FYC 4801: Applied Social Research Methods
Spring 2020

Section: 14696
Meeting Time: TR (9 & 10) 4.05-6.00
Class Location: MCCA 1142
Office Hours: TR 2.00-3.30

Instructor: Dr. Candice Stefanou
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TA: Elana Titen
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Office Hours: Fri. 9.30am-11.30am

The instructor reserves the right to adjust the syllabus in order 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 learn a variety of research methods and have hands-on experience with data collection and analysis” (FYCS Undergraduate Handbook, 2015, p.16). As future professionals in the social sciences, it is essential that you develop the capacity to, at a minimum, critically evaluate information that is presented as scientific, and ideally, contribute to our collective knowledge base through involvement in research activities of your own. Employers will expect that you can recognize quality research as you work with your constituents, and your constituents will trust that you are confident in the information you share with them. If graduate school is in your future, you will be expected to conduct research and to share that research with the larger community of scholars. This semester, we will learn to read and communicate social science research and will engage in producing social research data of our own.

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. Collect quantitative data using the on-line platform Qualtrics
3. Analyze quantitative data using SPSS
4. Interpret quantitative data and report the results in writing and orally
5. Evaluate the quality of scientific evidence

All required readings are placed on Canvas.
Students are required to purchase the student version of SPSS. You should purchase this at the HUB IT desk. You must install it yourself on your laptop. 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 $37.

Grading
Grades will be determined based on the following:

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<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attendance</strong></td>
<td>49 points (1 point each day; 3 points for group work days)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Class Prep Quizzes</strong></td>
<td>30 points (10 @ 3 points each)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Homework Assignments</strong></td>
<td>90 points (7 @ 10 points each; 1 @ 20 points)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Exams</strong></td>
<td>150 points (3 @ 50 points each)</td>
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<th>Research Project</th>
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<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>20 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Draft</td>
<td>30 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quantitative Data Project*</td>
<td>90 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Survey Completion</td>
<td>Up to 15 points (1 point each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scientific Paper*</td>
<td>80 points</td>
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<td>Oral Presentation*</td>
<td>30 points</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>584 points</td>
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*These grades will be individually adjusted according to peer-evaluations.

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

All of the following must be true for the student to be eligible to receive a grade of "I."
1) The student has completed a major portion of the course work with a passing grade (D or better), and
2) the student is unable to complete course requirements because of documented circumstances beyond their control, and
3) the student and instructor have discussed the situation prior to the final exam (except under emergency conditions).

Policy Regarding Requests for Grade Changes When Final Grades Post:
Earn the points needed for the grade you are seeking throughout the semester. Once grades have been posted, please do not reach out for a bump up to the next grade UNLESS you see a miscalculation.
Policy Regarding Class Attendance, Make-up Exams, Assignments:
Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx.

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. No late work is accepted.

Policy Regarding Extra Credit Work:
There is no other chance to earn extra credit. Work hard on the assignments for the course.

Class Prep Quizzes:
Quizzes are on the class prep material assigned for the date of the quiz. Students must be present during the first 5 minutes of class to take the quiz. There are 11 quizzes over the course of the semester; only the top 10 scores will be factored into the overall course grade. Quizzes missed for an excused absence must be made up within 2 class periods.

Classroom Policies:
- No phones should be out during class. Using phones during class distracts you from learning, distracts others around you from learning, and distracts me. Students with phones out once class starts will be asked to leave.
- Make sure that your phone is turned to vibrate during class.
- Laptops will not be allowed except on days where we will work on computers to accomplish tasks. Do not use your phone as your computer in class. Using laptops during class distracts you from learning, distracts others around you from learning, and distracts me. If you have an accommodation that necessitates the use of a laptop, please see me. Students with laptops out on days other than the specified work days will be asked to leave.
- No headphones should be on during class. Using headphones in class is disrespectful of your colleagues, your instructor, and your own learning. Students with headphones on once class starts will be asked to leave.
- Do not use the Canvas App for uploading any assignment. The app is fine for downloading documents but is not recommended for uploading. If you choose to use the app to upload assignments and the upload fails, it will be your responsibility to make sure the assignment is turned in on time. Otherwise, you will not receive credit for any work that comes in past the due date and time.
- Stay on task.
- Respect your fellow classmates and instructor.
- Come to class on time.
- All students who are late on exam days (come into class once the first person has left) will not be able to take the exam and may only schedule a make-up at the instructor’s discretion.
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 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. Accommodations will be honored from the time I receive the accommodation letter to the end of the semester.

Policy Regarding Testing Accommodations:
Any student who requires testing accommodations must follow university procedure for securing the accommodations. Please see https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/students for how to access resources and setting up accommodations. Students who require testing accommodations should follow DRC policy for making an appointment to take the test(s) at the DRC. Do not assume that I can provide additional assistance for testing needs. If you fail to follow through on making arrangements with the DRC to take a test, you will take the test with the rest of the class and will be given the same amount of time to take the test as the rest of the class.

Academic Honesty
UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge, which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students 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.” The Honor Code (sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

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). 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 regarding the student honor code, please see: https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/

We will do quite a bit of group work in class and I encourage you to work and study with colleagues outside of class. However, on tests and for some assignments you are on your own.

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**
- U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit 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/ or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.
- 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/.
- University Police Department: Visit 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.
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS): Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

**Academic Resources**
- E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.
- Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services career.ufl.edu/.
- Library Support: 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/
- Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/
- Student Complaints On-Campus: sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code/student-conduct-code/

**Online Course Evaluation Process**
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/.