

Fall 2017
HLP6535-Section 1F25
Research Methods

Instructor: Dr. Demetra Christou
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Office: FLG 120
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Office Hours: By appointment (please email to schedule)

Class Times/Location: Wednesday, periods 8 and 9 (3:00 to 4:55 pm) WEIM 1094
Friday, period 9 (4:05 to 4:55 pm) FLG 0265

Course Objectives: To develop basic skills in reading, designing, performing and presenting research effectively. This course is designed primarily for beginning graduate students working on a M.S. or Ph.D. degree. There will be an emphasis on the area of Applied Physiology and Kinesiology, but the course should also be beneficial to students from other areas.

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

- Have a clear understanding of the process related to manuscript writing/submission/review/publication, authorship and journal impact factors
- Critique/present primary research articles
- Discuss issues related to research ethics and responsible conduct of human and animal research
- Conduct a literature search
- Formulate a research question/hypothesis
- Design a research study to address the question
- Choose appropriate statistical tools to analyze data
- Create a slide and a poster presentation using PowerPoint
- Give an oral presentation of study proposal

Prerequisites: None

Class Materials:

Required textbook: Research Methods in Kinesiology and the Health Sciences by Susan Hall and Nancy Getchell.

ISBN-13:978-0-7817-9774-0

Class materials will include PowerPoint slides, research articles, and other online resources. These materials will be made available on CANVAS. You are responsible for reading all assigned materials.

Evaluation:

Participation	20%
Exam 1, 2 and 3 (10% each)	30%
Critique of research article	15%
Research proposal	20%
Poster presentation	15%

Course Examinations and Grading

Exams: There will be 3 exams in this course. Exams will consist of multiple-choice, true-false, fill-in-the-blank or short-answer questions. Exams will be given during normal class meetings.

Grades: The following grading scale will be used in this course. For more detailed information on current UF grading policies, please see the undergraduate catalog web page:

www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades

Letter Grade	Percent of Total Points
A	90-100%
B+	86-89%
B	80-85%
C+	76-79%
C	70-75%
D+	66-69%
D	60-65%
E	0-59%

Course Policies

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>. University counseling services can be found at <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend class and to actively participate in the discussions. Please note: the University has specific reasons that are acceptable for missing class which apply to both undergrad and grad students. You can find this at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Make-up exams: Unexcused absences on exam days will result in a zero on the exam. If you are ill or have an emergency that prevents you from taking the exam at the scheduled time, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible to try and schedule a make-up exam. Documentation of the illness or emergency will be required. Any make-up exams will be at the discretion of the instructor. Scheduling make-up exams is the responsibility of the student and should be done—if at all possible—*before* the scheduled exam.

Accommodations: Students requesting classroom accommodations must first register with the Dean of Students Office-Disability Resource Center. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then present this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. For optimal consideration, you must see the professor within the first three days of class.

Technology: Surfing the web, checking your email, texting, making Facebook posts, or anything of that nature is strictly prohibited during class time. Please keep your cell phone on silent. Any cell phone or other electronic device used during an exam will be considered a violation of the student honor code (i.e., cheating) and will result in a zero for that exam.

Communication: The best way to contact your course instructor is by email (ddchristou@ufl.edu). You are responsible for checking course postings on eLearning (CANVAS). All course grades will be posted on eLearning (CANVAS). Any discrepancies should be pointed out to the instructor as soon as possible, before the last day of class.

University Honesty Policy: 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 (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-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 in this class.

Class Demeanor: Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and restrict eating to outside of the classroom. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all.

Evaluations: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.

Counseling and Wellness Center: Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx> 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies

Tentative Schedule*

Week	Date	
1	W – Aug 23	Overview of syllabus Lecture/discussion
	F – Aug 25	Lecture/discussion
2	W – Aug 30	Lecture/discussion
	F – Sept 1	Lecture/discussion
3	W – Sept 6	Lecture/discussion
	F – Sept 8	Lecture/discussion
4	W – Sept 13	Lecture/discussion
	F – Sept 15	Exam 1
5	W – Sept 20	Lecture/discussion
	F – Sept 22	Lecture/discussion
6	W – Sept 27	Lecture/discussion
	F – Sept 29	Exam 2
7	W – Oct 4	Lecture/discussion
	F – Oct 6	NO CLASS-HOMECOMING
8	W – Oct 11	Lecture/discussion
	F – Oct 13	Lecture/discussion
9	W – Oct 18	Lecture/discussion
	F – Oct 20	Exam 3
10	W – Oct 25	Critiques
	F – Oct 27	Critiques

11	W – Nov 1	Critiques
	F – Nov 3	Critiques
12	W – Nov 8	Research proposal presentations
	F – Nov 10	NO CLASS-HOLIDAY
13	W – Nov 15	Research proposal presentations
	F – Nov 17	Research proposal presentations
14	W – Nov 22	NO CLASS-HOLIDAY
	F – Nov 24	NO CLASS-HOLIDAY
15	W – Nov 29	Research proposal presentations
	F – Dec 1	Research proposal presentations
16	W – Dec 6	Research proposal presentations

* Exam dates are subject to change. The order of presenters and research articles for the critiques will be provided on CANVAS.