

**Instructor:** Dr. Sarah D. Lynne  
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**Office Hours:** by appointment; schedule via email

*The instructor reserves the right to adjust the syllabus to meet the objectives of the course.*

**About the course.** Applied Social Research Methods is a 4-credit course in the design, implementation, and interpretation of social research. Students who take this course will understand and apply the principles of social science research methods. Students will be exposed to a variety of research methods and will have hands-on experience conducting social science research. This course will help students develop the ability to critically evaluate the quality of research that serves as the basis for scientific knowledge. It will also build applied skills in conducting social science research.

**Prerequisites:** FYC 3001 with a grade of ‘C’ or better or STA 2023

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Design social research using a quantitative methodological approach
2. Analyze quantitative data using SPSS
3. Interpret quantitative data and report the results in writing and orally
4. Evaluate the quality of scientific evidence



### **Required Materials**

All required readings are placed on Canvas. Students are required to purchase the student version of SPSS. **Do not use the free version of SPSS on UFapps.** You should purchase this at the HUB IT desk. You must install it yourself on your computer. Installation is easy but you might want to install it immediately upon purchasing it and in the HUB, in case you need technical assistance. The cost is approximately \$35.

### **Communication Policy**

- **Email:** Always use the subject line “FYC 4801 Fall 2023” and I will make every effort to respond within 24 hours or by the end of the next business day if sent over the weekend. Please contact me via email through Canvas or using your UF email account only. UF policies prohibit me from discussing your grade through any other email servers.
- **Office Hours:** Office hours are available by appointment only. Email three times that work for you to either the instructor or TA with the subject line “FYC 4801 office hours appointment request”

## Grading

Grades will be determined based on the following:

| Assessment                      |  | Points  |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| Attendance                      |  | Up to 57 points (15 days = 1 point; 14 days = 3 points)                     |
| Discussion Boards               |  | 45 points (1 @ 20 points, 2 @ 10 points; 1 @ 5 points)                      |
| Individual Homework Assignments |  | 100 points (variable points per assignment)                                 |
| Exams                           |  | 150 points (3 @ 50 points each)   |
| Research Project                | Paper Section Draft (Individual)         | 30 points   |
|                                 | Research Proposal (Group)                | 30 points   |
|                                 | Cleaned SPSS File and Output (Group)     | 30 points   |
|                                 | Data Analysis Part One (Group)           | 20 points   |
|                                 | Data Analysis Part Two (Group)           | 20 points   |
|                                 | Survey Completion (Individual)           | Up to 15 points (1 point each, will adjust after drop/add)                  |
|                                 | Scientific Paper (Group)                 | 80 points   |
|                                 | Oral Presentation (Group and Individual) | 30 points (10 points for individual; 20 points for group)                   |
|                                 | Peer Evaluation (Individual)             | 70 points (10 points for each group submission plus instrument development) |
| <b>Total</b>                    |  | 677 points  |

## Grade Ranges:

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| A = 93.50% and above | C = 73.50-76.49%     |
| A- = 90.00-93.49%    | C- = 70.00-73.49%    |
| B+ = 86.50-89.99%    | D+ = 66.50-69.99%    |
| B = 83.50-86.49%     | D = 63.50-66.49%     |
| B- = 80.00-83.49%    | D- = 60.00-63.49%    |
| C+ = 76.50-79.99%    | E = 59.99% and below |

Current UF grading policies, including grade points assigned per letter grade, can be found here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

## Attendance & Make-up Work

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies. Click here to read the university attendance policies:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>.

## Policy Regarding Late Work

All assignments are to be submitted via Canvas by the date and time indicated on the course calendar and on Canvas. Late work is accepted at the discretion of the course instructor and will only be approved in cases consistent with the university policies found above.

