social Sciences 4051B

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00-11:00 AM

Email and Classroom Response Times:

I will check my email and D2L messages at least once a day, not including weekends or holidays. Monday through Friday, I will respond to all emails within 24 hours. Over the weekend (starting Friday at 5 p.m.) I will respond to all emails on Monday. Please contact me when you have questions or need clarification.

The professor reserves the right to revise this syllabus at his discretion.

Course Description

This course is designed to prepare students for scientific research in geography, environmental fields, and related disciplines. It introduces students to a variety of spatial and environmental research concepts, approaches, methods and techniques. This course guides students through aspects of scientific research, generating research ideas, choosing a research topic, conducting a literature review, methodology design, data collection, data analysis, drawing conclusions, and presenting/disseminating research results. Students develop a research project and present it to the class. This course is cross-listed as GEOG 2200 and ENVS 4200 and may count toward the Geography or Environmental Analysis and Sustainability degree. **Prerequisites:** (ANTH 1102 , or GEOG 1101 , or GEOG 1130) and (GEOG 1112 or GEOG 1113) and GEOG 1102.

Course Objectives/Goals

Students who successfully complete this course should be able to:

1. Understand basic geographic/environmental research concepts and methods.
2. Critically review geographic/environmental research methods in geography/environmental literatures.
3. Design research projects in their fields of interest.
4. Apply research methods to their own research projects.
5. Develop oral presentation and writing skills to present and disseminate their research and findings.

Required Textbook

An Introduction to Scientific Research Methods in Geography and Environmental Studies, 2013, second edition, by Daniel R. Montello and Paul C. Sutton, from Sage Publications, ISBN: 9781446200759.

Additional readings: To add further context to textbook concepts and class discussions a select set of supplemental readings *may* be made available at the discretion of the instructor. These readings may be drawn from newspapers, magazines, academic journals, book chapters, etc., and would be made available as handouts in class or online via D2L.

Grading

Grade Component	Points	Percent
Participation	50	10%
Five Reading Quizzes	100	20%
Group Assignments (Research Project Components)	150	30%
Group Research Project Paper and Presentation	150	30%
Group Research Project Peer Review	50	10%
COURSE TOTAL	500	100%

Final course grades will be assigned based upon the total points from the items above out of 500 total possible points, computed to a percentage according to the grade guideline below.

A = 90-100	D = 60-69.9
B = 80-89.9	F = <59.9
C = 70-79.9	

Participation (10 percent of total course grade):

Active participation in class including attending class (attendance will be taken randomly throughout the semester) and participating in class discussions and all other components of the course is important. Consider our class meetings an assemblage of individuals that is unique and irreplaceable. Irregular attendance not only hurts a student's course work, but it weakens the class as a whole. If you need to miss a class for a reasonable reason, please let me know via email ahead of your planned absence. If you have an unplanned absence, please let me know about the reason via email as soon as possible when the absence occurs. Students are expected to attend all lectures and class discussions, complete all written assignments and research project components, and complete assigned readings by the beginning of the week in which the reading is assigned (refer to schedule presented in this syllabus) in order to actively participate in class discussions each week. Class attendance and participation makes up 10% of the total course grade.

Textbook Reading Quizzes (20 percent of total course grade):

In order to be prepared for class discussions and to adequately participate in class, students must read the corresponding chapters in the textbook (and any other assigned readings as announced) by the beginning of the week in which the reading is assigned (see syllabus schedule below). Five reading quizzes will occur randomly throughout the semester. The five textbook reading

quizzes, worth 20 points each, account for 20% of the total course grade. Quizzes may either be administered in class or through the D2L course site online at the discretion of the instructor.

Group Assignments and Research Project Components (30 percent of total course grade):

Throughout the semester, students will complete several assignments that apply concepts from readings and class discussions and also form the components and building blocks of their group research project papers that will be due by the end of the course. These specific written assignments (see week-by-week schedule below for due dates) build upon each other and include developing a potential research topic, developing specific research questions, constructing a literature review, and describing the study area, methodology, and data sources. Additional impromptu assignments/exercises may take place in-class or online through D2L as part of a particular week's discussion theme. All assignments and research project components will be submitted electronically on the D2L course site. The written assignments are 30% of the total course grade.

