

**IDST 199 Section D01 | University Learning**  
**TR 9:35-11:10 GRH 2009**  
**Summer 2022: July 11-August 11**

**Cort Basham**

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**COURSE INFORMATION**

**WKU Covid-19 Policy**

On February 25, 2022, masks became optional in indoor public spaces at WKU. Members of the WKU Community are encouraged to continue to engage in safety measures they feel best protect themselves, including wearing masks if they so choose. WKU's COVID [quarantine and isolation](#) protocols remain unchanged for individuals who have tested positive or been exposed to COVID-19. WKU's department of Environmental Health and Safety is offering KN95 masks to all members of the WKU Community at no cost. To request KN95 masks, email [covid.help@wku.edu](mailto:covid.help@wku.edu).

Any member of the WKU Community who tests positive or has been identified as a close contact for COVID-19 must contact the WKU COVID Assistance Line within four hours of receiving the positive test result or being identified of exposure by calling 270-745-2019. Close contacts may not be required to quarantine if they are fully vaccinated and have received their booster (if eligible). Vaccines and boosters are readily available in our area, including the [Graves Gilbert Clinic on campus](#). The COVID vaccine remains our best defense against the virus. If you are not yet vaccinated or have not obtained a booster shot (if eligible), we strongly encourage you to take this important preventative measure. All members of the WKU Community are asked to report or update vaccination status online at [wku.edu/vaccine](http://wku.edu/vaccine). The form has recently been updated to allow individuals to submit booster shot information. Please refer to the Healthy on the Hill website for the most current information. [www.wku.edu/healthyonthehill](http://www.wku.edu/healthyonthehill)

**Course Overview**

For students to successfully navigate the rigors of college-level work, they must be proficient in their ability to read, write, listen, and speak. This class provides students with the knowledge and skill sets necessary to handle the workload they will encounter at WKU. This course fosters new and positive academic and behavioral habits while rectifying the ineffective and inefficient practices often espoused by students new to the college landscape. This is the primary focus of the course with particular emphasis on these changes as they relate to reading.

**Course Description**

IDST 199 will refine students' skills in critical thinking, reading, study skills, and information literacy. Students will explore majors and careers, personal development, and campus resources. All students who have demonstrated a college readiness need in reading must pass IDST 199 to satisfy the college readiness requirement.

### **Course Objectives**

1. Read college-level text for sense and meaning.
2. Gather sound and relevant evidence to analyze issues.
3. Analyze/synthesize evidence to articulate an argument.
4. Implement evidence-based approaches to learning.
5. Investigate majors of study and careers, culminating in a roadmap to graduation.
6. Develop and refine personal development integral to achieving academic and career goals.

### **No textbook is required: all materials will be provided**

There will be MANY readings that will be provided to you via Blackboard or other online links. However, the following book that may be used extensively in your specific section. Copies may be available in The Center for Literacy. Check directly with your instructor to be sure. **McRaney, D. (2011). *You are not so smart*. New York: Penguin Group.**

### **Instructor Communication Policy**

Preferred contact is email; email inquiries will be responded to within 24 hours, except on some weekends. Please do not send multiple emails with the same question within the 24-hour response period, but if you do not receive a timely response, do contact me again in case the message was overlooked. Please feel free to stop by office hours without an appointment, or contact me to make an appointment, if office hours do not fit your schedule.

### **Course Adjustments**

The instructor reserves the right to modify the course requirements, schedule, and syllabus. The syllabus and schedule for this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances. No change will occur, however, *unless* proper and prior notice is given to students.

### **Point Scale**

900-1000	A
800-899	B
700-799	C
600-699	D
Below 600	F

### **Written Assignments**

All written assignment submissions should be typed using [Microsoft Word Office 365](#) provided for free by WKU to every student. All formatting must follow [APA 7th edition style guide](#).

### **Class Attendance and Late Work**

Each student is expected to be present, prepared, participatory, and polite. Assignments completed outside of class are due by midnight (11:59pm) on the due date. It is expected that ALL assignments will be submitted on their due dates. Late assignments will be accepted for up to one week (7 consecutive days) after the original due date to receive any credit. Late assignments will be penalized at a rate of 10% the first day and then 15% per day (up to 6 additional days) after that. After one week, no credit will be awarded. Some assignments (such as in-class reading notes and other in-class assignments) will NOT be accepted late for any credit. In addition, extra credit will not be given if students fail to complete the major assignments (tests, papers, and presentations).

