

Course Syllabus
HSAD 5253: Health Services Research
Fall 2023
Midwestern State University
College of Health Sciences and Human Services
Department of Criminal Justice and Health Administration

Instructor: Akрати Gupta, DrPH, MPH

Email:

D2L Email Only. Please use the D2L email for all class related inquiries, but if you need to discuss something unrelated to the class, my university email is akrati.gupta@msutexas.edu. Please note that I may not reply to email during weekends, or evenings (after 5:00 PM), so please plan accordingly. Most emails will be returned **within 48 hours, except on weekends**. If you send me an email after 5:00 PM Thursday, I will not respond until Monday because Friday is considered a 'research day' for faculty. It is always a good policy to plan ahead and not expect help the last minute. Additionally, if you email me and do not hear from me within 48 hours, just email me again, sometimes technology (d2L) doesn't work like we want it to and can cause me to miss your emails.

Office Hours:

There are no official office hours, but you can email me with any questions you may have. If the questions cannot be resolved over emails, we can set up a phone/zoom call.

Class Meets:

HSAD 5253 X 10/ HSAD 5253 X11

- Every Monday to Sunday Online

Course Overview:

This is the beginning research course for all graduate students in the health care administration program. This class is the first of a two course sequence in research. The goal of the course is to familiarize students with research issues and methodology as well as to prepare them to conduct and evaluate research. To achieve this goal the course will place an emphasis on the designing and developing a research proposal based on each student's interest. During this course students will strive to improve their critical thinking, writing and research skills.

Course Objectives:

- To identify key areas of research which relate to the effectiveness, efficiency, and equity of health systems and policy
- To analyze methodologies for studying health service systems and public policies
- To distinguish proper from improperly conducted or concluded research in critiquing health services research and health program evaluations
- To conduct research using proper methodology
- To analyze findings to establish association of data to infer outcomes
- To summarize and critically evaluate major research projects

- To apply theories to actual research

Required Textbooks and Materials:

Jacobsen, K. H. (2016). 2nd Ed. Introduction to Health Research Methods: A Practical Guide
ISBN: 9780763783341

Pyrczak, F. (2014). 6th Ed. Making Sense of Statistics. A Conceptual Overview.
ISBN: 9781936523276

Machi, L., and McEvoy, B. (2016). 3rd Ed. The Literature Review Six Steps to Success.
ISBN: 978-1506336244

Other Materials:

Supplemental readings and/or information may be made available at times during the course.

Instructional Methods:

Instructional strategies for this class will include assigned readings, participation in discussions, written assignments which will include independent research.

Course Assignments:

Weekly Folio Modules: Modules specific to each course week are posted on D2L. Each module consists of assigned readings and will either have a written assignment or a discussion question due. Please follow the instructions for assignment completion posted within each module. Each module must be completed by the due date specified in the tentative course schedule attached to this syllabus.

Class discussion: Some modules will have a discussion question posted by the instructor (total 10). The discussion question will be related to assigned readings for that module. Students are required to read assigned materials and answer the discussion question. In order to obtain full points for the discussion post, student must post a response of their own and reply to at least one other thread on the discussion board. **Any response which is shorter than five sentences will receive partial credit only.** Discussion posts will be graded based on quality of the content, length of the content, and compliance with APA guidelines for citations and references. **Students are encouraged to post both comments and questions and treat the discussion posts as discussions in the classroom.** This is a great platform to share your experiences and thoughts related to weekly topics.

Research proposal: This class will require you to design a research proposal on the topic of your choice. The purpose of this assignment is to prepare students to conduct independent research. There are several steps to designing a proposal, including coming up with a research topic, designing research questions and objectives, and developing research design and data collection strategies. **The research topic and questions must be approved by the instructor before it is used to develop rest of the proposal. The approval will be communicated to you with the first assignment. If the topic is not**

approved, you will be asked to come up with a different topic and related research questions and submit them to the instructor via email to obtain approval. Second assignment will not be accepted until the topic is approved; therefore, it is critical to get the topic and questions approved before the second assignment is due. If you wish to get an idea of if you are on the right path with the research topic or question, you can email me your topic and questions at least a week before the first assignment is due for review. The course will take you through each step of developing a proposal and each step is due in a separate module (please refer to course schedule for due dates and time). Rubric for each step is also available under the ‘rubric’ module, so that students know what is expected of them. This assignment will require you to conduct independent research, however, you are allowed to work in groups (only if you want) to develop and refine your proposal. Please note that no two topics/proposal must read same. I take plagiarism very seriously; if any of your material(s) is plagiarized, you will receive an automatic ‘ZERO’ on the assignment (see plagiarism guidelines on ‘page 4’ of this syllabus for additional details).

Final Exam:

A written final exam will be conducted for this course. Final exam will include questions and case studies related to the course materials. The final exam will open at 8:00 AM ON 8TH DEC. 2023 AND CLOSE AT 8:00 PM ON 11TH DEC. 2023. More details on format of the final exam will be provided later in the semester.

