

On the Road to Discovery: Adventures in Research

UHON 222-008 | T | 2:00-4:30 | SHC 22 | 43624

Fulfills A&S Group I: Writing and Speaking

Dr. Ursula Shepherd

Perhaps for you the word research brings images of microscopes, bubbling flasks, or intrepid field biologists. We encourage you to broaden your understand of research. Think of it as any activity that leads to the formation of new knowledge: while this may involve working in laboratories, it might also involve;

- museums, archeological sites, oral history archives, and libraries,
- traveling to understand the influence of place on an authors' work,
- conducting surveys or interviews,
- creating art work or new designs, or
- exploring the influence of social trends on our built environment (or anything).

So research is the generation of new knowledge. It is something that is done in every scholarly discipline.

This class will bring UNM researchers from a broad array of fields (natural and physical sciences, behavior and social sciences, and even humanities) to talk about their work. Some will be world-renowned, some will be undergrads working in labs or field work on campus. We will learn what these people do and why they love it. We will also investigate opportunities for undergraduate research. In addition, students will also choose a topic and conduct a literature review that culminates in a review paper in any chosen field. While any student may take this class, it is specifically intended to introduce students who are in the first two years to the research possibilities on campus. You may take this class as an entering freshman, so long as you are also taking your Honors' Legacy requirement.

Readings

Students will read for their own topics and will read some work of several of our presenters.

Requirements

As always, students are expected to attend all classes, to prepare and complete all assigned readings and to participate in the class discussions and regular assignments. The students, along with Dr. Shepherd will establish the most appropriate assignments for this class. These assignments will lead to the achievement of the learning outcomes outlined above.

About the Instructor

Ursula Shepherd, Ph.D. received her degree in Biogeography and Community Ecology at UNM. She also holds an MA in Social Sciences from the University of the Pacific. She is the author of several articles and a book, *Nature Notes*, and she has always loved exploring the natural world--on land and water.

200-Levels