## **COURSE POLICIES AND POINTS**

### **Reading and Critical Thinking – 400 points (40% of final grade)**

In choosing to attend WKU, you have committed to learning. This class will help you learn and create a path to success in all classes. Reading and Critical Thinking are two foundational components that will require regular reading assignments outside of class. In addition, participation is expected. Most classes will include activities or assignments where your participation and task accomplishment will earn points. These are interactive experiences and cannot be made up. The message is simple: points are accumulated by completed assignments and participation. Some points will come from out-of-class assignments that are used within the next class meeting, some will come from notes and reading assignments, and some will come from applying reading/learning strategies from in-class reading/experiences.

### **Evidence & Argument – 300 points (30% of final grade)**

You will be responsible for gathering information; extracting and analyzing evidence; and producing college-level writing. Throughout the course of the semester, you will learn to navigate WKU's library systems, determine the reliability of academic sources, and participate in regular writing and class discussions. Each student is responsible for contributing thoughtful and reflective commentary every meeting.

### **Career & Academic Plans – 100 points (10% of final grade)**

Students will research potential careers related to their desired field of study consistent with the person they want to become. WKU's degree tracking system will be examined in depth, as well as the Colonnade coursework and other requirements necessary for graduation. Upon completion of IDST 199, students should have a preliminary roadmap that will lead to graduation at WKU.

### **Academic & Personal Success – 150 points (15% of final grade)**

Students will learn and apply the appropriate behaviors for academic and personal success that will lead to student growth. Topics related to learning, personal growth, classroom discussion, campus resources, and personal success will be addressed.

### **Professionalism – 50 points (5% of final grade)**

Each student is expected to be present, prepared, participatory, and polite. This primarily indicates that you are expected to behave in a way that ensures an appropriate learning environment for all students.

### **Extra Help**

The instructor will be available as need is indicated. Students are encouraged to discuss any questions or problems with the instructor. Tutoring is available at a variety of locations across campus and is a valuable resource. [Tutor information can be found here.](#)

### **Additional Services**

The WKU Center for Literacy is located in Gary Ransdell Hall 2066. At the Center for Literacy, students can receive assistance in developing strategies to help **reading/studying to learn** and **writing for evidence and argument**. The Center for Literacy offers both individual and small group sessions throughout the semester. Find more information at the [WKU Center for Literacy](#)'s website.

## WKU POLICIES AND RESOURCES

### Plagiarism (Important)

To represent ideas or interpretations taken from another source as one's own is plagiarism –a form of cheating. Plagiarism is a serious offense that can result in a failing grade and more. **See WKU's student handbook academic dishonesty policy [here](#).** The academic work of students must be their own. Students must give the author(s) credit for any source material used. To lift content directly from a source without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage after having changed a few words, even if the source is cited, is also plagiarism.

### Statement of Diversity

Western Kentucky University is committed to empowering its campus community to embrace diversity by building equitable and inclusive learning, working, and living environments. At the heart of our mission, we seek to provide holistic education and employment experiences that prepare students, faculty, and staff to become effective scholars, contributors, and leaders in our diverse and evolving communities. To that end, this classroom is an inclusive space where all participants are welcomed and treated with respect, dignity, and acceptance. Immoral, illegal, or unethical behavior and/or communication will not be tolerated. More information on Diversity at WKU can be found [here](#).

### ADA Accommodation Statement

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, Room 1074. The SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at [sarc.connect@wku.edu](mailto:sarc.connect@wku.edu). Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

### Title IX Misconduct/Assault Statement

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's [Sex and Gender-Based Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation](#) (#0.070) and [Discrimination and Harassment Policy](#) (#0.2040). Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121. Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's [Counseling and Testing Center](#) at 270-745-3159.



[Sexual Assault Resources](#)

### Things You Should Know



[Academic Integrity](#)



[Student Code of Conduct](#)



[Student Handbook](#)



[Student Resource Portal](#)



[Blackboard Student](#)

**If Issues Arise**



[Student Complaint Procedures](#)



[Student Grievance Procedures](#)



[Student Ombuds](#)



[Student Legal Services](#)

**Be Prepared: Know Where To Go**



[All Gender Restroom](#)



[Safe Space](#)



[WKU Emergency Preparedness](#)



[Active Shooter Preparedness](#)



[WKU Police](#)



[Counseling and Testing](#)



[Food Security](#)



[Center for Literacy](#)

All information on WKU policies in class syllabi can be found [here](#)