

**Course: EL 579.01 Graduate Seminar
Fall 2026**

Instructor: Jameson Kismet Bell

Meeting Time/Location: 14:00-15:00, TB 490

This course introduces students to advanced research methods and practical tools for developing a topic, finding, evaluating and organizing sources, and presenting an argument supported by results. Students are expected to attend each session having completed the readings and assignments. By the end of the semester students will complete their own specific project(s).

Materials: Booth, W., Colomb, G. G., & Williams, J. M. et. al. (2016/2024). *The Craft of Research*. University of Chicago Press (4th or 5th edition).

Semester Schedule

September 21: Introduction to Advanced Research

Reading: Review updated (2026) MA and PhD program requirements here,
<https://westlanglit.bogazici.edu.tr/en/ma-curriculum>

October 5: Personas & Topics

Reading: Booth, W., Colomb, G. G., & Williams, J. M. (2008). *The Craft of Research*. University of Chicago Press, pp. 1-64.

Assignment: share one or more potential topics with the class on Sunday evening before our meeting (October 4).

November 2: Finding, Evaluating, Organizing, and Citing Sources

Reading: Booth, W., Colomb, G. G., & Williams, J. M. (2008). *The Craft of Research*. University of Chicago Press, pp. 65-104.

Assignment: Students should activate a [Zotero Account](#) and begin organizing a bibliography of appropriate sources for their final projects (10+ sources). Example sources can come from the library, search engines, databases, websites, or archives.

November 30: Making and Argument and Presenting Results

Reading: Booth, W., Colomb, G. G., & Williams, J. M. (2008). "Sections I & II" *The Craft of Research*. University of Chicago Press, pp. 105-ff.

Assignment: Students should bring an abstract and outline of their final project that imagines a specific reader, develops a voice through a genre, and offers a well-reasoned argument. Genres can be Final Reports, Seminar Papers, Grant Proposals, Conference Papers, Articles, Chapters, or Theses.