

RESEARCH METHODS
RECL 160: Spring 2008
Tuesday/Thursday 12:00-1:15 pm
SPX 211

Instructor: Ranjan Bandyopadhyay, Ph.D.
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Text

- Mick Finn, Martin Elliott-White and Mike Walton (2000). *Tourism & Leisure Research Methods: Data Collection, analysis and interpretation*. England: Pearson Education Limited.

Catalogue Description

Methods applicable to recreation problem-solving, leading to the completion of an individual research project. Exposure to computer-assisted applications regarding retention, retrieval and analysis of research-generated data.

Course Objectives

- To develop an understanding of research issues within tourism, hospitality, recreation, and leisure studies
- To demonstrate knowledge of the characteristics of scientific inquiry
- To demonstrate knowledge and skills in defining research problems and generating research questions and hypotheses
- To demonstrate knowledge and skill in conducting reviews of relevant literature
- This course is based on a multi-disciplinary perspective, drawing on disciplines such as anthropology, history, culture, geography, political science and sociology. This multi-disciplinary perspective approach will be employed to analyze tourism within the business and social environments

Attendance and Participation

Students are expected to attend all classes. Class attendance will not only improve the students' chances of success on the assignments, but also on the job upon graduation. Students are expected to come to class having read the assignment for that day and prepared to participate in class discussion on that topic.

Assignments

Students will be given assignments that involve applying the material covered in class.

Research Paper. You are required to create a literature review in your interest area. The review of literature should be fairly extensive and include key articles in forming the construct examined. Your grade is dependent on how well you synthesize the articles found. The paper should have good transition from article to article, and should include a minimum of 15 resources. You will also be required to give a 15 minute presentation/discussion of the topic.

Final Exam. The final exam will be a take home, comprehensive exam. You will be able to utilize as many resources as necessary to complete it.

Grading Scheme

Participation in Class:	15%
Research Paper:	35%
Presentation:	10%
Final Exam:	<u>40%</u>
	<u>100%</u>

Grading Scale

A+ = 96.5-100%

A = 92.5-96.4%

A- = 89.5-92.4%

B+ = 86.5-89.4%

B = 82.5-86.4%

B- = 79.5-82.4%

C+ = 76.5%-79.4%

C = 72.5%-76.4%

C- = 69.5%-72.4%

D+ = 66.5%-69.4%

D = 62.5%-66.4%

D- = 59.5%-62.4%

F = <59.5%

COURSE SCHEDULE

Dates	Topics of Discussion	Readings
Jan 24 (Thu)	Introduction	
Jan 29 (Tue) Jan 31 (Thu)	Introducing Research	Chapter 1
Feb 5 (Tue) Feb 7 (Thu)	Qualitative & Quantitative Research	Scholarly articles
Feb 12 (Tue) Feb 14 (Thu)	Methodology and Research Design	Chapter 2
Feb 19 (Tue) Feb 21 (Thu)	Evaluating Research	Chapter 3
Feb 26 (Tue) Feb 28 (Thu)	Secondary Data Analysis	Chapter 4
Mar 4 (Tue) Mar 6 (Thu)	Qualitative Methods	Chapter 5
Mar 11 (Tue) Mar 13 (Thu)	Presentations Presentations	
Mar 18 (Tue) Mar 20 (Thu)	Presentations Research Paper Due	
Mar 25 (Tue) Mar 27 (Thu)	Spring Break	
Apr 1 (Tue) Apr 3 (Thu)	The Analysis of Qualitative Data Content Analysis	Chapter 8 Scholarly article
Apr 8 (Tue) Apr 10 (Thu)	Summarizing Data	Chapter 9
Apr 15 (Tue) Apr 17 (Thu)	Bivariate and Multivariate Analysis	Chapter 10
Apr 22 (Tue) Apr 24 (Thu)	Inferential Statistics	Chapter 11
Apr 29 (Tue) May 1 (Thu)	Writing a Research Report	Chapter 12
May 6 (Tue) May 8 (Thu)	Writing a Research Report	Scholarly article
May 13 (Tue)	Discussions	-
May 15 (Thu)	Final Exam	Take Home (Comprehensive)

* Schedule may change at the discretion of the instructor. Any changes will be communicated to students in as timely a manner as possible.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to be familiar with the University's Academic Integrity Policy. Please review this at http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct. "Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University's integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical development."

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. "If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Integrity policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors."

Americans with Disabilities Act

"If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make 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 the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability." Special accommodations for exams require ample notice to the testing office and must be submitted to the instructor well in advance of the exam date.