IMPORTANT NOTE: No discussion posts, assignments or exams will be accepted later than the due date. All assignments that are submitted after the due date will receive an automatic zero unless permission was given prior to the due date. Requests to turn work late must be submitted in writing at least ONE week prior to the submission due date. These requests will only be granted under extreme circumstances.

Course Assignment Style Guidelines:

For all written assignments and discussion board posts, students are expected to follow APA7th edition formatting guidelines. **If you do not currently have an APA style guide, please purchase or borrow from your classmate.** If you still have difficulty locating the style guide, please contact the instructor.

Grading:

Final Grades will be calculated with total points obtained in class. Weighting of assignments for purposes of grading will be as follows:

Assignments	Grade Points
Discussion Posts (10x10)	100 Points
Research topic, questions and hypothesis	20 Points
Literature review	30 Points
Methods (research design and data collection)	50 Points
Final exam (1x100)	100 Points

Assignments	Grade Points
Total Possible Points	300 Points

Note: Research topic, literature review, data collection and analysis together make a research proposal which is total 100 points. (20+30+30+20)

Grade percentages (GP) will be calculated based on a student's accumulated points throughout the semester. The following point scale will be utilized for grading:

270-300 Points (90% or More)	A
240-269 Points (80%-89.99%)	B
210-239 Points (70%-79.99%)	C
180-209 Points (60-69.99%)	D

Students who accumulate below 209 points or 69% of GP will get an 'F'

Note: It is important to know that obtaining 'C' or lower grade in the course may impact your enrollment in the program.

Class Participation:

Since this is a distance learning course, your discussion posts will be counted as your participation in the class. So, communicating through discussion posts is critical.

Academic Honesty:

I assume that the written work you turn in reflects your own ideas and your own words, unless you specifically attribute them to another source. Very limited amount of quotation and paraphrasing for written assignments is acceptable. However, appropriate acknowledgement of the ideas, works, writings, or opinions that you borrow must be stated. **Since, no assignments for this course require group work; any students who are found to be working together may lose some or all of the points for the assignments.**

Academic dishonesty is not acceptable and is a breach of the student code of ethics.

Dishonesty includes, but not limited to:

- 1) Plagiarism
- 2) Submitting work that was not prepared by you (fraud)
- 3) Helping another student with their work when expressly prohibited (cheating).

If you need more information on student honor code please visit [Student Conduct](#)

Please note that any form of breach of student code of ethics could result in dismissal or grade of 'F'.

Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil protections for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment which provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. In accordance with state and federal law, MSU

provides academic accommodations to students with documented disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Support Services (DSS) in Room 168 of the Clark Student Center (phone 940-397-4140). The instructor is under no obligation to offer accommodations for students with disabilities who are not registered with DSS. To learn more about DSS, you can also visit [Disability Support Services](#)

Campus Carry:

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at [Campus Carry Rules](#)

Note: The contents of the syllabus are as accurate as possible. The instructor reserves the right to make any changes necessary to the syllabus and course material. Every effort will be made to inform students about the changes in the syllabus, however, its student's responsibility to know what changes have been made and complete the course requirements. There are no extra credit opportunities in this course.

Tentative Class Schedule Fall 2023:

Week	Topic and Readings	Assignment
Week 1	INTRODUCTION	Complete Module 1 on D2L (due by 11:59PM 4 th Sept) Discussion 1 Due
Week 2	SYLLABUS REVIEW WEEK'S TOPIC: Introduction to Research Basics CHAPTER 1 (Jacobsen) The Health Research Process CHAPTER 15 (Jacobsen) Research Protocols CHAPTER 31 (Jacobsen) Poster and Presentations CHAPTER 32 (Jacobsen) Article Structure CHAPTER 33 (Jacobsen) Citing CHAPTER 35 (Jacobsen) Writing Success Strategies	Complete Module 2 on D2L (due by 11:59 PM 11 th Sep.) Discussion 2 Due
Week 3	WEEK'S TOPIC: Selection of Research Topic CHAPTER 2 (Jacobsen) Selecting a General Topic CHAPTER 4 (Jacobsen) Focusing on the Research Question CHAPTER 1 (Machi and McEvoy) Select a Topic	Complete Module 3 on D2L (due by 11:59 18 th Sep.) Discussion 3 Due

