**Marshall University Syllabus**

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| **Course Title/Number** | IST 120 Connection I CRN 3700 Section 203 |
| **Semester/Year** | Spring 2015 |
| **Days/Time** | 11 am - 1215 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays |
| **Location** | Morrow Commons |
| **Instructor** | Samuel T. Colvin |
| **Office** | Morrow 111 |
| **Phone** | 304 696 5432 |
| **E-Mail** | [colvin8@marshall.edu](mailto:colvin8@marshall.edu) |
| **Office Hours** | 930 – 11 am Tuesdays & Thursdays.  By prior appointment only, 315 – 5 pm Tuesdays & Thursdays |
| **University Policies** | By enrolling in this course, you agree to the University Policies listed below. Please read the full text of each policy by going to[www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs](http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs) and clicking on "Marshall University Policies." Or, you can access the policies directly by going to[www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/policies/](http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/policies/). Academic Dishonesty/Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduates/Computing Services Acceptable Use/Inclement Weather/Dead Week/Students with Disabilities/Academic Forgiveness/Academic Probation and Suspension/Academic Rights and Responsibilities of Students/Affirmative Action/Sexual Harassment |

**Course Description: From Catalog**

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| Critical thinking course that makes connections among science, technology, and society. Students learn to do research, summarize popular and scientific articles, and design an experimental or observational study. |

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| **Department and course student learning outcomes** | **How students will practice each outcome in this course** | **How student achievement of each outcome will be assessed in this course** |
| 1. Students will demonstrate proficiency in the utilization of contemporary technologies or tools to solve real-world problems. | ​texts, instructor modeling, activities | ​  assignments, exams research, papers, presentations |
| 2. In the development of a research project, students will scientifically analyze data, evaluate and incorporate relevant research, and describe potential implications. | ​texts, instructor modeling, activities | ​  assignments, exams research, papers, presentations |
| 3. Students will effectively communicate in relating findings and recommendations resulting from projects. | ​texts, instructor modeling, activities | ​assignments, exams research, papers, presentations |
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| **Required texts** The New Digital Age, Schmidt and Cohen, 2013, Knopf Doubleday, 9780307957139  My Life as an Experiment, Jacobs, 2009, Simon & Schuster, 9781439104996 |

**Course Requirements/Due Dates**

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| Attendance 100 points (minus 3 points for each unexcused absence)  Assignments 200 points throughout the semester  Exam One 100 points on 2/24  Prediction Research Paper 200 points due to MU Online by 11:59 p.m. 2/26 |

Experiment/Observational Study 200 points due 4/16

Presentation 100 points in class on 4/21 or 4/23, copy of presentation to MU Online by 11:59 p.m. 4/23

Cutoff for all work up to this point to be submitted to MU Online by 11;59 p.m. 4/30

Exam Two 100 points from 1015 a.m. - 1215 p.m. on 5/7/15.

The course officially ends at 1215 p.m. on 5/7/15.

**Grading Policy**

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| A total of 1000 points is possible.  Rubric for Grading – Department and Course Learning Outcomes 1A - Demonstrate technological fluency. 1B - Develop two reliable strategies. 2A - Evaluate evidence. 2B - Analyze research literature. 2C - Identify limitations/implications. 3A - Submit well-structured product. 3B - Use proper language/mechanics/delivery. 3C - Use respected supporting material.  Percentages and Points  Grades: A 90-100% 900 to 1000 points B 80-89% 800 to 899 points C 70-79% 700 to 799 points D 60-69% 600 to 699 points F < 60% 0 to 599 points |

**Attendance Policy**

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**Course Schedule**  
  
Important Dates Spring 2015  
  
1/12 Classes begin  
1/16 Schedule adjustments end  
1/19 Holiday - Martin Luther King, Jr.  
3/9 Fr/Soph mid term grades  
3/16 - 21 Spring Break  
3/27 Last day to drop individual course  
4/27 - 5/1 Dead Week  
5/2 - 8 Exams  
5/9 Commencement

