

University of North Texas at Dallas
Fall 2016
SYLLABUS

SOCI 3220: Quantitative Data Collection 3Hrs	
Department of Sociology	School of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Instructor Name:	<i>Dr. Aaron Bartula</i>
Office Location:	<i>DAL 2 #320</i>
Office Phone:	<i>972-780-3629</i>
Email Address:	Aaron.Bartula@untdallas.edu
Office Hours:	M 8am-10:30m; T 9am-4pm; W 8am-10:30am; TH 9am-4pm
Virtual Office Hours:	<i>Anytime via email, usually will respond within 24 hours</i>
Classroom Location:	<i>DAL 2 #303</i>
Class Meeting Days & Times:	M W 11:30am – 12:50pm
Course Catalog Description:	This course prepares students in the application of quantitative research methodology in sociology and other social science disciplines. Examples using real research data will be provided to facilitate understanding and application of various quantitative processes.
Prerequisites:	SOCI 1520
Co-requisites:	None
Required Text:	Babbie, Earl R. (2013). The Practice of Social Research. 13th Edition. Belmont, CA: Cengage/Wadsworth.
Recommended Text and References:	This is an intensive course. Students in this class are highly encouraged to acquire additional resources such as the APA handbook, scholarly literature, other textbooks and web notes for reference and assistance.
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: 1012mqr@fheg.follett.com
Course Goals or Overview:	
	The goal of this course is to introduce the scientific method and research design and how they are applied to our world.
Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, the student will	
1	Be able to explain the importance of the scientific method to the practice of research.
2	Identify key aspects of quantitative and qualitative research processes.
3	Identify how the key aspects are applied in the social science arena.
4	Demonstrate the ability to apply the material to various research situations.
5	Demonstrate the ability to assess the quality of academic scholarship in regard to research design.
6	Introduce APA writing style and enhance student's overall writing capability.

Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated by the instructor either in class or via email.

TIMELINE	TOPICS	Related SLO's	Readings/Activities/Assignments
8/22/2016	Syllabus, Introduction	1a, 1b	
8/24/2016	Ch.1: Human Inquiry and Science; How to Write in APA	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 2-29
8/29/2016	Ch. 2: Paradigms, Theory and Social Research	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 30-59
8/31/2016	Ch. 2: Paradigms, Theory and Social Research (cont.)	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 4a, 4b	Readings: pgs. 30-59 1. Beginning the Proposal Due
9/5/2016	LABOR DAY NO CLASS!!!		
9/7/2016	Writing Center Workshop Ch. 3: The Ethics of Politics of Social Research; Last Day to Drop Without a Penalty.	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 60-86
9/12/2016	Ch. 3: The Ethics of Politics of Social Research (cont.)	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 60-86
9/14/2016	EXAM 1	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 4a	1. Exam 1
9/19/2016	Ch. 4: Research Design; Introduction Due	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 4a, 4b, 4c, 4e, 6d, 7d	Readings: pgs. 88-122 1. Introduction Due
9/21/2016	Ch. 4: Research Design (cont.)	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 88-122
9/26/2016	Library Presentation on Peer Review Ch. 5: Concepts, Operationalization and Measurement	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 123-156
9/28/2016	Ch. 5: Concepts, Operationalization and Measurement (cont.)	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 123-156
10/3/2016	Ch. 6: Indexes, Scales, and Typologies	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 157-184
10/5/2016	Ch. 6: Indexes, Scales, and Typologies (cont.)	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 157-184
10/10/2016	Ch. 7: The Logic of Sampling	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 185-226
10/12/2016	Ch. 7: The Logic of Sampling (cont.)	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 185-226
10/17/2016	EXAM 2	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 4a	1. Exam 2
10/19/2016	Ch. 8: Experiments	10/21/2015	Readings: pgs. 227-251
10/24/2016	Ch. 8: Experiments (cont.); Literature Review Due	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 4a, 4b, 4c, 4e, 6d, 7d	Readings: pgs. 227-251 1. Literature Review Due
10/26/2016	Ch. 9: Survey Research	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 252-293
10/31/2016	Ch. 9: Survey Research (cont.)	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 252-293
11/2/2016	Ch. 14: Quantitative Data Analysis	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 413-439
11/4/2016	Last Day to Drop with a grade of "W"		Last Day to Drop with a grade of "W"
11/7/2016	Ch. 15: The logic of Multivariate Analysis	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 441-458
11/9/2016	Ch. 15: The logic of Multivariate Analysis (cont.)	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 441-458

11/14/2016	Ch. 16: Statistical Analyses	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 459-496
11/16/2016	Ch. 17: Reading and Writing Social Research; Methods and Conclusion Due	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 4a, 4b, 4c, 4e, 6d, 7d	Readings: pgs. 497-522 1. Methods and Conclusion Due
11/21/2016	Ch. 17: Reading and Writing Social Research (cont.)	11/23/2015	Readings: pgs. 497-522
11/23/2016	Help with Proposal (by appointment)		
11/28/2016	Ch. 17: Reading and Writing Social Research (cont.)	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d	Readings: pgs. 497-522
11/30/2016	Closing: Combined Research Proposal Due	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 4a, 4b, 4c, 4e, 6d, 7d	1. Combined Research Proposal Due
12/5/2016	EXAM 3	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 4a	

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

Exams – *written tests designed to measure knowledge and application of presented course material.*

