

University of Manitoba Department of Sociology
SOC 2290(M) Section A03
INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS 2007- 2008

Instructor: K.W. Taylor
Office: 369 University College
Classroom: Room 137 Isbister
Credit Hours: 6

Email: wtaylor@cc.umanitoba.ca
Office Hours: by appointment
Class time: Slot 5: 10:00-11:15 T/Th
Telephone: 474-8877

Required Textbook:

Babbie, Earl & Lucia Benaquisto. 2002. *Fundamentals of Social Research (Canadian Edition)*. Thomson Nelson.

NOTE: If you intend to do SPSS exercises on your own computer, you should obtain a textbook bundled with an SPSS software CD.

Course Objectives

This course is designed to teach problem solving, research and questioning skills in using social science methods for social inquiry with an emphasis on quantitative techniques. Classroom instruction will present materials that require the use of textbook content to test your comprehension and further your understanding.

Evaluation

You will be evaluated by your performance on tests, attendance and participation. Test questions will be multiple choice as well as written responses based on the textbook chapters and the materials for these chapters presented in the class meetings.

Test	Chapters covered	Dates for Tests	Value in Course Grade	
1	1-5	October 25	16%	
2	RE, 11,12, 14	December 4	16%	
3	8-10, 13	February 14	16%	
4	6, 7, 15, 16	April 10	16%	
Attendance		Every meeting	5%	
Participation		Every meeting	6%	
Labs	See lab schedule	See lab schedule	25%	

PARTICIPATION: Students are expected to read assigned materials prior to class, raise questions, answer questions, and contribute to class discussions and problem solving. Students may participate by writing in the course website.

ATTENDANCE: Students are expected to attend and record their attendance at all class meetings unless they can document reasons for non-attendance such as sickness or family crises. Students missing more than 25% of class meetings without documented reasons may face debarment from the course.

LABORATORY SESSIONS: The details of the contents, requirements, and grading of the labs is provided by the lab instructor. **You must achieve a passing grade (i.e. 50 percent) in the lab component to pass the course.** In other words, passing the lab is required, no matter how well you do in the non-lab component. Students who fail the lab, and therefore fail the course, will be required to retake the entire course (not just the lab component) in order to achieve credit in SOC 2290.

Voluntary withdrawal deadline date March 20, 2008

Missed Tests: To qualify for a makeup test, students must (a) inform the instructor **prior** to test time that they will be absent for the test and (b) provide a doctor's note (or other written documentation) of the reason for missing.

The cutoff points for transforming numerical scores to letter grades are:

D: 50-59 C: 59-64 C+: 65-69 B: 70-74 B+: 75-79 A: 80-84 A+: 85-100.

Grades are averaged upward if the score is less than .5 away from the next category. For example, a score of 79.50 would be graded as B+; a score of 79.51 would be graded as A.

The following numerical scores are used for averaging letter grades:

A+=87, A=82, B+=77, B=72, C+=67, C=62, D=55.

University of Manitoba Senate Policy #1307 requires "a post examination review of final grades in multisectioned courses that will ensure an equitable correspondence between grades and level of performance in all sections." Accordingly, the final grade distribution in this course may be raised or lowered to achieve this equity and, therefore, your final grade may be changed.

Academic Integrity: Students should acquaint themselves with the University's policy on 'Examinations: Personations' (Section 4.2.8) and 'Plagiarism and Cheating' (Section 7.1) found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Disruptions due to excessive talking, late arrivals or early departures from the classroom are especially distracting to large classes. Please be considerate and respectful of the needs and rights of others in the class. Students should be aware that persistent disruption may result in disbarment from the course. Any student who has a legitimate reason for leaving class early should inform the instructor at the beginning of class.

Class attendance: students missing more than 25% of class meetings without documented excuses (such as sickness or family crises) may face debarment from the course.