Week 1 - 1/13 syllabus, get acquainted 1/15 explanation of assignments, Critical Thinking   
Week 2 - 1/20 The Future 1/23 New Digital Age text introduction  
Week 3 - 1/27 Chapter 1 1/29 Chapter 2  
Week 4 - 2/3 Chapter 3 2/5 Chapter 4  
Week 5 - 2/10 Chapter 5 2/12 Chapter 6  
Week 6 - 2/17 Chapter 7 2/19 New Digital Age text Conclusion   
Week 7 - 2/24 Exam One 2/26 Prediction Research Paper due  
Week 8 - 3/3 Experiment/Scientific Method 3/5 Experiment text Chapter 1  
Week 9 - 3/10 Chapter 2 3/12 Chapter 3   
Week 10 - 3/24 Chapter 4 3/26 Chapter 5  
Week 11 - 3/31 Chapter 6 4/2 Chapter 7   
Week 12 - 4/7 Chapter 8 4/9 Chapter 10  
Week 13 - 4/14 Experiment conclusion 4/16 Experiment/Study due   
Week 14 - 4/21 Student presentations 4/23 Student presentations continued   
Week 15 - 4/28 Class conclusion 4/30 Class conclusion continued

Exam Two - 1015 a.m. to 1215 p.m. on 5/7/15  
  
**Other Policies**  
Plagiarism or cheating will result in no credit for that activity and may result in further University sanctions.

Work not in the prescribed format will be penalized, or at the discretion of the instructor not accepted for grading. MU Online will be the only acceptable vehicle for submission of work unless the instructor announces a different vehicle. Submission to MU Online is required so that submissions become part of the permanent record of the class. Late submissions to MU Online will be accepted with penalty until the cutoff. After the cutoff, MU Online will not allow submissions. Please do not e-mail submissions to me.

Submissions will not be returned. Please keep copies of all work submitted.

No work received after the class ends will be graded.

Grades will be reported in MU Online allowing students to determine their grade status anytime, especially prior to course withdrawal deadlines and prior to the final. Assignments will be marked, graded and comments returned through MU Online within two weeks after the due date. It is the student's responsibility to check grades and comments (if any) to assure the proper receipt of and credit for assignments and labs. Final grades are based on the number of points earned out of 1,000. Only point calculations prepared by the instructor are official.

There is no extra credit or re-testing. Scaling may be used at the discretion of the instructor in grading the submissions. At the end of the course, the instructor may, in his discretion, consider awarding extra points to a student less than five points (actual, not percentage) away from the next grade level provided that student has completed all assignments in a timely fashion.

Questions from students about the class may be sent by e-mail to [colvin8@marshall.edu](mailto:colvin8@marshall.edu).

Due dates and assignments are subject to change. Due dates will only be moved back, not forward.

Below is the current University policy related to incompletes for courses. It will be strictly followed.

"Incomplete: The grade of I (incomplete) indicates that the student has completed three-quarters of the course, but cannot complete the course for a reason that accords with the university excused-absence policy. Students must be in good standing in the class prior to requesting an incomplete. The course instructor decides whether or not an incomplete will be granted and specifies in writing what work the student must complete to fulfill the course requirements. The student has until the end of the next fall or spring semester from the date of receipt of the incomplete grade in which to complete the course, or the instructor may establish an earlier deadline. If special circumstances exist, which prevent the student from completing the course in the prescribed time, the incomplete may be extended with approval of the instructor, the instructor's chair or division head, and the instructor's dean. If the student satisfactorily completes the course in the prescribed time he/she will receive a letter grade. If the student fails to complete the course requirements during the stipulated time, the grade of I changes to a grade of F."

- The Greenbook, Marshall University

[colvin8@marshall.edu](mailto:colvin8@marshall.edu) is the only e-mail address to which I respond. Please do not send e-mails to any other address or through forums.

Because of the phone system, I can only return local phone calls and often cannot return some cell phone calls. I normally check and return phone calls and e-mails only when on campus, but I do respond if at all possible.

I strive to respond to phone calls and e-mails within 24 hours of receipt and will respond if at all possible.