Writing Assignment – *written essay designed to begin the process of the final proposal.*

Beginning the Proposal - *written essay designed to begin the process of constructing a research proposal.*

Research Proposal – *written assignment designed to culminate in the course material and test the student's ability to critically analyze said material.*

Class Discussions – *daily attendance and participation in class discussions.*

Grading Matrix:

Instrument	Value (points)	Total
Beginning the Proposal	50 points	50
Research Proposal	50 for Introduction 100 Literature Review 100 Methods and Conclusion 100 for Research Proposal Copy	300
Exams	3 exams at 100 points each	350
Class Discussions	17 discussions at 1 point each	17
Total:		717

Grade Determination:

A = 717 – 645 pts; i.e. 90% or better

B = 644 – 574 pts; i.e. 80 – 89 %

C = 573 – 502 pts; i.e. 70 – 79 %

D = 501 – 430 pts; i.e. 60 – 69 %

F = 429 pts or below; i.e. less than 60%

No discussion about grades/points will be done through the internet or with anyone other than the student (FERPA law). Please make an appointment and I will happily discuss them or other concerns.

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

Chapter 7(7.004) Disability Accommodations for Students

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Disability Services Office website at <http://www.untDallas.edu/disability>. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDdisability@untDallas.edu or at Building 2, room 204.

Course Evaluation Policy:

Student's evaluations of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:

Exams - Three exams will be given over the course of the semester. Each exam will consist of a combination of multiple choice questions, short answers, and essays.

Beginning the Proposal - There is a writing assignment required in this course. The assignment requires the student to identify a research topic of interest and answer (in one or two sentence responses) a number of questions regarding said topic. This assignment serves as the framework for the final research proposal.

Research Proposal - The final project required in this course is a research proposal. The assignment requires the student to create a research design based on the topic chosen. **The proposal will be created in parts, with the Introduction, Literature Review sections being created first followed by the Methods and Conclusion sections.** Examples of the sections as well as a research proposal will be made available to students in class. The assignments must be **TYPED with 12 point Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins, and Double Spaced.** The final combined copy of the Research Proposal must include the following information:

- 1) Title page
- 2) Introduction
- 3) Literature Review
- 4) Proposed Methods
- 5) Conclusion (i.e., Expected Findings)
- 6) And an added Reference page using **Proper APA citation!!!** (Use the resources made available for APA). Note this needs to be on a separate page and be the last page of the proposal.

Class Discussions - In class discussions will make up a portion of the final grade. In order to receive the full credit, each student is required to come to class **PREPARED** (having read the required assignments) and **ACTIVELY** participate in the discussion using the assigned reading material. If the student is prepared and participates in the discussion they will receive full credit, if they are not prepared and participate they will receive partial credit, and if they are absent or do not participate they will receive no credit.

All class announcements will be given during class lecture, posted on Blackboard, and/or sent via email. It is your responsibility to check Blackboard and your e-mail early and often. Ignorance to any posted announcement will not be an excuse.

Exam Policy:

Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook). It is your responsibility to contact me during the first two weeks of class if there's anything about which I should know concerning special accommodation for any of the assignments. I will try to work out a suitable arrangement, but I must know about it during the first two weeks of class. It is also your responsibility to bring me the required documentation(s) or have the responsible parties contact me in a timely manner for any kind of special accommodation for any of the assignments.

Academic Integrity: Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity (Policy 7.002) at [http://www.untDallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/pdf/policy/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic Integrity.pdf](http://www.untDallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/pdf/policy/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic%20Integrity.pdf) Refer to the Student Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct at http://www.untDallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/hds0041/pdf/7_001_student_code_of_conduct_may_2014.pdf Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students. In addition, all academic work turned in for this class, including exams, papers and written assignments must include the following statement: "On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the UNTD Academic Integrity Policy."

Bad Weather Policy: Campus facilities will close and operations will be suspended when adverse weather and/or safety hazards exist on the UNTD campus or if travel to the campus is deemed dangerous as the result of ice, sleet or snow. In the event of a campus closure, the Marketing and Communication Department will report closure information to all appropriate major media by 7 a.m. That department will also update the UNTD website, Facebook and Twitter with closing information as soon as it is possible. For more information please refer to <http://www.untDallas.edu/police/resources/notifications>

Attendance and Participation Policy: (*Discuss your attendance and participation policy.*)

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Please refer to Policy 7.005 Student Attendance at <http://www.untDallas.edu/hr/upol>

Diversity/Tolerance Policy: Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive and inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate. (UNTD Policy 7.001)

Optional Policies:

- Use of WebCT/Blackboard: All material will be primarily distributed in class. However, the use of the Blackboard site associated with this course may be utilized if necessary.
- Use of Cell Phones, Laptops, & other Electronic Gadgets in the Classroom: Please turn all cell phones off/on silent before each class starts. If you need to take an emergency call please excuse yourself from the classroom. Students may use laptops to take notes during class. If students begin to exploit the use of computers I will not allow them. **If a student wants to use a recording device you must get my approval prior to use.**
- Food & Drink in the Classroom: Food and drinks are allowed during class, but if they become disruptive to the lecture/discussions, they will be disallowed.
- Grade of Incomplete, "I": Though not encouraged, incomplete grades will be granted on a case by case basis. Each student seeking such grade must come speak to me as soon as it is being considered.