

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,
- Bringing 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:

Fitzgerald, J.D., Cox, SM, (2002) Research Methods and Statistics in Criminal Justice. Wadsworth Group.

Bailey, K.D., (1994) Methods of Social Research (4th Edition) The Free Press.

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 Bailey Chap. 2 and Fitzgerald Chapter 3
Presentation of articles

Sept. 21st. Methodology Bailey Chap. 3 and Fitzgerald Chapter 4

Quiz 1

Presentation of articles

Sept. 28th Tools of the Trade I: Bailey Chap. 5 and Fitzgerald Chapter 5, 7

How to ask questions

Presentation of articles

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