

USC McNair Scholars Program Activities
Office of Undergraduate Programs
Spring 2014 Service Plan
Out-of-Class & In-Class Activities

For questions and latest updates related to this service plan, please contact: Dr. Richard Andalon or Dr. Aaron H. Walker

Out-of-Class Activities

Activity	Date	Notes
McNair 2014 Cohort Welcome & Orientation: Programs Overview, Expectations, Distribution of USC McNair Scholar Gear (carrying bags, professional portfolios, polo shirts, etc.)	January 28	5:00pm-6:40pm VKC 150
All McNair Cohort Mixer: Scholarly, Professional, and Extracurricular Activities	February 4	6:00pm-8:00pm GFS 330 Linguistics Room
Graduate School 101: Graduate Student Panel Discussion for McNair Scholars	March 4	6:00pm-8:00pm GFS 330 Linguistics Room
McNair Graduating Senior Banquet and New Scholar Cohort & Faculty Mentor Recognition	April 10	2:00pm-5:00pm USC University Club
Southern California Graduate Diversity Forum: U.S. Graduate Programs Showcase and Recruitment Fair	April 26	7:00am-6:00pm Cal Poly Pomona, Pomona
All McNair Scholar Advising Services: for the undergraduate academic program, graduate school, research experiences	January - May	During Office Hours & By Appointment, USC McNair Office, GFS 315
All McNair Scholar Meetings: supplemental funding and scholarship opportunities. Topical discussions relating to continuing existing or starting new research projects, traveling and presenting work at research conferences, visiting potential graduate programs, etc.	January - May	During Office Hours & By Appointment, USC McNair Office, GFS 315
McNair Summer Research Institute, Graduate School Preparation, Professional Development, Residential Life Enrichment Program	May-August	USC, University Park Campus
USC McNair-sponsored Summer Housing move out	Early August	USC, University Park Campus
UC Berkeley & Other National Research Conferences/Symposiums	Early August	Oakland, San Francisco, Claremont
USC Citations Journal (publishing abstracts and papers in Undergraduate Research Journal)	August-November	USC McNair Office, GFS 315

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In-Class Activities

Session	Topic(s)	Date	Readings & Assignments
1	Review of the Course	January 14	Overview of the course, student expectations, & introductions
2	Overview of the Research Process	January 21	Reading: Chapter 1: Investigating the Social World (Schutt) Chapter 1: Practical Research (Leedy, Ellis, Ormrod) Assignment: -Discussion Questions 3 & 4 p. 24 Schutt-1 pg. each
3	Research Topics, Questions, & Proposal Sections	January 28	Reading: Chapter 3-4: Craft of Research (Booth, Colomb, & Williams) Chapter 6: Practical Research (Leedy, Ellis, Ormrod) Assignment: -Research Topic, Question, and significance—3-4 pages
4	Literature Review, Conceptual Framework, & Research Design	February 4	Reading: Chapter 2: Research Design (Creswell) Chapter 2: Probability & Related Concepts (Wilcox) Assignment: Ex. 1-9 p. 50 (Wilcox) Faculty Advisor/Mentor List (2 – 3 potential faculty)
5	Library Research & Resources	February 11	Reading: Library Research & References Guide (USC Libraries) Assignment: 3-5 Articles + 1 pg summaries for Lit. Rev.
6	Research Ethics & Protocols Involving Human & Animal Subjects; Introduction to the Institutional Review Board (IRB)	February 18	Reading: Chapter 3: Investigating the Social World (Schutt) Assignment: 3-5 Articles + 1 pg summaries for Lit. Rev. IRB Certification Course & Application Process
7	Research Methods Part I: Interviews, Focus Groups, Observation & Ethnography, Document & Text Analysis	February 25	Reading: Chapter 3: Summarizing Data pp. 55-72 (Wilcox) Chapter 9: Investigating the Social World (Schutt) Assignment: Activity 1 p. 354 (Schutt)—2-3 pgs. + notes Faculty Advisor/Mentor Update
8	Research Methods Part II: Survey Development, Implementation, & Data Management; Introduction to Qualtrics Survey Software	March 4	Reading: Chapter 4: Surveys (Fowler) Chapter 4: Sampling Distributions and Confidence Intervals (Wilcox) pp. 93-118 Qualtrics Handout (Corsbie-Massay) Assignment: Literature Review Rough Draft (3 – 5 pages)
9	Research Methods Part III: Quantitative Analysis & Statistical Procedures; Introduction to Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS)	March 11	Reading: Chapter 5: Hypothesis Testing (Wilcox) Basic Statistics & SPSS Overview (Corsbie-Massay) Assignment: Ex. 1 –5 p. 170 *Extra Credit #10 p. 170 Set up Qualtrics Account & Sample Survey
10	Research Methods Part IV: Qualitative Analysis, Data Collection Procedures, & Mixed Method Approaches	March 25	Reading: Chapter 10: Research Design (Creswell) Chapter 8-9: Analytic Techniques (Patton) Assignment: (Midterm) Literature Review Due (7 pages)
11	Writing the Research Proposal	April 1	Reading: Writing Article/Guideline (Darley, Zanna, Roediger) Assignment: Research Methodology Section (3 – 5 pages)
12	Working with Faculty Advisors & Cultivating a Mentor-Mentee Relationship	April 8	Reading: Mentors, Faculty, & Advisors (University of Michigan) Assignment: Faculty Advisor/Mentor – Scholar Agreement
13	Presenting the Research Proposal Orally & Using PowerPoint	April 15	Reading: As assigned Assignment: Draft of Research Proposal: Introduction, Question(s), Problem Statement, Significance of Study, Literature Review, Methodology, References, & Timeline (8 – 16 pages)
14	Research Proposal Presentations (Group A)	April 22	Reading: As assigned Assignment: PowerPoint Presentation (3 – 6 slides)
15	Research Proposal Presentations (Group B)	April 29	Reading: As assigned Assignment: PowerPoint Presentation (3 – 6 slides)
Final	Final Project Due	May 14	Assignment: Final Research Proposal: Introduction/Literature Review, Research Question(s)/Problem Statement, Hypotheses, Methodology, Significance of Study, References, & Timeline (12 – 16 pages)