

NRES 750: Human Dimensions Research Methods

Subtitle: Proposal Writing

Alternating Wednesdays, 4:00-4:50PM

Fall 2020 Syllabus

Course Instructor

Dr. Kendra Liddicoat

Office: TNR 235

Contact Information: (715) 630-0640, kliddico@uwsp.edu

Office Hours: Wednesdays 9-11 at <https://uwsp.zoom.us/j/8645902475>

Course Catalog Description

Discuss research methods, relevant literature, and current issues in Human Dimensions of Natural Resources.

Learning Objectives

This course guides new graduate students through the process of developing a research question, reviewing the literature, exploring quantitative and qualitative approaches to data collection and analysis, and writing a preliminary thesis proposal.

At the end of the course, students will be able to

1. Write a clear research question.
2. Use the UWSP library and other resources to locate literature appropriate to their field of study.
3. Critically read primary literature.
4. Follow ethical guidelines for conducting human subjects research.
5. Explain quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods approaches to social science research.
6. Write a short research proposal.

Required Text

O'Leary, Z. (2017). *The essential guide to doing your research project (3rd ed)*. Los Angeles, CA: SAGE.

Course Format

Due to COVID-19, this course will meet on Zoom every other Wednesday. Additional individual meetings to be scheduled as needed.

Learning Assessments

| <i>Assignment</i> | <i>Points</i> |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Participation | 10 |
| Self-assessment | 5 |
| Research questions worksheet | 10 |
| CITI Training (>80%) | 10 |
| Article analysis | 5 |
| Annotated bibliography | 10 |
| Literature review | 25 |
| Thesis proposal | 25 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>100</i> |

All submissions should be submitted through Canvas unless otherwise specified. Professionally presented papers are clear and cohesive, have been checked for spelling and grammatical errors, and are submitted by the deadline to earn full credit.

Course grade calculation:

$$\frac{\text{Total Points Earned}}{150} \times 100 = \text{percentage}$$

Grading Scale

| | | | |
|-------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| 93-100% = A | 83-86 = B | 73-76 = C | 60-66 = D |
| 90-92 = A- | 80-82 = B- | 70-72 = C- | <59 = F |
| 87-89 = B+ | 77-79 = C+ | 67-69 = D+ | |

UWSP Community Bill of Rights and Responsibilities

UWSP values a safe, honest, respectful, and inviting learning environment. In order to ensure that each student has the opportunity to succeed, we have developed a set of expectations for all students and instructors. More information on expectations and your rights and responsibilities as a student can be found on the Dean of Students page at <https://www.uwsp.edu/dos>.

Academic integrity is central to the mission of higher education in general and UWSP in particular. Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) is taken very seriously. Don't do it! The minimum penalty for a violation of academic integrity is a failure (zero) for the assignment. For more information, see <https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Student-Conduct.aspx>.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal law requiring educational institutions to provide reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability and require classroom and/or exam accommodations, please register with the Disability and Assistive Technology Center and then contact me at the beginning of the course. I am happy to help in any way that I can. For more information, please visit the Disability and Assistive Technology Center, located on the 6th floor of Albertson Hall (the Library). You can also find more information here: <https://www.uwsp.edu/datc>.

COVID – 19 Guidelines

Face Coverings: • At all UW-Stevens Point campus locations, the wearing of face coverings is mandatory in all buildings, including classrooms, laboratories, studios, and other instructional spaces. Any student with a condition that impacts their use of a face covering should contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center to discuss accommodations in classes. Please note that unless everyone is wearing a face covering, in-person classes cannot take place. This is university policy and not up to the discretion of individual instructors. Failure to adhere to this requirement could result in formal withdrawal from the course.

Other Guidance: • Please monitor your own health each day using this screening tool. If you are not feeling well or believe you have been exposed to COVID-19, do not come to class; email your instructor and contact Student Health Service (715-346-4646). • As with any type of absence, students are expected to communicate their need to be absent and complete the course requirements as outlined in the syllabus. • Maintain a minimum of 6 feet of physical distance from others whenever possible. • Do not congregate in groups before or after class; stagger your arrival and departure from the classroom, lab, or meeting room. • Wash your hands or use appropriate hand sanitizer regularly and avoid touching your face. • Please maintain these same healthy practices outside the classroom.

NRES 750: Human Dimensions Research Methods
 Subtitle: Proposal Writing
Fall 2020 Tentative Schedule

| Date | Topic | Reading Due | Assignment Due | Meeting* |
|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 9/2 | Welcome | | | Yes |
| 9/9 | Thesis introduction | O'Leary Ch 2 | Self-assessment | No |
| 9/16 | Thesis process & timeline | | | Yes |
| 9/23 | Research questions | O'Leary Ch 3 | Research questions worksheet | No |
| 9/30 | Research questions & COVID | | CITI Training | Yes |
| 10/7 | Reviewing literature | O'Leary Ch 6, McGregor scan | | Yes |
| 10/14 | Reading critically | Kuyper article | Article analysis | No |
| 10/21 | Finalize research questions | | Research questions | Yes |
| 10/28 | Library consultation | | | No |
| 11/4 | Using theory | | Annotated bibliography (5 articles) | Yes |
| 11/11 | (Work on literature review) | | | No |
| 11/18 | Methodologies | O'Leary Ch 8 | | Yes |
| 11/25 | (Work on literature review) | | Literature review | No |
| 12/2 | Proposal format & questions | | | Yes |
| 12/9 | (Work on proposal) | | | No |
| 12/16 | | | Proposal | No |