

TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
College of Health and Human Sciences
Department of Kinesiology

KINE 60103
Research Methods in Kinesiology
Tuesday 6:00-8:40
Fall, 2002

Professor: Deborah J. Rhea, Ed.D.
Office: Kinesiology trailer, Room 6; 257-6861

Office Hours: M & W 2:00-4:00 p.m.
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Course Instructors (in order of appearance):

Debbie Rhea, Meena Shah, Carol Pope, Joel Mitchell, Dan Southard, Darryn Willoughby, Matt Johnson

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with research methods in the various sub-specialties of kinesiology (adapted physical activity, biomechanics, exercise physiology, motor control, pedagogy, and sport psychology). Emphasis is on the design and analysis of research projects and the writing of research papers.

Course Objectives

At the end of the semester, the student should be able to:

1. Explain the purpose of research in kinesiology, in general, and in his/her own discipline, in particular
2. Develop purpose statements and related hypotheses
3. Understand the ethical issues in research and the concerns for the well-being of human subjects in the process of scientific inquiry
4. Conduct a literature review in her/his area of interest and learn how to read publications critically
5. Demonstrate an understanding of various research methods
6. Apply appropriate research methods in order to address research questions
7. Apply appropriate statistical analyses to data collected in order to address research questions
8. Write a research proposal

Required Textbook

Thomas, J.R., & Nelson, J.K. (2002). Research methods in physical activity (4th ed.). Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics.

Evaluation (3 criteria)

- 1) Examinations (60%). There will be two written examinations during the semester. The first exam will be worth 25% of the total course grade. The final exam will be comprehensive and worth 35% of the course grade.
- 2) Course Project (30%). The course project will consist of writing a research proposal. Guidelines for this project will be detailed on the first day of class. The research proposal will be an ongoing project that you will begin working on during the first week. This project and your presentation will be due on December 6.
- 3) Assignments (10%). Written assignments will be issued regularly.

Grading (100 points)

90 - 100 % = A

80 - 89 % = B

70 - 79 % = C

Team Teaching Format

Each faculty member in the Department of Kinesiology will contribute to the teaching of this course. To ensure continuity, Dr. Rhea will teach the majority of the time. She will issue and grade the exams and projects; the instructor who issued each particular assignment will grade that assignment or part of the exam.

By the third week of classes (September 17) you will choose a faculty research advisor depending on your area of interest. For example, if your research proposal is related to motor behavior, Dr. Southard will serve as your research advisor. It is your responsibility to select the faculty member, inform him/her of your selection, and schedule bi-weekly meetings to discuss the progress of your project. Thus, the faculty research advisor will serve to assist you in the development and evolution of your research proposal.

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

September 3	Introduction to Course: Dr. Rhea
September 10	Beginning the Research Process: Dr. Rhea (Chapters 1, 3, 5)
September 17	Reviewing the Literature: Dr. Rhea (Chapter 2)
September 24	Writing the Research Proposal: Dr. Shah (Chapters 18 & 19)
October 1	Reference Gathering Techniques: Dr. Pope
October 8	Descriptive Research Methods: Dr. Rhea (Chapter 15)
October 15	Mid-Term Exam
October 22	Qualitative Research Methods: Dr. Johnson (Chapter 17)
October 29	Experimental Research Methods: Dr. Mitchell (Chapters 4 & 16)
November 5	Analysis of Data, Part I: Dr. Southard (Chapters 6 & 7)
November 12	Analysis of Data, Part II: Dr. Southard (Chapters 8 & 9)
November 19	Analysis of Data, Part III: Dr. Southard (Chapter 10)
November 26	Computer Software Programs: Dr. Rhea (Appendix C)
December 3	Reporting Research: Dr. Willoughby (Chapter 20)
December 10	Presentations: Course Project Due
December 17	Final Exam