

San José State University
Kinesiology Department: Spring 2012
KIN 250, Fundamentals of Quantitative Research

Instructor:	Dr. Bethany Shifflett
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Office Hours:	Mondays, Wednesdays, 12 - 1:00; and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Mondays, 7-9:45pm
Classroom:	Clark Hall 111

Web Resource

Copies of course materials such as the syllabus, worksheets, etc. may be found on the e-campus web site: D2L: www.sjsu.edu/ecampus. You are responsible for regularly checking D2L for information and messages.

Course Description

Design, analysis and interpretation of quantitative research. Topics include: ethics in research, research design and analysis issues, psychometrics, descriptive statistics, parametric and non-parametric inferential statistics..

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

Following lectures, assigned reading, and worksheets, students will be able to demonstrate through a project, article critique, and exams their ability to:

- ▶ Explain the fundamental characteristics of quantitative research and their relevance to the field of Kinesiology.
- ▶ Design research incorporating various quantitative modes of inquiry.
- ▶ Identify a research problem in Kinesiology best addressed with a quantitative or mixed-methods approach.
- ▶ Apply APA style in writing.
- ▶ Demonstrate competence in utilizing library resources for research.
- ▶ Articulate ethical issues in research.

- ▶ Critique quantitative research in Kinesiology.
- ▶ Understand quantitative research issues that affect the quality of research.
- ▶ Demonstrate competence in data analysis.
- ▶ Use appropriate software in the research process.
- ▶ Demonstrate proficiency in written communication.
- ▶ Discern when and how to take into consideration group characteristics (eg. age, gender, culture) when analyzing data.

Required Texts

- ▶ Baumgartner & Hensley, Conducting and Reading Research in Health and Human Performance (4th edition). 3rd edition less expensive and equally good resource.
- ▶ Course reader required. Available at <https://students.universityreaders.com/store/>.

Recommended Texts/Software

- ▶ Cronk, How to use SPSS
- ▶ Pyrczak, Evaluating Research in Academic Journals
- ▶ SPSS. If you do not have time to spend on campus it would be essential to have the software.

Class Notes

- ▶ The university has a site license for software used in this class. You can obtain an installation disk (\$15) from the help desk on the ground floor of Clark Hall.
- ▶ Set aside time each week (6hr) for this class. Use class discussion board (D2L) to get help from peers and instructor.
- ▶ It is important that you take notes in class even though you have a course reader and information is available on D2L site.
- ▶ You should save class work to a memory stick and bring completed worksheets and data sets to class.
- ▶ Worksheets, practice tests, and practice items are on the D2L web site. Complete all as they are excellent preparation for exams and quizzes.
- ▶ Engagement throughout the course is expected. This includes speaking, individual and group interaction, online communication, and various classroom activities.
- ▶ SPSS is available on computers in the CASA computer lab (MH 332), on the library's laptops, and in the open use area of the student success center in Clark Hall (ground floor).
- ▶ Take advantage of my office hours (by appointment or drop in).
- ▶ Course component grades will be posted in D2L.
- ▶ Extra credit work will not be given. Exams and quizzes may not be re-scheduled. Project will not be accepted late.
- ▶ Please do not tape lectures.

Assignments and Grading Policy

Grading Plan	Grading Scale
25%: Exam 1	90 – 100% A- to A+
30%: Exam 2	80 – 89% B- to B+
20%: Research Project	70 - 79% C- to C+
15% Quizzes	60 – 69% D- to D+
10%: Article Critique	< 60% F

University Policies

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding university policies and procedures (e.g. add/drop, grade forgiveness) - see: <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic calendar web page located at http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/. The Late Drop Policy is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

An excellent resource when you have questions regarding policies or procedures is the Advising Hub at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University's Academic Integrity policy, located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work (do your own work). Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html. 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 your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American 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 requesting

accommodations must register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/> to establish a record of their disability.

Writing Center

The Writing Center in Clark Hall 126 offers tutoring services to San José State students in all courses. Writing Specialists assist in all areas of the writing process, including grammar, organization, paragraph development, coherence, syntax, and documentation styles. For more information, visit the Writing Center website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter> <<http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>> or call 924-2308. The center is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges.