Instructor: Michael Robinson MS CAT(C) ATC
Lecture Date: Friday 10:30 – 12:30
Lecture Location: Social Sciences Centre Rm 2050
Lab Date: Friday 9:30 – 10:30
Lab Location: Social Sciences Centre Rm 2050
Email: mrobin7@uwo.ca
Office Hours: Appointment only

Lectures

There is one 2-hour lecture per week. There is one 1-hour lab per week.

Prerequisite Checking

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees if you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Description

This course is an introduction to methods used in health sciences research. Although formulas are given and calculations are presented, the principal orientation of the course is conceptual rather than mathematical.

Statement on Multiple Choice Exams

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Statement on the use of Electronic Devices

During Exams: Unless you have medical accommodations that require you to do so, or explicit permission from the instructor of the course, you may not use any of the following electronic devices during ANY of the tests, quizzes, midterms, examinations, or other in-class evaluations: cellphones, smart phones, smart watches, smart glasses, audio players or recorders of any sort, video cameras, video games, DVD players, televisions, laptop/notebook/netbook computers, flashlights or laser pointers.
During Lectures and Tutorials: Although you are welcome to use a computer during lecture and tutorial periods, you are expected to use the computer for scholastic purposes only, and refrain from engaging in any activities that may distract other students from learning. From time to time, your professor may ask the class to turn off all computers, to facilitate learning or discussion of the material presented in a particular class. Unless explicitly noted otherwise, you may not make audio or video recordings of lectures – nor may you edit, re-use, distribute, or re-broadcast any of the material posted to the course website.

Course Materials
All course materials will be posted to OWL in advance of lectures. There is no required textbook for this course however the optional textbook for this course is available at the campus bookstore:

Methods of Evaluation

Examinations (70%):

   Midterm  40%
   Final    40%

Labs (30%):

   Lab Assignments  20% (10 x 2%)

Lab assignments are to be submitted via OWL by 11:59 pm EST on the due date indicated in the schedule. Attendance to the lab sessions are optional but highly recommended.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Lab Topic</th>
<th>Lab Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6-Sep</td>
<td>Course Overview, Introduction to Research</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-Sep</td>
<td>Asking Good Questions</td>
<td>Intro Lab</td>
<td>Sept 19 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-Sep</td>
<td>The Role of Theory in Good Research</td>
<td>Forming Good Research Questions</td>
<td>Sept 26 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27-Sep</td>
<td>Theoretical and Practical Aspects of Ethical Research</td>
<td>Role of Theory in Good Research</td>
<td>Oct 3 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-Oct</td>
<td>Basics of Qualitative Research</td>
<td>Theoretical and Practical Aspects of Ethical Research</td>
<td>Oct 10 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Oct</td>
<td>Basics of Qualitative Research</td>
<td>Basics of Qualitative Research</td>
<td>Oct 17 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-Oct</td>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-Oct</td>
<td>Basics of Test Construction and Psychometrics</td>
<td>Basics of Qualitative Research</td>
<td>Oct 31 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-Nov</td>
<td>Basics of Test Construction and Psychometrics</td>
<td>Basics of Test Construction and Psychometrics</td>
<td>Nov 14 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-Nov</td>
<td></td>
<td>Reading Week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-Nov</td>
<td>Bias and Error</td>
<td>Basics of Test Construction and Psychometrics</td>
<td>Nov 21 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-Nov</td>
<td>Describing Data</td>
<td>Bias and Error</td>
<td>Nov 28 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29-Nov</td>
<td>Basics of Statistical Inference</td>
<td>Describing Data</td>
<td>Dec 5 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

Statement on Academic Offences:

Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Accommodation for illness:

The University recognizes that a student’s ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by extenuating circumstances, including short-term illness or injury. Reasonable academic consideration is a cooperative process between the University, the student, and academic staff. All participants in the process must act in good faith, and fulfil their respective obligations, if it is to succeed.

Students who experience an extenuating circumstance (illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstance) sufficiently significant as to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements, may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

(i) Submitting a Self-Reported Absence form, provided that the conditions for submission are met;

(ii) For medical absences, submitting a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner, in order to be eligible for Academic Consideration; or

(iii) For non-medical absences, submitting appropriate documentation (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration, in order to be eligible for academic consideration.

Students seeking academic consideration:

- Are advised to consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying handing in work;

- Are encouraged to make appropriate decisions, based on their specific circumstances, recognizing that minor ailments (e.g., upset stomach) or upsets (e.g., argument with a friend) are not normally an appropriate basis for a self-reported absence;

- Must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by either the self-reported absence or SMC, or immediately upon their return following a documented absence;

- Are advised that all necessary documentation, forms, etc. are to be submitted to academic counselling within two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities
Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance (48 hours or less) that is sufficiently severe as to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements (e.g., attending lectures or labs, writing tests or midterm exams, completing and submitting assignments, participating in presentations) should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours or less. The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

a. Students will be allowed a maximum of two self-reported absences between September and April, and one self-reported absence between May and August;

b. The duration of the excused absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30pm;

c. The duration of the excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period, should the student undertake significant academic responsibilities (e.g., write a test, submit a paper) during that time;

d. The duration of an excused absence will terminate at 8:30am on the day following the last day of classes each semester, regardless of how many days of absence have elapsed;

e. Self-reported absences will not be allowed for scheduled final examinations; for midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations (i.e., “bellringers”);

f. Self-reporting may not be used for assessments (e.g., midterm exams, tests, reports, presentations, or essays) worth more than 30% of any given course;

Students must be in touch with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form, to clarify how they will be expected to fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed

Support Services:

There are various support services around campus and these include, but are not limited to:

1. Student Development Centre -- http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/

2. Student Health -- http://www.shs.uwo.ca/student/studenthealthservices.html

3. Registrar’s Office -- http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/

4. Ombuds Office -- http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/

Health and Wellness:

As part of a successful undergraduate experience at Western, we encourage you to make your health and wellness a priority. Western provides several on-campus health-related services to help you achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing your degree. For
example, to support physical activity, all students receive membership in Western’s Campus Recreation Centre as part of their registration fees. Numerous cultural events are offered throughout the year. Please check out the Faculty of Music web page (http://www.music.uwo.ca/), or the McIntosh Gallery (http://www.mcintoshgallery.ca/). Further information regarding health and wellness-related services available to students may be found at http://www.health.uwo.ca/.

If you are in emotional or mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. To help you learn more about mental health, Western has developed an interactive mental health learning module, found here: https://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/education/module.html.

Grade policy:

The university-wide descriptor of the meaning of letter grades, as approved by Senate:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>Superior work that is clearly above average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>Good work, meeting all requirements and eminently satisfactory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>Competent work, meeting requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>Fair work, minimally acceptable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 50</td>
<td>Fail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is expected that the grades for this course will fall between 70-74. In the event that the course average falls outside this range, a constant may be added (or subtracted) from each student’s grade, by the instructor, to bring the class average in line with school policy.