

SYLLABUS

DATE: Fall Semester 2009

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: Psychology 485 - Advanced Research Seminar

CREDIT HOURS: 3

SEMESTER OFFERED: Fall

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Dan Mayton

OFFICE: Spalding Hall, Room 213F

PHONE: 792-2280 (leave message)

E-MAIL: dmayton@lsc.edu

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OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Wednesday 10:30 - noon & 2:00-3:00 pm

PURPOSE:

This course is designed to provide each student with opportunities to develop research skills through the direct involvement in research projects. The emphasis will be on the active participation in seminar discussions to develop an understanding of the design and completion of all phases of selected research projects. Each student will work with the instructor and other class mates to design a study, obtain ethical approval, collect and analyze data, and write a research report summarizing the results of the study.

COURSE OUTLINE: (Subject to change by professor)

Week of August 24th - Overview of the Course

Week of August 31st - Developing Topics for Research

Week of September 7th – Developing a Good Research Design

Week of September 14th - Logistics of Implementing Research Design

Week of September 21st – Obtaining Ethical Approval for Research

Week of September 28th - Completing a Review of the Literature

Week of October 5th – Conducting Research on Campus

Week of October 12th - Collecting Data

Week of October 19th - More on Collecting Data

Week of October 26th - Data Preparation for Computer Analysis

Week of November 2nd - Data Analysis

Week of November 9th - Writing the Results and Discussion Sections of a Research Report

Week of November 16th - Writing a Conference Abstract

Week of November 23rd - Thanksgiving Break

Week of November 30th - Designing a Professional Presentation or Poster

Week of December 7h – Pulling Everything Together

Week of December 14th – Finals Week (Tuesday December 16th)

EVALUATION:

Grades for this course will be determined on a 300 point scale with the maximum points allotted for each activity as follows:

Review of the Literature	50
Data Collection/Questionnaire administration activities	50
Data Coding	50
Group Methods section write up	20
Group Results/Discussion section write up	20
Conference Abstract	20
Resume	10
Seminar attendance, preparation, and participation	80

Assignments not completed on time **will be penalized 10%** of the maximum point total allotted **per class period that it is late**. No assignments will be accepted more than two weeks late. Any assignments which do not meet acceptable standards regarding correct grammar usage, logical organization and accuracy of presentation will need to be redone. The final point total for each assignment will be the average of all work completed up to and including the competent completion of the assignment.

Final grades will be assigned on a total point bases as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percentage of Points</u>	<u>Total Points</u>
A	93 - 100 %	279 - 300
A -	90 - 92.9 %	270 - 278
B +	87 - 89.9 %	261 - 269
B	83 - 86.9 %	249 - 260
B -	80 - 82.9 %	240 - 248
C +	77 - 79.9 %	231 - 239
C	73 - 76.9 %	219 - 230
C -	70 - 72.9 %	210 - 218
D +	67 - 69.9 %	201 - 209
D	60 - 66.9 %	180 - 200
F	59% or lower	179 or less