- Assignment 1 (5 points): IRB CITI Training, "Students Conducting No More Than Minimal Risk Research" (see instructions on the assignments drop box on D2L, and use that folder to submit your completion certificate)
- Assignment 2 (10 points): List of three potential research topics for your research project.
- Assignment 3 (15 points): Literature search and evaluation.
- Assignment 4 (15 points): Description of research questions for your research project.
- Assignment 5 (15 points): Survey questionnaire design.
- Assignment 6 (15 points): Data sources.
- Assignment 7 (20 points): Research project background, literature review, and research objectives.
- Assignment 8 (15 points): Statistics data sources.
- Assignment 9 (20 points): Research project study area, data sources, and methodology.
- Assignment 10 (20 points): Draft of your research project paper.

Group Research Project Paper and Presentation (30 percent of total course grade):

Students will spend time throughout the course in groups of 2 to 4 people developing a research project in a particular field of geography or environmental studies based on their research interests. The various components of the research project paper (see "group assignments" above) will be due at different points throughout the semester (see syllabus week-by-week schedule below for due dates). The final research project paper will also go through a peer review with other students in the class. However, the full research project paper will be graded only once—at the end of the semester. More detailed requirements for the paper are described below. The final research project paper is out of 100 points (see grading rubric below) and makes up 20% of the total course grade. It is due on the last day of class. Presentations are out of 50 points (10% of total course grade) and will take place the last week of classes. An individual grade (40%) and a group grade (60%) will comprise the possible 100 points for the paper and possible 50 points for the presentation. There will be a group self-evaluation that each student will complete about his or her experiences with the group. Only the instructor will see these responses. This self-evaluation will play a role in the overall project grade.

Structure of Group Research Project Paper (20 percent):

In general, the research project paper should have the following or similar components (not necessary to follow this structure, but should be logical). The paper should be organized into sections with section headings (and subheadings if needed).

1. Introduction: an overview of your research question(s).
2. Background: Background information about your topic to help readers understand your research concepts, question(s), and context.
3. Literature Review: You should read at least 10 literatures (i.e., peer-reviewed academic journal articles, scholarly book chapters, or other scholarly work) relevant to your research questions and methods. They may be peer-reviewed journal papers, book chapters, or books you can get from the library and electronic databases searchable through the Library or Google Scholar. The literature review is a summary of the previous studies relevant to your area of research and research question(s). You should discuss the differences between your proposed study and the previous studies, the limitations in the previous studies, any improvements your study may make, and why your study is needed to contribute or fill a gap in the particular area of knowledge.
4. Research Objectives: Provide detailed research purposes and questions or any hypotheses you want to test.
5. Study Area: Most geographic topics are for a specific place, area, or region. Describe the information relevant to the research questions in the study area (physical, social, historical, environmental, cultural, etc.).
6. Data Sources and Methodology: Clearly describe how you will collect the data and the methods you plan to use to explore and interpret the data and address the research questions. A flow chart may help you organize the methodology and make it easier to understand.
7. Results: Describe results and how they answer the research questions and hypotheses.
8. Conclusion: Tie everything back together with the broader literature and describe any scientific, social, and practical contributions your research may make. Also make suggestions for future research related to this topic.
9. References: List the literatures in a standard and consistent bibliographic format, such as APA, MLA, or Chicago Style. The key is to choose one style and remain consistent with in-text citations and reference list/bibliography format. If you don't have any idea of a particular reference citation format, look at one of the peer-reviewed journal articles you reference in your research project paper and follow its particular citation and reference format. Consistency is key!

Grading Rubric for Group Research Project Paper:

	Exemplary	Midpoint	Unsatisfactory
Structure of the Research Paper	30 points Paper includes all required sections (Introduction, Background, Literature Review, Research Objectives/Questions, Study Area, Data Sources/Methodology,	15 points Paper contains some of the required sections.	0 points Paper did not follow any of the directions for organization and content.

