

**Greensheet  
Kinesiology 250  
Fall 2009  
Research Methods  
Mondays; 1900-2145**

**Course Description**

Survey of research methods used in the study of kinesiology; interpretation of recent research

Prerequisite: KIN 175 or equivalent  
3 units of credit

Professors	Dr. Matthew Masucci	Dr. Emily Wughalter
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Office hours	TBA	Mondays, 4:00-5:00; Tuesdays, 1:15-2:15; Thursdays, 1:15-2:15; hours arranged

**Course Objectives**

By meeting the objectives of this course each student will:

- develop an understanding of qualitative and quantitative research and its relevance to the field of kinesiology.
- develop an understanding of pertinent research terminology.
- become acquainted with various methods of qualitative and quantitative research in the field of kinesiology.
- identify a research problem in the area of kinesiology that is worthy of research and is researchable.
- compose a research proposal (3 chapters) based on a problem identified in #4.
- become acquainted with accepted style (APA format) and format of writing in the field of kinesiology.
- develop an appreciation and a critical awareness of research conducted in the field of kinesiology.
- become familiar with several statistical procedures commonly applied to kinesiology research.
- become familiar with the pertinent ethical considerations in research.
- develop an increased ability to employ the library for research purposes.

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### Course Evaluation Methods

Assignment	Points Assigned	Points Earned	Due Date
IRB Tutorial	0		October 5, 2009
Midterm Exam	20		October 12, 2009
Preproposal Paper	10		October 12, 2009
Formal Written Proposal	30		November 30, 2009
Oral Presentation of Formal Proposal	10		December 7, 2009
Participation	5		-----
Final Exam	25		Monday, December 14, 2009 @ 1945-2200.

Grade Calculator	
Points Earned	Grade Assigned
98-100	A+
95-97.99	A
90-94.99	A-
88-89.99	B+
85-87.99	B
80-84.99	B-
78-79.99	C+
75-77.99	C
70-74.99	C-
68-69.99	D+
65-67.99	D
60-64.99	D-
↓ 59.99	F

**Examinations** will be short answer and essay items compiled from class discussion, textbook and associated readings. Make up tests and late assignments will only be administered and acceptable when serious and compelling reasons exist. Please note the final exam is scheduled for Monday, December 14, 2009, @ 1945-2200.

As part of this course you will learn a format for the development of a **formal research proposal**. A synthesis of your thesis topic will be submitted on October 12, 2009 as a **preproposal paper**. For this assignment a 2-page abstract of your proposal will be submitted. Two print copies are required, one for each faculty member. Prior to the administration of the midterm, we will have an in class round table discussion of the preproposals. The formal written proposal assignment is due on November 30, 2009. All formal written proposals should follow the format of the handout of the University entitled "SJSU Thesis Guidelines" and found at [http://www.sjsu.edu/gradstudies/docs/thesis\\_guidelines.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/gradstudies/docs/thesis_guidelines.pdf), and "Guidelines for Writing Proposals", found at <http://www.kin.sjsu.edu/faculty/ewughalter/>. Late papers will only be accepted when serious and compelling reasons exist.

**Oral presentations of the Formal Proposal** will be conducted on the last day of class in group format. Each student will make a presentation that lasts for a maximum of 10 minutes during which time you will be responsible for reporting your problem statement, a quick review of the literature, and the methods planned to test your hypotheses or to conduct your research. Further details regarding the grading of the proposals will be provided in class.

All requirements must be met. Failure to meet any of the requirements for the class will result in an F grade in class. Reading assignments should be completed on the date assigned.

### Required Texts

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Thomas, J.R., & Nelson, J.K., & Silverman, S.J. (2005). *Research methods in physical activity* (5th ed.). Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics.

American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Qualitative Research Reader (Available at Maple Press, San Carlos and 10<sup>th</sup>)

### **Course Policies**

- Papers will not be accepted late, unless serious and compelling reasons exist.
- Incompletes will only be assigned for serious and compelling reasons.
- Extra credit will not be assigned.
- Make-up tests will only be administered when serious and compelling reasons exist.
- You will be expected to turn off your cell phones or put them on vibrate mode while in class.
- In the classroom faculty allow students to use computers only for class-related activities. Students who use their computers for other activities or who abuse the equipment in any way, at a minimum, will be asked to leave the class and will lose participation points for the day, and, at a maximum, will be referred to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the University for disrupting the course.

### **University Policies**

#### **1. Academic integrity statement (from Office of Judicial Affairs)**

“Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San José State University and the University’s Academic Integrity Policy requires you to be honest in all your academic course work.

Faculty are required to report all infractions to the Office of Judicial Affairs.

The policy on academic integrity can be found at <http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/S04-12.pdf>

#### **2. Campus policy in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act**

“If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities register with DRC to establish a record of their disability.”

#### **3. Academic Honesty**

Faculty will make every reasonable effort to foster honest academic conduct in their courses. They will secure examinations and their answers so that students cannot have prior access to them and proctor examinations to prevent students from copying or exchanging information. They will be on the alert for plagiarism. Faculty will provide additional information, ideally on the green sheet, about other unacceptable procedures in class work and examinations. Students who are caught cheating will be reported to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the University, as prescribed by [Academic Senate Policy S04-12.](#)

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Date	Professor	Topic	Readings/Assignments
8/24/2009	Masucci/ Wughalter	Introduction to course; graduate program policies; project and thesis procedures at SJSU  An historical trace of research and scholarship in the field of Kinesiology; mining for quality and depth and breadth of content in the SJSU library	Discuss article for next class  Chapters 1, 2, & 12 APA Chapters 1, 2, 3 Find the full text and read: "In search of new frontiers: how scholars generate ideas", by Robert L. Hampel, published in the <i>Chronicle of Higher Education</i> December 19, 2008.
8/31/2009	Masucci	Overview of qualitative proposal structures; paradigms of knowledge in KIN; interview procedures	Chapter 19; Reader 1-4, 21
9/14/2009	Wughalter	Experimental methods in Kinesiology  Understanding the development of the thesis component, Chapter 1: Identification of the Problem	Chapters 3, 4
9/21/2009	Masucci	Qualitative interviewing methods	Reader 4 & 5
9/28/2009	Masucci	Sport and exercise ethnography	Reader 9, 10, & 11
10/05/2009	Wughalter	Meta-analysis, critical analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of research; ethical conduct of research  Understanding the development of the thesis component, Chapter 2: Review of Literature	Chapter 14, 5  IRB Tutorial due
10/12/2009	Masucci	In class round table discussion of preproposals; Midterm Exam	Submit 2 copies of preproposal one for <i>each</i> faculty member
10/19/2009		<b><i>No class University Furlough Day</i></b>	
10/26/2009	Masucci	Discussion of preproposal papers; existential phenomenology	Reader 13 & 14
11/02/2009	Wughalter	Sampling methods; descriptive designs; introduction to experimental designs  Understanding the development of the thesis component, Chapter 3: Methods	Chapters 6, 7, 8, 15, 16
11/09/2009	Masucci	Media/content analysis; data analysis	Reader 6, 7, 8, & 22
11/23/2009	Wughalter	Experimental design; writing the research report; linking statistical test to design  Putting together the formal written research proposal	Chapters 9, 10, 11, 17, 18 20, 21
11/30/2009	Masucci	Historical work; Establishing academic rigor	Chapter 12; Reader 15 & 16; <b>Submission of formal proposal</b>
12/07/2009	Masucci/ Wughalter	Final proposal presentations	
Final Exam: Monday, 12/14/2009, @ 1945-2200	Masucci		