



## Syllabus

### **SCHOOL OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SCIENCES** **PSY 312: Research Methods and Statistics in Social Science**

5 Credits  
Effective: Summer 2016/2017

*Access to the Internet is required.  
All written assignments must be in Microsoft-Word-compatible formats.  
See the library's APA Style Guide tutorial for a list of resources that can help you use APA style.*

## **FACULTY**

Faculty Name: FACULTY NAME

Contact Information: CONTACT INFORMATION

[INSTRUCTOR MAY INSERT PERSONAL MESSAGE IF DESIRED]

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

As an introduction to research methods in social sciences, this course provides a foundation in the basic concepts of scientific method, research design, and statistical analysis. The focus is on empirical approaches to knowledge. This course also addresses the usefulness and limitations of statistical processes and their applications in social sciences. It emphasizes problem formulation, selection of research techniques, and results interpretation.

## **COURSE RESOURCES**

Required and recommended resources to complete coursework and assignments are found on the course [Reading List](#). The reading list can be found under Course Information in Blackboard as well as from the library homepage.

Note: Required resources that must be purchased by the student are tagged “Purchase from a vendor of your choosing.” Required resources with a direct link, “Available through CityU Library”, are available at no cost to students.

Students in Canada will see required resources they need to purchase tagged “Purchase from the Canadian Bookstore.” Students outside the U.S. and Canada should contact their advisor or textbook coordinator for additional information.

## **CITYU LEARNING GOALS**

This course supports the following City University learning goals:

- Critical thinking and information literacy

## **COURSE OUTCOMES**

In this course, learners:

- Critically analyze and apply data and information.
- Approach problems with systemic awareness
- Critically analyze needs and find appropriate information
- Use statistics accurately and effectively in presentations and decision making

## **CORE CONCEPTS, KNOWLEDGE, AND SKILLS**

- Analysis of variance (ANOVA)
- Confidence intervals

- Correctional research
- Discrete probability
- Ethical issues in research
- Frequency distributions
- Graphic presentations
- Linear regression and correlation
- Measures of central tendency
- Normal probability
- Observation
- Reliability
- Repeated measure design
- Research design
- Research evaluation
- Sampling methods and the Central Limit Theorem
- Standard deviation and variance
- Statistical evaluation
- Tests of hypothesis
- Unobtrusive measures
- Validity

## OVERVIEW OF COURSE GRADING

The grades earned for the course will be derived using City University of Seattle’s decimal grading system, based on the following:

| <i>Overview of Required Assignments</i> | <i>% of Final Grade</i> |
|---|-------------------------|
| Course activities                       | 25%                     |
| Database Search Report                  | 10%                     |
| Research Article Critique               | 20%                     |
| Homework assignments                    | 45%                     |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                            | <b>100%</b>             |

## SPECIFICS OF COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

The instructor will provide grading rubrics that will provide more detail as to how this assignment will be graded.

### Course activities

Class participation through discussion activities is an integral part of this course. To provide a structure for balanced participation and allow students to maximize the benefit of the discussion activities, it is required to follow these guidelines: 1) Post responses to discussion questions in the first three days of the school week (Monday through Wednesday in online classes; various days in mixed-mode classes). 2) Post at least four or more thoughtful and topic-relevant comments to responses made by classmates over at least three different days of the school week. 3) Respond to any questions that the instructor has regarding

students' original post by the end of the school week.

| <i>Components</i>       | <i>% of Grade</i> |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Timeliness of responses | 15%               |
| Quality of responses    | 70%               |
| Quantity of responses   | 15%               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>            | <b>100%</b>       |

### Database Search Report

Students will perform a database search for the resources they might use while writing their paper for any psychology class that they are currently enrolled or will take in a future. They might also work on a topic for a hypothetical paper not related to any class. Students will have to find at least five different sources relevant to the topic of their paper – including articles from the scholarly journals, books, and the Websites. In a one- to two- page, double spaced report sstudents will present the title of the paper, one- to two-paragraph summary of the paper, and list of sources they are planning to use. This paper must meet APA requirements of format and style.

| <i>Components</i>                         | <i>% of Grade</i> |
|---|-------------------|
| DAS-U-Evidence and support                | 30%               |
| DAS-U-Organization and coherence          | 20%               |
| DAS-U-Style and mechanics                 | 20%               |
| DAS-U-Analysis and use of course concepts | 30%               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                              | <b>100%</b>       |

### Research Article Critique

Students are expected to complete one 5- to 7-page, double-spaced paper that analyzes the research methodology of a research article chosen by the instructor. The goal of this research article critique is to ensure that students effectively understand research methodologies used in social science research articles.

| <i>Components</i>                         | <i>% of Grade</i> |
|---|-------------------|
| DAS-U-Organization and coherence          | 20%               |
| DAS-U-Style and mechanics                 | 20%               |
| DAS-U-Analysis and use of course concepts | 30%               |
| DAS-U-Evidence and support                | 30%               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                              | <b>100%</b>       |

