Instructor: Catherine Snelson  
Office Hours: W 9:30 - 10:30 am; R 3:00 – 4:00 pm; or by appointment  
Office: LFG 204  
Office Phone: 895-2916  
Email: csnelson@unlv.nevada.edu  
Text: None  
Additional Reference Material: Help Document in Illustrator  
WebCT: https://webctce.unlv.edu/webct/public/home.pl  

Purpose of this Course  
This course is designed to introduce graduate students to the processes of scientific research and the design of research posters in modern geoscience. The course will focus on the fundamentals of poster presentation including advanced graphics, layout, and design. In addition, this course will provide you with the material and opportunity to learn better time management.

Course Objectives – to acquire an understanding of the following:  
1. UNLV and Geoscience graduate student guidelines  
2. Conducting literature searches  
3. Time management  
4. Basic and advanced Adobe Illustrator skills  
5. Writing proposals to obtain research funding  
6. Content, design, production and presentation of scientific posters  
7. Communicating your research conclusions  
8. Oral presentation skills  

Grading:  
Schedules: 7%  
Exercises: 20%  
Poster Presentation #1: 15%  
Proposal Poster Presentation: 45%  
Class participation: 3%  

This syllabus is subject to change.

Succeeding!  
To do well in this class you should study and work with the material daily. If you get confused or have questions that have not been resolved in lecture, then do not hesitate to contact me. If you cannot make any of the office hours, call or email for an appointment.
Logistics and Policies

1. Participation:
   You are expected to be an active participant in the course and much class activity will involve group discussions.

2. Attendance
   Missing or late exercises are not permitted. In cases of emergency, notify me at least one hour prior to the scheduled due date. In addition, it is suggested that you attend the weekly Departmental Seminar series, which is held every Wednesday from 4:00 to 5:00 pm. This is in effort to learn new information outside your discipline as well as critique presentation styles and content.

3. Cheating, Plagiarism, and Academic Dishonesty
   You are required to be familiar with university policies and procedures in the current UNLV Undergraduate Catalog. Importantly, we follow the policies on Cheating, Plagiarism, and Academic Dishonesty that are stated in the most recent UNLV Undergraduate Catalog. In the hopes of deterring incidents of cheating and/or plagiarism this class employs a "zero tolerance" policy meaning that if a student commits cheating or plagiarism they receive a grade of F for the class.

4. Copyright Issues
   The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. YOU ARE INDIVIDUALLY AND SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR VIOLATIONS OF COPYRIGHT AND FAIR USE LAWS. THE UNIVERSITY WILL NEITHER PROTECT YOU NOR DEFEND YOU NOR ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYEE OR STUDENT VIOLATIONS AND FAIR USE LAWS. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability as well as disciplinary action under University policies. To familiarize yourself with copyright and fair use policies, the University encourages you to visit its copyright web page at: http://www.unlv.edu/committees/copyright.

5. Disability Services (DS)
   The UNLV Disability Resource Center (DRC) houses the resources for students with disabilities. If you have a documented disability that may require accommodations, you will need to contact the DRC for the coordination of services. The DRC is located in the Student Services Complex (SSC), Room 137. Their numbers are: (702) 895-0866/Voice; (702) 895-0652/TDD; and (702) 895-0651/Fax. For additional information please visit http://www.unlv.edu/studentlife/drc.

6. Writing Center
   Students are welcome to use the UNLV Writing Center free of charge. Consultants can assist students at all stages of the writing process. Students may make appointments by calling the center (895-3908) or in person at FDH-240. The center can be particularly helpful when you are writing or rewriting your lab field reports.

7. Religious Holidays
   As a general rule, a student missing a class or laboratory assignment because of observance of a religious holiday shall have the opportunity to make up missed work. You must notify me by the last day of late registration to be assured of this opportunity. If this pertains to you, a clear deadline will be set for completion of work.

8. Nondiscrimination - The University of Nevada Las Vegas does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national or ethnic origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, disability, or veteran status.

9. Official Extracurricular Activity
   All students who represent UNLV at an official extracurricular activity shall have the opportunity to make up assignments, but you must provide official written notification to me no less than one week prior to the missed class(es).

10. Learning Environment
    The classroom is intended to be a place of learning. As such and as specified in the UNLV Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs, no pagers, cell phones, or other potentially disruptive devices are allowed in lecture.