NOTE to prospective students: This syllabus is intended to provide students who are considering taking this course an idea of what they will be learning. A more detailed syllabus will be available on the course site for enrolled students and may be more current than this sample syllabus. Summer term courses may be accelerated – please check the Ecampus Schedule of Classes for more information.

SOC 315
Methods I: Research Design
Instructor: Ashley Parker

COURSE CREDITS:
(4) This course combines approximately 120 hours of instruction, online activities, and assignments for 4 credits.

PREREQUISITES, CO-REQUISITES AND ENFORCED PREREQUISITES:
PREREQS: (SOC 204 [D-] or SOC 204H [D-] ) and junior standing. Sociology majors only.

COURSE DESCRIPTION FROM CATALOG
SOC 315. METHODS I: RESEARCH DESIGN (4). Is WIC Core Course
First in a two-course sequence required of all sociology majors. Students learn to formulate researchable questions, devise measures, select data collection techniques, and examine ethical and practical dilemmas in constructing sociological research. (Writing Intensive Course)

This course is designed to help you understand social science research and how it is conducted. We will tackle pragmatic issues of research design, measurement and interpretation of quantitative data. By the end of this quarter you will know enough to be able to understand why we will proceed with the data analyses planned for Sociology 316. In that course you will learn to complete such analyses.
Baccalaureate Core Course Attributes: Core, Skills, WIC

CONTACT INFORMATION:
For more information, contact: McKENZIE HUBER, 306 FAIR, 541-737-5733, mckenzie.huber@oregonstate.edu
Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information. For accuracy, please check the ECampus Schedule of Classes to see the most current instructor information. You can search for contact information by name from the OSU Home Page.

LEARNING RESOURCES:


NOTE: For textbook accuracy, please always check the textbook list at the OSU Bookstore website. Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information.

Students can also click the OSU Beaver Store link associated with the course information in the Ecampus schedule of classes for course textbook information and ordering.

COURSE SPECIFIC MEASURABLE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe and compare various research techniques used in sociology
2. Assess the usefulness of research methods for answering a variety of empirical questions
3. Construct testable research hypotheses
4. Design a quantitative analysis to test these hypothesis, and
5. Write a literature review and data/methods section of a research report that meets professional standards.

Students taking a course in the Baccalaureate Core Writing Intensive Course category will:

1. Develop and articulate content knowledge and critical thinking in the discipline through frequent practice of informal and formal writing.
2. Demonstrate knowledge/understanding of audience expectations, genres, and conventions appropriate to communicating in the discipline.
3. Demonstrate the ability to compose a document of at least 2000 words through multiple aspects of writing, including brainstorming, drafting, using sources appropriately, and revising comprehensively after receiving feedback on a draft.

EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE:

**Practice and Participation (20%)**: To succeed at learning the material, students must complete tutorials and practice quizzes, participate in online discussions of topics with the instructor and students, and turn in evidence of progress in the course readings. These activities are all short, and worth a few points each, but in total they comprise a significant part of the learning experience and of the course grade. A list of the activities and their point values will be made available to enrolled students.

**Midterm and Final Exam (20%, 25%)**: The proctored midterm and final exam will focus attention on material other than the research paper. The final exam will be longer than the midterm to permit covering several important concepts from the first half of the course. The exams are generally “short-answer” in nature, requiring paragraph-length answers. Information about proctoring of exams is available elsewhere in the syllabus.

**Research Paper (35%)**: Students will write the first three sections (Introduction, Literature Review, Data & Methods) of a research paper. The paper will then be completed in Sociology 316. This paper will be drafted and undergo various forms of review (peer & instructor). Please follow closely the deadlines indicated in the course calendar.

**Notice**: No grade will be given for this class unless the final is completed (D or higher) and the term paper is turned in (C- or greater). Students must achieve a course grade of at least C- and a grade on the paper of C- or better to continue on to Soc 316. The reason for the strict policy about the paper and final exam is to insure that students are ready to proceed to Sociology 316.

COURSE CONTENT AND POLICIES:
A detailed calendar of activities, readings, etc. will be provided for enrolled students.

1. However, a typical week will be comprised of:
2. Completion of 1 to 3 online tutorials that may be brief recorded lectures with visual aids, or interactive web-tutorials.
3. Reading the textbooks or other assigned items.
4. Active participation in discussion with instructor and students via course discussion boards, phone or email contact with the professor, or other means of interaction.
5. Completion of graded and ungraded quizzes designed to assess your comprehension of the material.
6. Demonstration of measurable progress in the development of the research paper.

Concepts include: formulating research questions, elaboration modeling, conceptualizing and operationalizing measures, qualitative and quantitative data collection techniques, interpretation of data, and ethical and practical dilemmas in constructing sociological research.

COURSE SITE LOGIN INFORMATION
Information on how to login to your course site can be found HERE.

STATEMENT REGARDING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
Oregon State University is committed to student success; however, we do not require students to use accommodations nor will we provide them unless they are requested by the student. The student, as a legal adult, is responsible to request appropriate accommodations. The student must take the lead in applying to Disability Access Services (DAS) and submit requests for accommodations each term through DAS Online. OSU students apply to DAS and request accommodations at our Getting Started with DAS page.

Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Disability Access Services (DAS). Students with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND STUDENT CONDUCT (OSU POLICY)
Students are expected to be honest and ethical in their academic work. Intentional acts of academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism may be penalized by imposing an “F” grade in the course.

Student conduct is governed by the universities policies, as explained in the Office of the Dean of Student Life: Student Conduct and Community Standards. In an academic community, students and faculty, and staff each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment, whether online or in the classroom. Students, faculty, and staff have the responsibility to treat each other with understanding, dignity, and respect.
Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g. on discussion boards, email postings, etc.) in compliance with the university’s regulations regarding civility. Students will be expected to treat all others with the same respect as they would want afforded to themselves. Disrespectful behavior (such as harassing behavior, personal insults, inappropriate language) or disruptive behaviors are unacceptable and can result in sanctions as defined by Student Conduct and Community Standards.

For more info on these topics please see:
- Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
- Student Conduct and Community Standards - Offenses
- Policy On Disruptive Behavior

PLAGIARISM
You are expected to submit your own work in all your assignments, postings to the discussion board, and other communications, and to clearly give credit to the work of others when you use it. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of “F.”
- Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
- Avoiding Academic Dishonesty

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or if you experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu or visit the OSU Computer Helpdesk online.

TUTORING
For information about possible tutoring for this course, please visit our Ecampus NetTutor page. Other resources include:
- Writing Center
- Online Writing Lab

STUDENT EVALUATION OF TEACHING
We encourage you to engage in the course evaluation process each term – online, of course. The evaluation form will be available toward the end of each term, and you will be sent instructions through ONID. You will login to “Online Services/MyOSU” to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted. Course evaluation results are very important and are used to help improve courses and the learning experience of future students.
Results from questions are tabulated anonymously and go directly to instructors and unit heads/supervisors. Unless a comment is “signed,” which will associate a name with a comment, student comments on the open-ended questions are anonymous and forwarded to each instructor. “Signed” comments are forwarded to the unit head/supervisor.

REFUND POLICY INFORMATION

Please see the Ecampus website for policy information on refunds and late fees.