### Homework assignments

There will be three homework assignments that ensure students can effectively use and understand data/statistics and one homework assignment that ensures students can effectively use and understand methodology of social research.

| <i>Components</i>   | <i>% of Grade</i> |
|---|-------------------|
| Formula Identification: Can the student identify the correct formula to utilize in a given context? | 20%               |
| Quantitative Terminology  | 20%               |
| Problem Solving   | 30%               |
| Understanding & Connections   | 20%               |
| Communication   | 10%               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>100%</b>       |

## **COURSE POLICIES**

### **Late Assignments**

LATE ASSIGNMENT

### **Participation**

PARTICIPATION

### **Professional Writing**

Assignments require error-free writing that uses standard English conventions and logical flow of organization to address topics clearly, completely, and concisely. CityU requires the use of APA style.

## **UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

You are responsible for understanding and adhering to all of City University of Seattle's academic policies. The most current versions of these policies can be found in the [University Catalog](#) that is linked from the CityU Web site.

### **Non-Discrimination & Prohibition of Sexual Misconduct**

City University of Seattle adheres to all federal, state, and local civil rights laws prohibiting discrimination in employment and education. The University is committed to ensuring that the education environment is bounded by standards of mutual respect and safety and is free from discriminatory practices.

In the U.S., the University is required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 to ensure that all of its education programs and activities do not discriminate on the basis of sex/gender. Sex include sex, sex stereotypes, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, and pregnancy or parenting status. Sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating and domestic violence, and stalking are forms of sex discrimination, which are prohibited under Title IX and by City University of Seattle policy. City University of Seattle also prohibits retaliation against any person opposing discrimination or participating in any discrimination investigation or complaint process internal or external to the institution. Questions regarding Title IX, including its application and/or concerns about noncompliance, should be directed to the Title IX Coordinator. For a complete copy of the policy or for more information, visit <https://my.cityu.edu/titleix> or contact the Title IX Coordinator.

In Canada, in compliance with the British Columbia Human Rights Code, the Alberta Human Rights Act, WorksafeBC, and the Workers' Compensation Board of Alberta, the University believes that its environment should at all times be supportive and respectful of the dignity and self-esteem of individuals. Discrimination, harassment and bullying conduct, whether through person to person behaviour or via electronic communications such as email or social media is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. As an educational institution, it is our responsibility to cultivate an environment of excellence, equity, mutual respect and to recognize the value and potential of every individual. The University will take all necessary steps to meet or exceed the requirements of the law to prevent discrimination, harassment and bullying. The Respectful Workplace Policy for the prevention of discrimination, harassment and bullying policy and procedure can be found at <https://www.cityu.edu/discover-cityu/about-cityu/> under the Policies section or at <https://www.cityuniversity.ca/about/>.

### **Religious Accommodations**

City University of Seattle has a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The University's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available in the University Catalog and on the my.cityu.edu student portal. Accommodations must be requested by the 20% mark of this course (e.g. day 14 of a ten-week course, day 7 of a 5-week course) using the Religious Accommodations Request Form found on the student dashboard in the my.cityu.edu student portal.

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity in students requires the pursuit of scholarly activity that is free from fraud, deception and unauthorized collaboration with other individuals. Students are responsible for understanding CityU's policy on academic integrity and adhering to its standards in meeting all course requirements. A complete copy of this policy can be found in the University Catalog in the section titled [Academic Integrity Policy](#) under Student Rights & Responsibilities.

### **Attendance**

Students taking courses in any format at the University are expected to be diligent in their studies and to attend class regularly. Regular class attendance is important in achieving learning outcomes in the course and may be a valid consideration in determining the final grade. For classes where a physical presence is required, a student has attended if they are present at any time during the class session. For online classes, a student has attended if they have posted or submitted an assignment. A complete copy of this policy can be found in the [University Catalog](#) in the section titled Attendance under Student Rights & Responsibilities.

### **Final Assignments Due Date**

Final assignments for each class at CityU must be due on or before the final date of the course as indicated in the university's course information system. Due dates that extend beyond the final date of the course may negatively impact tuition funding for students.

## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

### **Disability Services Accommodations Statement**

Students with documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements.

Please contact Disability Support Services at [disability@cityu.edu](mailto:disability@cityu.edu) or 206.2369.4752 or visit the [Disability Support Services](#) page in the my.cityu.edu portal. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about academic accommodations will be shared with your course instructors.

**Library Services**

CityU librarians are available to help students find the resources and information they need to succeed in this course. Contact a CityU librarian through the [Ask a Librarian](#) service, or access [library resources and services](#) online, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**Smarthinking Tutoring** CityU students have 24/7 access to free online tutoring offered through Smarthinking, including writing support, from certified tutors. Contact CityU's Student Support Center at [mycityusupport@cityu.edu](mailto:mycityusupport@cityu.edu) to request a username and password.