

EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN AND RESEARCH METHODS IN HEALTH CARE

FALL 2016 PGS 390K Unique #58484 –PHM 382K Unique #59195

Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00-11:15a in PHR 2.114

SYLLABUS

Instructors:

Jamie C. Barner, Ph.D. (Coordinator)	PHR 3.210E	471-5612	jbarner@austin.utexas.edu
Carolyn M. Brown, Ph.D.	PHR 3.209D	471-2374	cmbrown@austin.utexas.edu
Karen L. Rascati, Ph.D.	PHR 3.209A	471-1637	krascati@austin.utexas.edu

Overview:

This course provides an introduction to research designs and the process of conducting research in health outcomes and pharmacy practice. It will cover the fundamentals of research and introduce you to the terminology, concepts, and processes used in designing and implementing a research project. Emphasis will be given to the application of research methodology concepts and principles.

Required Materials:

Aparasu RR. *Research Methods for Pharmaceutical Practice and Policy*. Gurnee IL: Pharmaceutical Press, 2011.

Dillman DA, Smyth JD, Christian LM. *Internet, Mail, and Mixed-Mode Surveys: The Tailored Design Method*, 3rd ed., New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2008.

Class handouts will also be used and we will be using Canvas to post notes, supplementary materials and grades.

Grading:

Grading will consist of assignments, projects, and take-home exams. The course is divided into four sections; instructors have responsibility for designated sections. Grades from each section will account for 25 percent of your course grade. The four sections are:

Section	Topic	Faculty
1	Science and Theory	Brown
2	Internal/External Validity and Research Designs	Barner
3	Measurement and Sampling	Rascati
4	Survey Design	Barner

Grades will be assigned as follows:

93% - 100%	A	87% - 89%	B+	77% - 79%	C+
90% - 92%	A-	80% - 82%	B-	73% - 76%	C
				70% - 72%	C-

Note: Grades for late homework assignments will be reduced by 10% unless specific arrangements have been made with the instructor in advance of the due date.

Schedule:

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
SECTION 1 Dr. Brown (Aparasu)			
1	8/24	Intro (Barner)/Data Cleaning (Rascati)	
2	8/29	Key Concepts and Terms in Research	Chapter 2 / handout
	8/31	Key Concepts and Terms in Research	Chapter 2 / handout
3	9/5	LABOR DAY – No CLASS	
	9/7	Overview of Research Steps	Class handout
4	9/12	Theory, Research Problems, Hypotheses	Chapters 2 and 3/ handout
SECTION 2 Dr. Rascati (Aparasu)			
	9/14	Reliability/Validity	p. 60-69
5	9/19	Sampling	Chapter 7
	9/21	Sampling	Chapter 7
6	9/26	Measurement/Scaling	
	9/28	Measurement/Scaling	
7	10/3	Literature Review, Qualitative Methods (<i>Brown</i>)	Chapter 8 and 9 (Qual) / handout
SECTION 3 Dr. Barner (Aparasu)			
	10/5	Introduction to Research Designs	
8	10/10	Introduction to Research Designs	Chapters 5 & 6
	10/12	Threats to Internal & External Validity	Chapters 5 & 6
9	10/17	Threats to Internal & External Validity	Chapters 5 & 6
	10/19	Common Research Designs	Chapters 5 & 6
10	10/24	Common Research Designs	Chapters 5 & 6
	10/26	Common Research Designs	Chapters 5 & 6
11	10/31	Power Analysis and Sample Size Estimation	Chapters 5 & 6
SECTION 4 Dr. Barner (Dillman)			
	11/2	Survey Design	Chapters 1 & 2
12	11/7	Survey Design	Chapters 4 & 5
	11/9	Survey Design	Chapters 5 & 6
13	11/14	Survey Design	Chapters 7
	11/16	Survey Design	Chapter 8
14	11/21	Survey Design	Chapter 10
	11/23	THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS	
15	11/28	Web Surveys	Chapters 9
	11/30	Mixed Mode Surveys	Chapter 11
16	12/5	Evaluating Manuscripts (<i>Rascati</i>)	Handouts

Scholastic Integrity

University policies on scholastic dishonesty are strictly enforced.

Students are expected to work independently on all assignments unless otherwise specified by the instructors. Any student caught cheating will be given a zero on the assignment (at a minimum) and will be reported to the Dean of the Graduate School and to the Dean of Students, as per University regulations.

Students are expected to have read and to understand what constitutes scholastic dishonesty and the relevant procedures as published in the current issue of the General Information Catalog. Please refer to the Student Judicial Services website (<http://www.utexas.edu/depts/dos/sjs/>) for the official University policies and procedures on scholastic dishonesty.

Academic Accommodations

“The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities.” All University rules concerning accommodations must be followed. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259 (471-4641 TTY).

Religious Holy Days

According to UT Austin policy, you must notify the course coordinator of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL)

If you are worried about someone who is acting differently, you may use the Behavior Concerns Advice Line to discuss by phone your concerns about another individual's behavior. This service is provided through a partnership among the Office of the Dean of Students, the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC), the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and The University of Texas Police Department (UTPD). Call 512-232-5050 or visit <http://www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal>.