

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

# SOCI532

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## Course Summary

**Course :** SOCI532 **Title :** Applying Design Thinking to Discipline-specific challenges  
**Length of Course :** 8 **Faculty :**  
**Prerequisites :** SOCI531 **Credit Hours :** 3

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## Description

### Course Description:

This course focuses on an applied project related to the student's major field of study or career path. Integrating knowledge and skills from the other courses in the design thinking graduate certificate will be critical in this course. Students will identify a multi-faceted problem or challenge that they want to address from a design thinking perspective, collect and evaluate stakeholder insights and data, and then design and assess multiple solutions. (Prerequisite: SOCI531)

### Course Scope:

This course focuses on an applied project related to the student's major field of study or career path. Integrating knowledge and skills from the other courses in the design thinking graduate certificate will be critical in this course.

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## Objectives

1. Propose a solution to a real-world challenge using design thinking.
  2. Develop resources and materials to support application of the design thinking process.
  3. Adapt the design thinking process to various subject matter and/or areas of life.
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## Outline

### Week 1: Unit 1

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#### Course Objectives

1, 2, 3

#### Required Readings

Unit 1 Learning Materials

Unit 1 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Unit 1 Introductions & Design Thinking Discussion

Assignment 1: Professor Meeting (Due end of Week 2)

Assignment 2: Reading List (Due end of Week 2)

## **Week 2: Unit 1**

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Course Objectives

1, 2, 3

Required Readings

Unit 1 Learning Materials

Unit 1 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Unit 1 Introductions & Design Thinking Discussion

Assignment 1: Professor Meeting (Due end of Week 2)

Assignment 2: Reading List (Due end of Week 2)

## **Week 3: Unit 2**

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Course Objectives

1, 2, 3

Required Readings

Unit 2 Learning Materials

Unit 2 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Unit 2 Capstone Project Topics Discussion

Assignment 3: Proposed Project (Due end of Week 4)

## **Week 4: Unit 2**

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Course Objectives

1, 2, 3

Required Readings

Unit 2 Learning Materials

Unit 2 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Unit 2 Capstone Project Topics Discussion

Assignment 3: Proposed Project (Due end of Week 4)

### **Week 5: Unit 3**

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Learning Outcomes

1, 3

Required Readings

Unit 3 Learning Materials

Unit 3 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Unit 3 Finding Design Thinking in Media Discussion

Assignment 4: Project Paper (Due end of Week 6)

### **Week 6: Unit 3**

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Learning Outcomes

1, 3

Required Readings

Unit 3 Learning Materials

Unit 3 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Unit 3 Finding Design Thinking in Media Discussion

Assignment 4: Project Paper (Due end of Week 6)

### **Week 7: Unit 4**

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Learning Outcomes

1, 2, 3

Required Readings

Unit 4 Learning Materials

Unit 4 Readings & Resources

## Assignments

Unit 4 Design Thinking in Your Career Discussion

Assignment 5: Cover Letter (Due end of Week 8)

Assignment 6: Pitch Yourself (Due end of Week 8)

### Week 8: Unit 4

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#### Learning Outcomes

1, 2, 3

#### Required Readings

Unit 4 Learning Materials

Unit 4 Readings & Resources

#### Assignments

Unit 4 Design Thinking in Your Career Discussion

Assignment 5: Cover Letter (Due end of Week 8)

Assignment 6: Pitch Yourself (Due end of Week 8)

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## Evaluation

### Discussions:

Participation in classroom dialogue on threaded Discussions is required some weeks of class. Initial Discussion posts are due Thursdays, peer responses are due Sundays. Instructions and specific grading rubrics are found under the Discussions tab in our classroom.

### Assignments:

This course includes Assignments. Instructions and specific grading rubrics are found under the Assignments tab in our classroom.

### Extra credit:

Extra credit is not offered in this course.