	Results, Conclusion, References).		
In-Text Citations	15 points All sources listed in the reference list are cited in the text of the paper	7.5 points Some citations are in the text, but not all sources in the bibliography are cited	0 points No citations from the reference list. PAPER WILL BE GRADED “D” OR LOWER.
Reference List	15 points 10+ sources, alphabetized, follows standard citation format, majority scholarly sources	7.5 points 5-9 sources, needs formatting attention, may or may not have scholarly sources	0 points 1-4 sources, bibliography not alphabetized, poorly formatted
Maps & Images	10 points Paper has 1+ map and 1+ image, both referred to in the text.	5 points Paper has only one map or image, may or not be referred to in text.	0 points No maps, no images.
Proof-reading	10 points 0-9 spelling and/or grammar mistakes.	5 points 10-19 spelling and/or grammar mistakes	0 points 20+ spelling and/or grammar mistakes.
Length of paper	10 points Paper has 10 or more pages of text (excluding figures, tables, images, references), double-spaced, Times New Roman 12 point font, 1-inch margins.	5 points Paper has 8-9 pages of text, doesn't follow font/margin formatting.	0 points Paper has less than 8 pages of text, doesn't follow font/margin formatting.
Subheadings (these add focus)	10 points Subheadings are sufficient for the various required sections of the research paper.	5 points Few subheadings, confusing to the reader, and/or don't follow the required sections for the paper.	0 points No subheadings

Research Project Presentation (10 percent):

After completing the draft of the group research project paper, groups will have the opportunity to present the most important aspect(s) of their research project to the class and answer questions from the class in less than 15 minutes. The research project presentation must be turned into the instructor by the date of the presentation in class. The presentation counts for 10% of the total course grade. The same individual (40%) and group (60%) components will inform the presentation grade based on the group self-evaluations.

Research Project Paper Peer Review (10 percent of total course grade):

After each group turns in a draft of the research project paper, the instructor will distribute your paper draft to other students in the class in different groups. Each student, from the perspective of an editor reviewing a draft manuscript for scholarly journal article publication, must read and review one other student's research project paper draft and send comments back to the author and to the instructor. The author may send the responses back to the reviewer and the instructor and make necessary revisions or respond to the feedback during the project presentation. The peer review will be graded based on how you review another student's research project paper draft and how you respond to another student's and instructor's comments on your own paper draft. This part makes up 10% of the final course grade.

Additional Research and Writing Resources:

- Research Guides from KSU Sturgis Library: <http://libguides.kennesaw.edu/cat.php?cid=79060>
- Geography Research Guide from KSU Sturgis Library: <http://libguides.kennesaw.edu/geography>
- Galileo Scholar, University System of Georgia. Discover articles, books, media, and more from across the University System of Georgia: <http://www.galileo.usg.edu/scholar/kennesaw/search/>
 - Galileo Scholar, Geography subject guide: <http://www.galileo.usg.edu/scholar/kennesaw/subjects/geography/articles-databases/>
 - Galileo Scholar, Environmental Science Collection (ProQuest): <http://www.galileo.usg.edu/scholar/databases/zuec/>
- Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/>
 - When searching Google Scholar on a KSU campus computer, you should be able to easily access full-text scholarly journal articles for the many journals to which KSU has a subscription. In many such cases, you should be able to click a link directly to the PDF file that appears on the right side of the search results page if the PDF article is available. When using Google Scholar off of KSU's network, you may not always be able to access full text of journal articles.
- Council on Undergraduate Research: http://www.cur.org/about_cur/
 - National Conference on Undergraduate Research: http://www.cur.org/ncur_2016/
- Writing Help Resources and Handouts from the KSU Writing Center: <http://writingcenter.kennesaw.edu/resources/handouts.php>

Optional Supplemental Readings:

- Bailey, Carol A. 1996. *A Guide to Field Research*. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Pine Forge Press.
- Clifford, Nicholas and Valentine, Gill. 2003. *Key Methods in Geography*. Sage Publications.
- Cooper, Harris M. 1998. *Synthesizing Research: a guide for literature reviews*. Sage Publications.
- Cutter, Susan L., Reginald Golledge, and William L. Graf. 2002. "The Big Questions in Geography." *Professional Geographer* 54, 3: 305-317.

