

SPAN495: Testimonio y la política de la verdad

semana 1: 10 de enero

- What is a “research intensive” course?
- What is research?
- ¿Qué es la investigación?
- La verdad (y después)
- Wikipedia
- Fuentes fiables

What is a “research intensive” course?

The course should require the student to join the research conversation of the discipline – it is an opportunity for students to make the shift from their old “reactive” habits to true active engagement with their discipline. When they begin the course we assume they are not only acquainted with the conversations of their discipline through prior study but have also begun to establish their own voice in these conversations and to engage in the discipline as scholars, including engaging with the particular characteristics of scholarly writing in their discipline and moving forward into practice and application through research. The Research-Intensive course should give them an opportunity to contribute back to the field (albeit at an introductory level). Think of the final result of the R course as work that students could present at an undergraduate research symposium (even though most won’t take it this far).

What is a “research intensive” course?

In a Research-Intensive course, students engage with the research practices of their disciplines, working collegially with faculty and producing a potential contribution to knowledge in the field.

What is the difference between a course with a ‘research paper’ and a ‘Research-Intensive’ course? The main product of the R-I course is a paper which one could imagine the student presenting at a conference—most impressively, a grad student conference, or a professional conference, but more likely at an undergrad-research conference. The paper is not just an exploration of a topic, arguing a point, but an engagement with current research positions, and a contribution to the current conversation: people would hear it this way at a conference. Accordingly, the course would pay particular attention (or more attention than a non-R-I course would) to the scholarly audience: how an analysis or a finding would be read or heard by the discipline, what questions would be asked about methodology, for example.)

Less categorically challenging are the material-practice or professional-immersion courses: fieldwork, practicum, performance project, for example. Yet the departments which offer these opportunities may consider whether they might also want to offer a more ‘research’ oriented opportunity for their students.

What is a “research intensive” course?

- “join[ing] the research conversation of the discipline”
- “true active engagement with their discipline”
- “pay[ing] particular attention [. . .] to the scholarly audience”
- “present[ing] at an undergraduate research symposium”
- becoming professional
- preparing for graduate school?

What is research?

1 : careful or diligent search

2 : studious inquiry or examination; *especially* : investigation or experimentation aimed at the discovery and interpretation of facts, revision of accepted theories or laws in the light of new facts, or practical application of such new or revised theories or laws

3 : the collecting of information about a particular subject

What is research?

- scientific enquiry
- literature search
- archival investigation
- looking twice (*research*)

¿Qué es la investigación?

1 : Estudio profundo de alguna materia:
investigación médica.

2 : Indagación, búsqueda:
prosigue la investigación para hallar a los
culpables del asesinato.

¿Qué es la investigación?

- Los dos, “research” e investigación, tienen algo que ver con los hechos: “facts”
- Pero, a primera vista, por razones distintas
- El uno, para formular teorías o leyes fundamentales
- El otro, para identificar los culpables
- ¿Qué está en juego en (nuestras) investigaciones?

La verdad (y después)

- Fake News and Post-Truth:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8QVqwNLJb7s>

- The Post-Truth Society:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MzezEaOT7aw>

La verdad (y después)

- Ahora tenemos más acceso a la información (¿los hechos?) que nunca
- Pero parece que la verdad ya no cuenta como antes

Wikipedia

- <https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Insensatez>
- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Senselessness>
- [https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horacio Castellanos Moya](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horacio_Castellanos_Moya)
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horacio Castellanos Moya](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horacio_Castellanos_Moya)

Wikipedia

- La política de Wikipedia busca “Verificabilidad” en vez de la “Verdad”
- “Its content is determined by previously published information rather than the beliefs or experiences of its editors. Even if you're sure something is true, it must be verifiable before you can add it.”
- Así: la importancia de “fuentes fiables”

Fuentes fiables

- Pero ¿qué or quién es una “fuente fiable”?
- Wikipedia: “materiales creíbles en cuanto a que están publicados bajo un proceso que ofrece seguridad respecto de su veracidad; sus autores están generalmente considerados como dignos de confianza o de autoridad.”
- ¿Quién decide sobre la verdad?
- ¿Las instituciones oficiales?
- ¿O la personas afectadas?

Fuentes fiables

- En América Latina, el testimonio busca otra fuente de la verdad
- Busca la experiencia del “subalterno”
- Lo que vamos a ver es el desarrollo de esta tradición, y su cuestionamiento