

**San José State University**  
**CASA/Department of Kinesiology**  
**KIN 251, Fundamentals of Qualitative Research in**  
**Kinesiology, Section 01, Spring 2013**

<b>Instructors:</b>	Dr. Jessica Chin
<b>Office Location:</b>	SPX 106 (in courtyard)
<b>Telephone:</b>	(408) 924-3039
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:jessica.chin@sjsu.edu">jessica.chin@sjsu.edu</a> (preferred)
<b>Office Hours:</b>	M/W 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm; and by appt.
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	W 4:00 pm – 6:45 pm
<b>Classroom:</b>	SPX 77

### **MYSJSU Messaging and Online Access to Course Materials**

In order to ensure that you receive all pertinent email communication, you must have a current and accurate email address in the MYSJSU system. Please check to make sure your email is updated in MYSJSU. Also, course materials, such as the greensheet (syllabus), and major assignment handouts may be found on Desire2Learn (D2L). If you do not have a D2L account, you will need to set one up. For more information on setting up your account go to <http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/students>.

### **Course Description**

Design, analysis and interpretation of qualitative research. Course focuses on the research process from the formulation of a research problem through the analysis of data.

### **Required Readings**

Required readings will be available electronically (either posted on D2L or retrievable through the library's electronic database).

### **Student Learning Outcomes and Course Objectives**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the fundamental characteristics of qualitative research and their relevance to the field of Kinesiology.
2. Design research incorporating various qualitative modes of inquiry.
3. Identify a research problem in Kinesiology best addressed with a qualitative or

- mixed-methods approach.
4. Apply APA style in writing.
  5. Demonstrate competence in utilizing library resources for research.
  6. Articulate ethical issues in research.
  7. Critique qualitative research in Kinesiology.
  8. Understand qualitative research issues that affect the quality of research.
  9. Demonstrate competence in qualitative data analysis.
  10. Use appropriate software in the research process.
  11. Demonstrate proficiency in written communication.

## General Notes

- Make note of all exams. Makeup exams will only be considered in the presence of serious and compelling issues.
- Check course D2L site for topic-specific information.
- Only under extreme circumstances will an “incomplete” grade be assessed.
- Regular engagement in group activities and discussion is expected.
- Papers shall be original compositions written specifically for this course.
- Finally, students are encouraged to periodically check the course homepage.

## Class Structure

Class will be a combination of lecture, seminar, and small group work.

## Definition of a Credit Hour

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

As an example, the expectation of work for a 3-credit course is 150-minutes of direct faculty instruction and six hours of out-of-class student work each week.

## Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester’s [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the [current academic calendar](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/Academic_Calendars/) web page at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/Academic\\_Calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/Academic_Calendars/). The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/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.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

## Course Requirements

This course will include a midterm and final exam as well as a series of assignments culminating with a final paper:

1. *Data collection:* For this assignment, you are to collect qualitative data using one of the methods we will discuss in class. You may collect ethnographic data, (i.e., participant-observation data), interview data, or media-related data. You will choose one method for the first collection assignment and a different method for the second, so that you will have collected a total of two sets of data after the second data collection assignment has been completed. At least one source of data must be related to your final paper topic. Further details will be provided in class.
2. *Weekly contributions:* Each week you are expected to have completed the assigned readings prior to coming to class. In order to prepare for discussion, each student is required to contribute to the D2L discussion board during the week *with a) thoughtful questions, b) responses to classmates' posts, and c) original, substantive comments* related to the readings and class topics. Students will also gain credit by providing contributions to in-class discussions and activities that reflect a careful reading of the assigned articles and book chapters.
3. *Final Paper:* Each student will individually write and submit an original research paper as a culminating final project for KIN 251. The final paper should include: 1) a solid introduction and rationale, 2) a streamlined literature review, 3) a methods section, and 4) preliminary results and conclusions section. While there are no set limits, the suggested length of this paper is 25-30 double-spaced pages. Papers should follow current APA style throughout.
4. *Paper Proposal:* A synthesis of your proposed final paper topic will be submitted as a paper proposal and will be included as part of your final paper grade. For this assignment, you will submit a 2-page overview of your proposed topic. You will also identify 4-6 references that are related to your proposed topic; list the references in APA style and attach to your 2-page proposal. Prior to the administration of the midterm, we will have a class discussion of the proposals. Further details will be provided in class.
5. *Midterm and final exams:* Exams may consist of multiple choice, short answer and essay questions based on the class material.