- Drew, C.J., M.L. Hardman, and A.W. Hart. 1996. *Designing and Conducting Research*. Needham Heights: Allyn and Bacon.
- Flowerdew, Robin and David Martin. 2005. *Methods in Human Geography: A Guide for Students Doing a Research Project*. Prentice Hall.
- Hay, Iain. 2005. *Qualitative Research Methods in Human Geography*. Oxford University Press.
- Hult, Christine. 1996. *Researching and Writing in the Social Sciences*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.
- Locke, Lawrence F., Spirduso W., and Silverman, Stephen J.. 2007. *Proposals that Work*. Sage Publications.
- Moore, Nick. 2000. *How to do Research: The Complete Guide to Designing and Managing Research Projects*, 3rd ed. London: Library Association Publishing.
- National Academies. 2009. *On Being a Scientist: A Guide to Responsible Conduct in Research*. Washington, DC: National Academies Press.
- Northey, Margot and Knight, David. 2007. *Making Sense: A Student’s Guide to Research and Writing in Geography and Environmental Sciences*. Oxford University Press.
- Rogerson, Peter A. 2006. *Statistical Methods for Geography: A Student’s Guide*. 2nd edition. Sage Publications.
- Robson, Colin. 2002. *Real World Research: A Resource for Social Scientists and Practitioner-Researchers*, 2nd ed. Oxford, UK: Blackwell.
- Rodrigues, Dawn, and Raymond J. Rodrigues. 2003. *The Research Paper: A Guide to Library and Internet Research*, 3rd ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.
- Ruane, Janet. 2005. *Essentials of Research Methods: A Guide to Social Science Research*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Schloss, Patrick J., and Maureen Smith. 1999. *Conducting Research*. Merrill: Upper Saddle River.
- Skloot, Rebecca. 2011. *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*. New York: Broadway Paperbacks.
- Williams, Joseph. 2002. *Style: Ten Lessons in Clarity and Grace*. New York: Harper.

Course Outline

Tentative Class Schedule (Please read the designated reading for a particular week by the beginning of that week to be able to fully participate in class discussions):

Week	Required Reading, General Topics for the Week, and Assignment(s) Due	Items Due
Week 1 August 16 & 18	August 16 is First Day of Classes for Fall Semester 2016. Chapter 1: Introduction: A Scientific Approach to Geography and Environmental Studies Overview and introduction to the class, use of D2L for assignment submission and interaction with class.	
Week 2 August 23 & 25	Chapter 2: Fundamental Research Concepts D2L Article Reading: “The Big Questions in Geography” by Cutter, Golledge, and Graf, <i>Professional Geographer</i> , 2002. How to generate research ideas and questions August 23: Guest Speaker from KSU Office of Undergraduate Research,	August 24: Assignment 1: CITI Training August 29:

	<p>overview of resources for Undergraduate Research/Creative Activity at KSU</p> <p>Assignment 1 due August 24 via D2L: CITI Certification (See instruction on Assignment 1 dropbox in D2L)</p> <p>Assignment 2 due August 29 via D2L: List of three potential research topics for your research project paper</p>	<p>Assignment 2: List of three potential research topics</p>
<p>Week 3 August 30 & September 1</p>	<p>Chapter 3: Scientific Communication</p> <p>How to get literatures from the library and electronic journal databases</p> <p>How to give background information and perform literature review</p> <p>August 30: Guest speaker from KSU Sturgis Library, http://library.kennesaw.edu/</p> <p>September 1: Guest speaker from KSU Writing Center, http://writingcenter.kennesaw.edu/</p>	
<p>Week 4 September 6 & 8</p>	<p>Chapter 4: Data Collection in Geography and Environmental Studies: Overview, How to describe your research questions</p> <p>September 5: Labor Day Holiday, No Classes</p> <p>Assignment 3 due September 7 via D2L: Literature Search and Evaluation</p>	<p>September 7: Assignment 3: Literature Search and Evaluation</p>
<p>Week 5 September 13 & 15</p>	<p>Chapter 5: Physical Measurements</p> <p>Assignment 4 due September 14 via D2L: Description of research questions for your research project paper</p>	<p>September 14: Assignment 4: Description of research questions</p>
<p>Week 6 September 20 & 22</p>	<p>Chapter 6: Behavioral Observations and Archives</p> <p>September 22: No class meeting (Use this time to work on your group research projects). Dr. McDaniel at Race, Ethnicity, and Place Geography Conference in Ohio</p>	
<p>Week 7 September 27 & 29</p>	<p>Chapter 7: Explicit Reports: Surveys, Interviews, and Tests</p> <p>In-class Assignment 5 on September 29: Survey Questionnaire Design</p> <p>Assignment 6 due October 2 via D2L: Data Sources</p> <p>September 29: KSU Education Abroad Fair, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Carmichael Student Center University Rooms</p>	<p>September 29: Assignment 5: Survey Questionnaire Design</p> <p>October 2: Assignment 6: Data Sources</p>
<p>Week 8 October 4 & 6</p>	<p>Chapter 8: Experimental and Nonexperimental Research Designs</p> <p>October 5 is last day to withdraw without academic penalty</p> <p>Assignment 7 due October 9 via D2L: Research project background, literature review, and research objectives</p>	<p>October 9: Assignment 7: Research project background, literature review, and research objectives</p>

