

**University of Manitoba**  
**Dept. of Sociology**  
**SOC 4580**  
**RESEARCH METHODS**  
**Term 1 - 2007 - 3 credit hours**  
**335 Isbister - Slot 6 (M/W/F 11:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.)**

**Rick Linden**

**Office Room: 339B Isbister Building**

**Office: 474-8457**

**Home: 453-3090**

**E-Mail: [rick.linden@umanitoba.ca](mailto:rick.linden@umanitoba.ca)**

**Office hours by appointment**

Texts: Singleton and Straits Approaches to Social Research 4<sup>th</sup> edition

Additional readings will be assigned. These will be made available by the instructor.

COURSE OBJECTIVE: To familiarize students with the philosophy and methods of social research.

OUTLINE AND READINGS

- 1.. Introduction to the Philosophy of Science
  - a) Ways of knowing
  - b) Theories, explanations, and hypotheses
  - c) Relationship between theories and methods

Readings:

Singleton                      Chapters 1, 2

2. The Production of Data
  - a) Experiments
  - b) Surveys
  - c) Sampling
  - d) Secondary Analysis
  - e) Structured Observation
  - f) Field Research
  - g) Historical Research
  - h) Case Studies
  - i) Evaluation Research

Readings:

3. Formulating a Problem for Investigation

- a) Findings
- b) Available Data
- c) Claims
- d) Theory

4. Basic Plan of Data Organization

- a) Reliability
- b) Validity
- c) Operationalization
- d) Multimethod Approaches

Readings:

Singleton

Chapters 3,4

5. Ethics of Social ResearchReadings:

Singleton

Chapter 16

**EVALUATION:**

Will consist of 1 test and 1 final exam worth 25% and one term paper worth 30%. A group assignment will be worth 20% of the grade. The mid-term test will be held on October 24. The final exam will be held on December 7 if this does not conflict with other exams.

Grades are assigned as follows:

90%+	A+	70%	C+
85%	A	60%	C
80%	B+	50%	D
75%	B	Below 50%	F

**VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE**

November 14, 2007.

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

Students should be familiar with the University's policy on 'Examinations: Personations' in Section 4.2.8 (p.27) and 'Plagiarism and Cheating' in Section 7.1 (p.28) found in the 2007-2008 Undergraduate Calendar. The Faculty of Arts reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism.

### **LATE ASSIGNMENTS AND MAKE-UP TESTS**

Late assignments will be penalized with a reduction of 1 percent per day. Make-up tests will be allowed if there is a reason such as illness. In the case of illness, a medical certificate is required. Final examination regulations are found on page 26 of the 2007/08 Undergraduate Calendar. Failure to write an examination or to turn in a paper will result in a mark of zero on that part of the grade.

Due Dates: 1 page paper proposal (not graded)    October 17  
                  Paper completed                    November 28

Group Assignment: 2 November