## APA Formatting Guidelines

Use the APA Style Guide, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition to complete all assignments in this course. Use proper APA formatting for all components of an assignment including in-text citations, tables and figures, appendices, section headings, title, abstract and references. The FYCS Department has chosen to use the Professional title page guidelines, **not the student title page format**. Guidelines for formatting can be found in:

*Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (7 ed.). (2020). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

**Note:** There are many citation generators and APA guides available online. While these can be good resources, they often produce citations that are incomplete or incorrectly formatted. If you use a citation generator for your work, it would be wise to review the references to ensure they are formatted correctly before submitting your assignment. **The only source that ensures 100% compliance with APA is the APA Style Guide itself.**

## Troubleshooting Technical Issues

Students should contact the UF Help Desk at 352-392-HELP/4357 or at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu) with all technical issues. Some issues may be resolved using resources on the Help Desk website: [helpdesk.ufl.edu](http://helpdesk.ufl.edu). Do not contact the instructor or TA to help you solve a technical issue. If a technical issue is impeding your ability to submit an assignment on time, send an email to the instructor explaining the situation and provide your UFIT ticket number (assigned to you by the Help Desk). Accommodations will not be made for technical issues unless a UFIT ticket number is provided.

## Course Decorum

People learn best when they are encouraged to ask questions and express their diverse opinions on course content which may include images, texts, data, or theories from many fields. This is especially true in courses that deal with provocative or contemporary issues. UF offers many such courses, in which students encounter concepts of race, color, sex, and/or national origin. We teach these important issues because understanding them is essential for anyone who seeks to make economic, cultural, and societal contributions to today's complex world. With this in mind, we do not limit access to, or classroom discussion of, ideas and opinions-including those that some may find uncomfortable, unwelcome, disagreeable, or even offensive. In response to challenging material, students and instructors are encouraged to ask honest questions and thoughtfully engage one another's ideas. But hostility, disruptive and disrespectful behavior, and provocation for provocation's sake have no place in a classroom; reasonable people disagree reasonably. These guidelines can help instructors and students as they work together to fulfill the mission of the University of Florida, which includes the exploration of intellectual boundaries, the creation of new knowledge and the pursuit of new ideas.

The UF/IFAS Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences is committed to engaging positively in a global and diverse society through its teaching, extension, and research efforts. That commitment is demonstrated by creating an inclusive educational environment that fosters belonging as we mentor students, perform relevant scholarship, and conduct outreach for families, youth, and communities that is sensitive and responsive to the needs of diverse audiences. Intentional effort is made to providing access and equity to underrepresented, underserved, marginalized, and minoritized people in Florida and beyond.

## Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

## **Policy Regarding Testing Accommodations**

- Any student who requires testing accommodations must follow university procedure for securing the accommodations. Please see <https://disability.ufl.edu/> for how to access resources and set up accommodations.

## **In-Class Recording Policy**

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

## **Online Course Evaluations**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

## **Academic Honesty**

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: “*We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.*” You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community. On all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “*On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.*”

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to

the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information:  
<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>

## **Campus Helping Resources**

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's resources. The following resources are available at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

### *Health and Wellness Resources*

- *UF Mindfulness*: <https://www.ufmindfulness.org/resources>
- *U Matter, We Care*: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit [umatter.ufl.edu/](http://umatter.ufl.edu/) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- *Counseling and Wellness Center*: Visit [counseling.ufl.edu/](http://counseling.ufl.edu/) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- *Student Health Care Center*: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit [shcc.ufl.edu/](http://shcc.ufl.edu/).
- *University Police Department*: Visit [police.ufl.edu/](http://police.ufl.edu/) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- *UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center*: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center](http://ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center).

### *Academic Resources*

- *E-learning technical support*: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).
- *Career Connections Center*: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services [career.ufl.edu/](http://career.ufl.edu/).
- *Library Support*: [cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask](http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask) various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- *Teaching Center*: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. [teachingcenter.ufl.edu/](http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/)
- *Writing Studio*: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. [writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/](http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/)
- *Student Complaints On-Campus*: [sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/](https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/)
- *On-Line Students Complaints*: [distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process](http://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process)