Week 9 October 11 & 13	Chapter 9: Sampling Important data sources in geography and environmental studies	
Week 10 October 18 & 20	Chapter 10: Statistical Data Analysis Assignment 8 due October 23 via D2L: Statistics Data Sources	October 23: Assignment 8: Statistics Data Sources
Week 11 October 25 & 27	Chapter 11: Data Display: Tables, Graphs, Maps, Visualizations Assignment 9 due October 27 via D2L: Research Project study area, data sources, and methodology	October 27: Assignment 9: Research Project study area, data sources, and methodology
Week 12 November 1 & 3	Chapter 12: Reliability and Validity	
Week 13 November 8 & 10	Chapter 13: Information Technologies in Research Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Assignment 10 due November 10 via D2L: Draft of your research project paper.	November 10: Assignment 10: Draft of your research project paper sent to the instructor.
Week 14 November 15 & 17	Chapter 14: Ethics in Scientific Research In-class discussions about initial research project paper reviews, the peer-review process, and presenting research projects. Due November 16 via D2L: Peer Review of Classmates' Research Project Paper drafts November 14-20: Geography Awareness Week: 2016 Theme is "Explore! The Power of Parks." For more info, see: http://education.nationalgeographic.com/programs/geographyawarenessweek/ November 16: GIS Day. For more info, see: http://www.gisday.com/	November 16: Peer Review of Classmates' Research Project Paper drafts
Week 15 November 22 & 24	Fall Break: No Classes. Happy Thanksgiving! November 20-22: Southeastern Division of American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Columbia, SC. http://sedaag.org/	
Week 16 November 29 & December 1	Research Project Presentations in Class all week Due November 29 via D2L: Research Project Presentations Due December 1 via D2L: Final Research Project Papers submitted via D2L dropbox Thursday, December 1, is our last day of class because the last official day of classes for Fall 2016 is Monday, December 5.	November 29: Research Project Presentations December 1: Final Research Project Papers submitted via D2L dropbox

Course Expectations

Expectations/Class Participation

For this class, you should be diligent about reading the required textbook as in-class discussions, quizzes, and assignments are based on content directly from the textbook. Attendance will be taken on random class meeting days throughout the semester and will contribute to the participation grade. Also, plagiarism and academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Please see the statements on Academic Honesty and Plagiarism Policy in the University Policies later in this syllabus.

Late Assignments

Late quizzes/assignments will be accepted with a 10 percent reduction in the item's grade for each day that the item is late (i.e., if the item is 2 days late then the grade will be reduced by 20 percent).

Help Resources

Please review the following university academic support services, student services, and resources, which can help you succeed in this course.

Contacts to get Help

Student Help Desk studenthelpdesk@kennesaw.edu or call 470.578.3555
D2L FAQ's: https://apps.kennesaw.edu/portal/prod/app_its_ask_stu_publ/student/
D2L Student User's Guide:
https://apps.kennesaw.edu/files/pr_app_uni_cdoc/doc/D2LBrightspaceStudentguide_10.3.pdf

Additional Resources

One-Stop-Shop for KSU Policies and Procedures:
<http://distanceed.hss.kennesaw.edu/elearning/onestopshop.html>
KSU Bookstore: <http://bookstore.kennesaw.edu/home.aspx>

KSU Library Services

The KSU Library System assists all students, faculty and staff with their research, including using library databases to find articles, accessing books and other materials in our catalog, and for specialized research needs. Librarians are available for in-person walk-up assistance at library help desks, one-on-one research appointments, and 24x7 via library chat. For more information on library locations, hours, how to access library services, and remote access to library resources, please visit <http://library.kennesaw.edu/>.