Week	Topic and Readings	Assignment
Week 4	<p>WEEK'S TOPIC: Selection of Research Topic</p> <p>CHAPTER 2 (Jacobsen) Selecting a General Topic</p> <p>CHAPTER 4 (Jacobsen) Focusing the Research Question</p> <p>CHAPTER 1 (Machi and McEvoy) Select a Topic</p>	<p>Complete Module 4 on D2L (due by 11:59 PM 25th Sep.)</p> <p>RESEARCH TOPIC AND QUESTION(S) DUE VIA DROPBOX</p> <p>NOTE: I WILL BE APPROVING RESEARC TOPICS AND QUESTIONS WITH THIS DRAFT.</p>
Week 5	<p>WEEK'S TOPIC: Conducting Literature Review</p> <p>CHAPTER 3 (Jacobsen) Reviewing The Literature</p> <p>CHAPTER 2 (Machi and McEvoy) Search the Literature</p> <p>CHAPTER 4 (Machi and McEvoy) Survey the Literature</p>	<p>Complete Module 5 on D2L (due by 11:59 PM 2nd Oct.)</p> <p>Discussion 4 Due</p>
Week 6	<p>WEEK'S TOPIC: Conducting Literature Review</p> <p>CHAPTER 6 (Machi and McEvoy) Write the Review</p>	<p>Complete Module 6 on D2L (due by 11:59 PM 9th Oct.)</p> <p>Discussion 5 Due</p>
Week 7	<p>WEEK'S TOPIC: Study Design</p> <p>CHAPTER 7 (Jacobsen) Overview of Study Designs</p> <p>CHAPTER 8 (Jacobsen) Case Series</p> <p>CHAPTER 14 (Jacobsen) Correlational Studies</p>	<p>Complete Module 7 on D2L (due by 11:59 5th 16th Oct.)</p> <p>LITERATURE REVIEW DUE VIA DROPBOX</p>

Week	Topic and Readings	Assignment
Week 8	<p>WEEK'S TOPIC: Study Design</p> <p>CHAPTER 9 (Jacobsen) Cross-Sectional Surveys</p> <p>CHAPTER 10 (Jacobsen) Case-Control Studies</p> <p>CHAPTER 11 (Jacobsen) Cohort Studies</p> <p>CHAPTER 12 (Jacobsen) Experimental Studies</p> <p>CHAPTER 13 (Jacobsen) Qualitative Studies</p>	<p>Complete Module 8 on D2L (due by 11:59 23rd Oct.)</p> <p>Discussion 6 Due</p>
Week 9	<p>WEEK'S TOPIC: Study Design</p> <p>CHAPTER 16 (Jacobsen) Population Sampling</p> <p>CHAPTER 17 (Jacobsen) Sample size Estimation</p>	<p>Complete Module 9 on D2L (due by 11:59 30th Oct.)</p> <p>Discussion 7 Due</p>
Week 10	<p>WEEK'S TOPIC: Data Collection</p> <p>CHAPTER 18 (Jacobsen) Questionnaire Development</p> <p>CHAPTER 19 (Jacobsen) Surveys and Interviews</p> <p>CHAPTER 20 (Jacobsen) Additional Assessments</p> <p>CHAPTER 21 (Jacobsen) Secondary Analysis</p>	<p>Complete Module 10 on D2L (due by 11:59 PM 6th Nov.)</p>

Week	Topic and Readings	Assignment
Week 11	<p>WEEK'S TOPIC: Study Design and Data Collection</p> <p>CHAPTER 22 (Jacobsen) Systemic Reviews</p> <p>CHAPTER 23 (Jacobsen) Ethical Considerations</p> <p>CHAPTER 24 (Jacobsen) Ethical Review and Approval</p>	<p>Complete Module 11 on D2L (due by 11:59 PM 13th Nov.)</p> <p>Discussion 8 Due</p>
Week 12	<p>WEEK'S TOPIC: Data Analysis</p> <p>PART A (Pyrzczak) The Research Context</p> <p>CHAPTER 26 (Jacobsen) Data Management</p> <p>PART B (Pyrzczak) Descriptive Statistics</p> <p>CHAPTER 27 (Jacobsen) Descriptive Statistics</p>	<p>Complete Module 12 on D2L (due by 11:59 PM 20th Nov.)</p> <p>STUDY METHODOLOGY DUE VIA DROPBOX</p> <p>Discussion 9 Due</p>
Week 13	<p>THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS</p>	<p>NO CLASSES</p>
Week	Topic and Readings	Assignment
Week 14	<p>WEEK'S TOPIC: Data Analysis</p> <p>PART C (Pyrzczak) Correlational Statistics</p> <p>PART D (Pyrzczak) Inferential Statistics</p> <p>CHAPTER 28 (Jacobsen) Comparative Statistics</p>	<p>Complete Module 13 on D2L (due by 11:59 PM 4th Dec.)</p> <p>Discussion 10 Due</p>

Week	Topic and Readings	Assignment
	CHAPTER 29 (Jacobsen) Regression Analysis CHAPTER 30 (Jacobsen) Additional Analysis Tools	
Week 15	FINAL EXAM WEEK	THE FINAL EXAM WILL OPEN 8:00 AM ON DEC. 8 TH AND CLOSE 8:00 PM ON DEC. 11TH.

* Please note that above schedule does not contain the list of additional supplemental and required readings and materials. To view additional required readings, please refer to each module.