

2019080419 CRIJ4316 RESEARCH METHODS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE (ONLINE)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Methods of Criminal Justice Research. (WI). This course is an introduction to the methods of criminological and criminal justice research, with emphasis on research ethics, research design, and methods of data collection and analysis. This is a writing intensive class, which means 60% or more of your grade is based on written assignments.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Research methods introduces students to the research process and the techniques researchers use to study deviance, delinquency, crime, and criminal offending. By the end of this course, students should be able to demonstrate

- writing skills appropriate to the discipline.
- understanding of the value and practice of ethical behaviors associated with social science research.
- comprehension of basic social science research methodologies as applied to research in Criminal Justice and Criminology.
- basic research skills by developing research projects.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Withrow, B.L. (2014). *Research Methods in Crime and Justice (2nd Ed)*. New York: Routledge. ISBN: 9781138124233.

Recommended Reading. American Psychological Association Style Guide, 6th edition:

https://www.apastyle.org/index?_ga=2.140112884.619170283.1557952406-713042726.1557952406 (Links to an external site.)

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html

MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This course is 100% online. Students must be familiar with Canvas in order to navigate the course materials, assignments, and assessments. You can learn to use Canvas by reviewing the student study guide at <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701>

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS & EXAMINATIONS

Exams (40%). Students complete 3 exams over the course of the semester. Exams assess your level of understanding of all course material, including videos and additional readings. The format is multiple choice, fill in the blank, true/false, and

matching. Students receive limited feedback with their score, for more detailed feedback students must contact the instructor.

Research Methods Exercises (40%). Research methods exercises are written assignments that require students to work through the process of developing a research proposal. These assignments help students build a research proposal by breaking it up into manageable parts. Students receive feedback and opportunity to resubmit these assignments once. Each assignment is worth 0 or 10 points.

Research Proposal (20%). The final project for this course is to develop a research proposal. The research proposal consists of an introduction, literature review, and methodology. The research methods exercises students complete give them the tools necessary to put together a proposal. Proposals are worth up to 100 pts.

LECTURE TOPICS

CHAPTER 1—The Research Practice

CHAPTER 2—The Research Process

CHAPTER 3—The Ethical Principles That Guide Researchers

CHAPTER 4—Classifying Research

CHAPTER 5—Causality

CHAPTER 6—Measurement

CHAPTER 7—Variables and the Structure of Research

CHAPTER 8—Sampling

CHAPTER 9—Experimental Design Research Methods

CHAPTER 10—Survey/Interview Research Methods

CHAPTER 11—Non-Reactive Research Methods

CHAPTER 12—Qualitative Research Methods

CHAPTER 13—Evaluation Research Methods