## Assessment Methods and Evaluation

Assignment	Percent age	Grade Earned	Due Date
Data Collection #1	7.5		
Data Collection #2	7.5		
Weekly In-class Contributions	10		
Weekly D2L Posts	10		
Midterm Exam	15		
Final Paper, Incl. Proposal	30		
Final Exam	20		
TOTAL	100		

**NOTE:** KIN 251 is one of two courses used by the Department of Kinesiology to satisfy the Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR). A final grade of B or better in either KIN 250 or KIN 251 is needed to successfully satisfy the GWAR.

## Final Grading Scale

To determine the final grade for the class, the following grading scale will be used based on the final cumulative percentage earned for all assignments.

Percentage	Grade
98-100%	A+
93 – 97.99%	A
90 – 92.99%	A-
87 – 89.99%	B+
83 – 86.99%	B
80 – 82.99%	B-
77 – 79.99%	C+
73 – 76.99%	C
70 – 72.99%	C-
67 – 69.99%	D+
63 – 66.99%	D
60 – 62.99%	D-
less than 60%	F

## University Policies

### 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, requires 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. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

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 Integrity 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD\\_1997-03.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Disability Resource Center](http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/) (DRC) at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/> to establish a record of their disability.

## **Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the [Academic Success Center](http://www.at.sjsu.edu/asc/) at <http://www.at.sjsu.edu/asc/> located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

## **SJSU Peer Connections**

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) and the Peer Mentor Program have merged to become Peer Connections. Peer Connections is the new campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring. Our staff is here to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. Students are encouraged to take advantage of our services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

## SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Suite 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The [Writing Center staff](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/) can be found at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/>.

## Course Schedule, KIN 251, Spring 2013

*This is a tentative schedule and as such is subject to change with fair notice. Advance notice for any changes will be provided by the professor.*

Week	Date	Topic	Readings	Assignment(s) Due
1	1/23	Introduction to qualitative research process	Vertinsky (2009)	
2	1/30	Interpretivist paradigm, Identifying a problem, Writing chapter 1	Denzin & Lincoln (2003) Nagy Hesse-Biber & Leavy (2011) Gratton & Jones, Ch. 3 (2004) Creswell (2007) [optional]	
3	2/6	Interviewing/Focus groups	Marshall & Rossman , Chs. 2&3 (2006) Berg (2004) Interview guides and transcripts	
4	2/13	Existential Phenomenology	Dale (1996) Dale (2000) Clegg&Butryn (in press) Clegg (2010) [reference]	
5	2/20	Ethnography; Issues in cross-cultural research I	Tedlock (2000) Emerson, Fretz, and Shaw (2011), chs. 1-2	
6	2/27	Data Collection Review and Practice	Emerson, Fretz, and Shaw (2011), chs. 3-4	<b>*Proposals due*</b>
7	3/6	<b>Discussion of proposal papers/Midterm</b>	<b>Study!</b>	
8	3/13	Media Analysis	Plymire (2005)	<b>*Data collection #1</b>

			Kian et al (2008)	<b>due</b>
9	3/20	Thematic Data Analysis; <i>Writing chapter 2</i>	Gratton & Jones, Ch. 13 (2004) Cote et al. (1993) Carson & Polman (2008)	
	3/27	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	<b>CAMPUS CLOSED</b>	
10	4/3	Research and data collection issues	Emerson, Fretz, & Shaw (2011), Ch. 5  Witcher (2007)  Angrosino & Perez (2000)	
11	4/10	<i>Writing chapter 3</i> ; Thematic data analysis cont.	Carson & Polman (2010) Drayer, et al. (2010) MMA transcripts	<b>*Data collection #2 due</b>
12	4/17	Evaluating qualitative research; Establishing rigor	Miyata & Kai (2009) Maxwell, ch. 6 (2005) Marshall & Rossman, ch. 7 (1999) <a href="http://www.qualres.org/HomeEval-3664.html">http://www.qualres.org/HomeEval-3664.html</a> [Reference] Chwalisz, Shah, & Hand (2008) [optional]	
13	4/24	Writing practices in qualitative research (voice, style, etc.); ethics	Emerson, Fretz, & Shaw (2011), ch. 7 Smith & Sparkes (2005) Silk (2008) Richardson & St. Pierre (2005)	
14	5/1	Focus Groups; other qualitative research methods	TBA	
15	5/8	Discuss final papers and final exam; Course wrap-up and evaluation	<b>Final papers due</b> <b>Submit hard copy in class;</b> <b>Submit e-copy to D2L dropbox</b>	
	5/20	FINAL EXAM	Monday, May 20 2:45-5pm Official University scheduled time	Details to be discussed in class

