Fall 2004
Justice Studies 105
Tuesday 5:30-8-PM
Mac Quarrie Hall Rm. 324

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Office Hours: Wed 4 - 5:15 PM or by appointment

JS 105
Research Methods

Course Description: This course will cover basic elements of social science research and basic methodology. The objective of the course is to provide a basic understanding of justice studies research, to become an educated consumer of research literature and to design a basic research study.

Course Structure and Requirements: This is a seminar style course, where both students and instructor share responsibility for learning. Full participation in the class is required. To receive an “A” in the class you must:

- Come to class prepared by having read the assigned chapters prior to each class meeting,
- Bring an article to class for discussion once a month,
- Meet with the instructor two times a semester during office hours,
- Actively participate in class discussion, and
- Pass the midterm exam and quizzes, and submit a good final paper.

Course Requirements and Grading:

Individual grades are based on:

- Student participation in class discussion
  - 10 points
- Class presentation of a research article you bring to class
  - 30 points (10 points Ea.)
- Quizzes on reading materials
  - 15 points (3 Quizzes @ 5 points each)
- Meet with instructor
  - 5 points
- Midterm exam
  - 10 points
- Final Paper
  - 30 points

Total

100 points

Bring a scantron form for quizzes and midterm exam. Make up quizzes or exams will only be allowed if there is a documented emergency or illness. A different exam will be given if this occurs. Late final papers will loose 5 points for every day late.
Class rules:
- No cell phones during class period
- No conversations during class
- Be respectful and listen to each other

Required Texts:

Content of Final Paper- maximum 10 pages, double spaced, 12 font, 1 inch margins, APA Format
I. Introduction to the problem- Hypothesis 1-2 pages
II. Background information: Literature that supports the hypothesis (at least 5 references) 1-2 pages
III. Proposed Study design: Method of collecting data, sampling strategy, Inclusion, Human Subjects- 3-5 pages
IV. Sample survey or questions- 1-3 pages

Course Outline and Required Reading:
Aug. 31. Introductions, course overview and expectations;
Sign up for article presentation date and date to meet with instructor.

Sept. 7- History of Social Science Research
Bailey: Chap. 1 and Fitzgerald Chapter 1

Sept. 14th Perspectives on Research
Presentation of articles
Bailey Chap. 2 and Fitzgerald Chapter 3

Sept. 21st Methodology
Quiz 1
Presentation of articles
Bailey Chap. 3 and Fitzgerald Chapter 4

Sept. 28th Tools of the Trade I:
How to ask questions
Presentation of articles
Bailey Chap. 5 and Fitzgerald Chapter 5, 7
Oct. 5th. Tools of the Trade II: Bailey Chap. 6 and Fitzgerald Chapter 7
How to get answers

**Quiz 2 Presentation** of articles

Oct. 12th Tools of the Trade III: Fitzgerald Chapter 11, 12
How to participate, facilitate, listen, and learn
Presentation of articles

**Oct. 19th. Mid-term exam first part of class**

**Presentation of articles**

Nov. 2nd Research Process Bailey Chap. 6 and Fitzgerald Chapter 7
Presentation of articles

Nov. 9th Ethics in research Belmont Report and Fitzgerald Chapter 17, 18.
Video: “The Deadly Deception”

Nov. 16th Analysis of data Bailey, Chapters 8, 9
Presentation of articles

Nov. 23rd Analysis of Data II Bailey, Chap 10, 11
**Quiz 3**
Presentation of articles

Nov. 30th Interpretation and Reports Bailey, Chapter 12, Fitzgerald, Chapter 16
Presentation of articles

Dec. 7th. Last day of class: Bailey; Chapter 13
Preparing and understanding Reports
Q &A Review of Paper Draft

**Dec. 14th** Final Paper due at 5:30 PM