

**Advanced Research Seminar**  
**PAD 7707 - Section 7266, Fall 2002**  
**Askew Tower, Room 416**  
**Tuesday, 6:00-8:50 p.m.**

|                                   |                       |                    |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Leslie A. Leip                    | 954.762.5667 (Office) | 954.924.8507 (FAX) |
| Office Hours: Anytime you need me | 954.924.8818 (Home)   | lleip@aol.com      |

The purpose of this class is to further enhance your research skills by examining a variety of topics. The first part of the semester focuses on theoretical foundations, the review of the literature, the research process, research design, ethical considerations for researchers, survey development issues, and primary data collection. During the second part of the semester, you will have the opportunity to explore various secondary data sources and sharpen your quantitative and qualitative analysis skills. Throughout the entire semester, you will pull all of the components together via a research project. The hope is that the development of your research project will provide an understanding of the process you should follow for writing your dissertation.

Your responsibilities for this class are as follows: 1) reading the assigned material before the class session; 2) passing the assignments; 3) attending all class sessions; 4) writing a research project; and 5) presenting your research project. **Attendance is very important!** You should let me know if you can't attend class.

This class is designed to increase your computer literacy level. You must have access to the Internet. If you don't have SPSS 10 or higher, you should get it. You'll need to download Adobe Acrobat Reader so you can read portable document files.

One required textbook is *Writing the Doctoral Dissertation* written by Davis and Parker. Other supplemental materials are provided via Blackboard. Please make sure that you always bring your reading materials to class.

The following is the assignment of points and the grading scale:

|                     |                  |              |              |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Participation       | 100 points       | 432-450 = A  | 364-377 = B- |
| Assignments         | 150 points       | 410-431 = A- | 351-363 = C+ |
| Research Project    | 175 points       | 396-409 = B+ | 333-350 = C  |
| <u>Presentation</u> | <u>25 points</u> | 378-395 = B  |              |
| Total Points        | 450 points       |              |              |

## Course Outline

### **August 27<sup>th</sup> - Overview of Course**

**Reading:** Davis and Parker – entire book  
Research Project Outline  
Point Distribution List

**Assignment 1:** Preparation for the Research Project (Due on 9/3)

### **September 3<sup>rd</sup> - Theoretical Foundations and Literature Review**

**Reading:** Assigned Dissertation

**Assignment 2:** Theories and Literature Reviews (Due by 9/8)

### **September 10<sup>th</sup> - Library Session - Online Class**

**Assignment 3a:** Developing Theory & the Literature Review (Due on 10/1)

**Assignment 3b:** Gathering Literature (Due by 9/15)

### **September 17<sup>th</sup> - The Research Process and Research Design**

**Reading:** GAO - Designing Evaluations  
Research Designs  
Trochim's Structure of Research (from assignment 4)  
Trochim's Research Design (from assignment 4)

**Assignment 4a:** The Structure of Research (Due on 9/17)

**Assignment 4b:** Developing Your Research Design (Due by 9/21)

### **September 24<sup>th</sup> - Research Ethics - Online Class**

**Reading:** American Statistical Association - Ethical Principles for  
Statistical Practice  
The Belmont Report  
Trochim's Evaluation Culture information (from assignment 5)  
AAPOR- Code of Ethics (from assignment 5)

**Assignment 5:** Ethical Frameworks (Due by 9/29)

### **October 1<sup>st</sup> - Survey Design and Primary Data Collection**

**Reading:** ASA – How to Plan A Survey  
ASA – Designing Questionnaires  
ASA – How to Collect Survey Data  
Martin County Survey  
IRB Guidelines (from assignment 6)  
AAPOR-Best Practices in Survey Research (from assignment 6)

**Assignment 6:** Institutional Processes and Primary Data Collection  
(Due on 10/1)

**October 8<sup>th</sup> - Survey Development - Online Class**

Assignment 7: Designing A Survey (Due on 10/15)

**October 15<sup>th</sup> - Secondary Data Collection**

Assignment 8: Exploring Secondary Data Sources (Due on 10/15)

**October 22<sup>nd</sup> - Quantitative Methods**

Reading: Trochim's Data Preparation, Descriptive Stats, and General Linear Modeling (from assignment 9)  
Garson's Correlation and Multiple Regression (from assign 9)

Assignment 9: Quantitative Methods

**October 29<sup>th</sup> - Quantitative Methods - Online Class**

Reading: Sample Tables

Assignment 10: Doing the Analyses

**November 5<sup>th</sup> - Qualitative Methods**

Reading: GAO Using Structured Interviewing Techniques  
Tellis, Introduction to Case Study  
Bowen, The Sin of Omission  
Heath, The Proposal in Qualitative Research  
Chenail - Presenting Qualitative Data  
ASA - Focus Groups

**November 12<sup>th</sup> - Qualitative Methods - Online Class**

Assignment 11: Developing Qualitative Methodologies

**November 19<sup>th</sup> - Individual Student Meetings**

**November 26<sup>th</sup> - Research Project Presentations**

**Final Copy of Project is Due**

**December 3<sup>rd</sup> - Research Project Presentations**