

NRES 750: Human Dimensions Research Methods

Subtitle: Proposal Writing

Wednesdays, 8:00-8:50am

Fall 2023 Syllabus

Room: TNR 359

Course Instructors

Dr. Becca Franzen

Office: TNR 237

Phone: (715) 346-4943

Email: bfranzen@uwsp.edu

Office Hours: Mondays 1-2pm, Thursdays 11-12pm in TNR 237 or at <https://wisconsin-edu.zoom.us/j/94627391522?pwd=WFVBTEoydTRwNVBMTEVGWnZUN3JPZz09>

Dr. Austin Holland

Office: TNR 180

Phone: 715-346-3206

Email: auhollan@uwsp.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 11:00am-12:00pm, or by appointment (zoom or in person)

Course Catalog Description

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

Learning Objectives

This course guides 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 and/or hypothesis.
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

You can find the required text at the University Store and Text Rental:

O'Leary, Z. (2021). *The essential guide to doing your research project (4th ed)*. Los Angeles, CA: SAGE.

Learning Assessments

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Points</i>
Participation	10
Self-assessment	10

Research questions worksheet	5
IRB practice protocol	10
Article analysis	5
Journals in your field	5
Literature review	25
Research proposal (draft & final)	5+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:

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

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>.

COVID-19 and Health Precautions

We will follow university guidance (which includes CDC guidance) regarding COVID-19 and other health-related issues. Please reference the [UWSP's website related to COVID](#). The [CDC website](#) provides guidance on isolation and precautions related to COVID. As needed, we will announce policy changes that affect you in this class. It is expected that everyone will respect the needs and preferences of classmates and instructors.

Disability and Accommodations

In accordance with federal law and UW System policies, UWSP strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you need accommodations for a disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please visit with the [Disability Resource Center](#) to determine reasonable accommodations and notify faculty. After notification, please discuss your accommodations with me so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. DRC contact information: drc@uwsp.edu; (715) 346-3365; 108 Collins Classroom Center (CCC).

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Fall 2023 Tentative Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading Due	Assignment Due
9/6	Welcome		Introduction
9/20	Research process & timeline Research questions & variables	O'Leary Ch 2 O'Leary Ch 3	Self-assessment Research questions worksheet
10/4	Reviewing literature Methodologies & paradigms	O'Leary Ch 6, McGregor chapter, O'Leary Ch 8, Riddick & Russell chapter	Article analysis based on Kuyper article
10/18	Research ethics	UWSP IRB forms	CITI Training Certificate IRB (practice) Protocol
11/1	Published surveys, designing your own survey	O'Leary pp. 224-238, Patten chapter	Survey instruments from the literature
11/15	Interviews, focus groups, pictures, and other qualitative data	O'Leary pp. 239-250 Saldaña & Omasta chapter	Library consultation Journals in your field
11/29	Using theories & doing research	Validity readings Frazier et al. Miles 2017	Literature review & Research Gaps
12/6	Proposal writing workshop		Research Proposal draft
12/20	<i>No class. Submit proposal to Canvas.</i>		Research Proposal final

**** THE SYLLABUS, ASSIGNMENTS, GRADE WEIGHTS, AND COURSE SCHEDULE ARE ALL SUBJECT TO CHANGE. THE INSTRUCTOR WILL NOTIFY THE STUDENTS AS SOON AS ANY SUCH CHANGES ARE MADE AND WILL PROVIDE UPDATED COURSE MATERIALS AS APPROPRIATE. ****