### Grading:

Name	Grade %
Discussions	30.00%
Unit One Discussion	7.50%
Unit Two Discussion	7.50%
Unit Three Discussion	7.50%
Unit Four Discussion	7.50%
Getting Started	21.00%
Assignment 1: Professor Meeting	10.50%
Assignment 2: Reading List	10.50%
Project Proposal	14.00%

Assignment 3: Proposed Project	14.00%
Project Paper	21.00%
Assignment 4: Project Paper	21.00%
Cover Letter	7.00%
Assignment 5: Cover Letter	7.00%
Pitch Yourself	7.00%
Assignment 6: Pitch Yourself	7.00%

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## Materials

**Book Title:** Various resources from the APUS Library & the Open Web are used. Please visit <http://apus.libguides.com/er.php> to locate the course eReserve.

**Author:** No Author Specified

**Publication Info:**

**ISBN:** N/A

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Book Title: Various resources from the APUS Library & the Open Web are used. Please visit <http://apus.libguides.com/er.php> to locate the course eReserve.

Author:

Publication Info:

ISBN: ERESERVE NOTE

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## Course Guidelines

### Citation and Reference Style

- Students will follow APA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written assignments submitted.
- Please note that no formal citation style is graded on Forums in the School of Arts & Humanities

### Tutoring

- [Tutor.com](https://www.tutor.com) offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

### Late Assignments

### University Late Policy

All dates and times posted are for U.S. Eastern Standard time. It is your responsibility to know how that translates to your time zone and to submit assignments and tests per these posted deadlines.

You are expected to submit assignments by the due dates listed in the classroom. Late assignments

may not be accepted after the course end date. Submitting an assignment late may result in a penalty of up to 10% of the grade per day late, not to exceed a maximum of 50% (5 days late). The amount of the penalty is at the faculty member's discretion.\*

\*Programs with specialty accreditation and students with DSA accommodations may have different late policies applied.

### **Turn It In**

Assignments are automatically submitted to Turnitin.com within the course. Turnitin.com will analyze an assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

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## **Communications**

### **Student Communication**

To reach the instructor, please communicate through the MyClassroom email function accessible from the Classlist of the Course Tools menu, where the instructor and students email addresses are listed, or via the Office 365 tool on the Course homepage.

- In emails to instructors, it's important to note the specific course in which you are enrolled. The name of the course is at the top center of all pages.
- Students and instructors communicate in Discussion posts and other learning activities.
- All interactions should follow APUS guidelines, as noted in the [Student Handbook](#), and maintain a professional, courteous tone.
- Students should review writing for spelling and grammar.
- [Tips on Using the Office 365 Email Tool](#)

### **Instructor Communication**

The instructor will post announcements on communications preferences involving email and Instant Messaging and any changes in the class schedule or activities.

- Instructors will periodically post information on the expectations of students and will provide feedback on assignments, Discussion posts, quizzes, and exams.
  - Instructors will generally respond to student communications within 48 hours, except in unusual circumstances (e.g., illness).
  - The APUS standard for grading of all assessments (assignments, Discussions, quizzes, exams) is five days or fewer from the due date.
  - Final course grades are submitted by faculty no later than seven days after the end date of the course or the end of the extension period.
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## **University Policies**

Consult the [Student Handbook](#) for processes and policies at APUS. Notable policies:

- [Drop/Withdrawal Policy](#)
- [Extension Requests](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Academic Dishonesty / Plagiarism](#)

- [Disability Accommodations](#)
- [Student Deadlines](#)
- [Video Conference Policy](#)

## **Mission**

The [mission of American Public University System](#) is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.

## **Minimum Technology Requirements**

- Please consult the catalog for the minimum hardware and software required for [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) courses.
- Although students are encouraged to use the [Pulse mobile app](#) with any course, please note that not all course work can be completed via a mobile device.

## **Disclaimers**

- Please note that course content – and, thus, the syllabus – may change between when a student registers for a course and when the course starts.
- Course content may vary from the syllabus' schedule to meet the needs of a particular group.