KSU Writing Center

The KSU Writing Center helps students in all majors improve their writing. Experienced, friendly writing assistants help with topic development, revision, research, documentation, grammar, and more. For more information or to make an appointment, visit <http://writingcenter.kennesaw.edu/> or stop by English Building, Room 242 (Kennesaw campus) or Building A, Room 184 (Marietta campus).

KSU English as a Second Language (ESL) Center

At the ESL Center, KSU IEP, undergraduate, and graduate international students can receive tutoring in writing, reading, pronunciation, and presentation skills, as well as advising for their general education (core) requirements and mentoring. More information and contacts are here: <http://uc.kennesaw.edu/academicinitiatives/esl.php>

KSU Education Abroad, Division of Global Affairs

Kennesaw State University offers more than two-dozen faculty-led study abroad programs in 30+ countries, as well as many foreign exchange and international internship opportunities. Regardless of what field of study or country you are passionate about, there is an education abroad program for you! The information and resources on this site will help guide you through the entire education abroad experience: <http://dga.kennesaw.edu/educationabroad/>

University Policies

Academic Honesty

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an "informal" resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct's minimum one semester suspension requirement.

Plagiarism Policy

No student shall receive, attempt to receive, knowingly give or attempt to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit as part of a course (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.). When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated, and when the ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, electronic based information or illustrations of someone other than the student are incorporated into a paper or used in a project, they should be duly acknowledged. For more

information, please see: **Why is cheating/plagiarism wrong and what will happen if I'm accused of academic misconduct?:** <http://scai.kennesaw.edu/students/general-info/cheating.php>

What is Plagiarism?

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as found on the Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (SCAI) website <http://scai.kennesaw.edu/students/general-info/cheating.php>. Evidence of collaboration on quizzes, discussions, false identity, or any other form of cheating will result in either an informal resolution by the professor, resulting in an “F” for the course, or a formal hearing which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement.

Plagiarism is defined as the practice of taking someone else’s work or ideas and passing them off as one’s own. If you are unaware or uncertain on how to properly cite a particular source, please do not neglect to add the citation—that is considered plagiarism.

If you have questions on how to cite your work, please contact me immediately! For more information, please refer to the “Plagiarism Policy” under the *Policies* section of this syllabus.

Turnitin

Students agree that by taking this course all required written assignments may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted written assignments will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Terms and Conditions of Use posted on the Turnitin.com site.

Disability Statement

Kennesaw State University provides program accessibility and reasonable accommodations for persons defined as disabled under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Kennesaw State University does not deny admission or subject to discrimination in admission any qualified disabled student.

A number of services are available to help students with disabilities with their academic work. In order to make arrangements for special services, students must visit the Office for Student Disability Services and make an appointment to arrange an individual assistance plan. In most cases, certification of disability is required.

Special services are based on

- medical and/or psychological certification of disability,
- eligibility for services by outside agencies, and
- ability to complete tasks required in courses.

ADA Position Statement

Kennesaw State University, a member of the University System of Georgia, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin or disability in employment or provision of services. Kennesaw State University does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Public Law 101-336, gives civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities. This statute guarantees equal opportunity for this protected group in the areas of public accommodations, employment, transportation, state and local government services and telecommunications. The following individuals have been designated by the President of the University to provide assistance and ensure compliance with the ADA. Should you require assistance or have further questions about the ADA, please contact:

- ADA Compliance Officer for Students
470-578-6443
- ADA Compliance Officer for Facilities
470-578-6224
- ADA Compliance Officer for Employees
470-578-6030

For more information, go to: http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/dsss.

Non-Discrimination Statement

Kennesaw State University (KSU) is committed to maintaining a fair and respectful environment for living, work and study. To that end, and in accordance with federal and state law, Board of Regents policy, and University policy, the University prohibits harassment of or discrimination against any person because of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment and pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, ethnicity or national origin, religion, age, genetic information, disability, or veteran status by any member of the KSU Community on campus, in connection with a University program or activity, or in a manner that creates a hostile environment for members of the KSU community. <http://diversity.kennesaw.edu/>