

Introduction to Social Science Research Methods - SOCI 210

University Studies Program

Course Outline

COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE:	January 2000
OUTLINE EFFECTIVE DATE:	September 2020
COURSE OUTLINE REVIEW DATE:	March 2025

GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Introduction to Social Science Research Methods examines the scientific method applied to the understanding of behaviour, the recognition and posing of scientifically researchable questions, and the examination of different research designs. Students gain an interdisciplinary understanding of qualitative and quantitative methods and ethics in social science research. Students are introduced to relevant research questions, issues of interest, and how to communicate knowledge and information about their social world. This course also introduces Indigenous research methodologies.

Program Information: This course can be used as a Sociology elective in several University Studies Programs. It is also a required course within the Criminal and Social Justice Diploma Program. Refer to the College Program Guide for additional information.

Delivery: This course may be delivered face-to-face or online.

COTR Credits: 3

Hours for this course: 45 hours

Typical Structure of Instructional Hours:

Instructional Activity	Duration
Lecture Hours	45
Seminars / Tutorials	
Laboratory / Studio Hours	
Practicum / Field Experience Hours	
Other Contact Hours	
Total	45

Practicum Hours (if applicable):

Type of Practicum	Duration
On-the-job Experience	N/A
Formal Work Experience	N/A
Other	N/A
Total	

Course Outline Author or Contact:

Avery Hulbert, BA Hon, MA

Signature

APPROVAL SIGNATURES:

Department Head
Erin Aasland Hall
E-mail: aaslandhall@cotr.bc.ca

Dean of Business and University Studies
Darrell Bethune
E-mail: bethune@cotr.bc.ca

Department Head Signature

Dean Signature

EDCO

Valid from: September 2020- March 2025

Education Council Approval Date

COURSE PREREQUISITES AND TRANSFER CREDIT:

Prerequisites: Six 100 level credits in Sociology, Criminology or Psychology. ENGL 100 with a minimum grade of C-.

Corequisites: Recommended COMP 153, STAT 106

Prior Learning Assessment (FA):

Credit can be awarded for this course through FA Yes No

Learners may request formal recognition for flexible assessment at the College of the Rockies through one or more of the following processes: External Evaluation, Worksite Assessment, Demonstration, Standardized Test, Self-assessment, Interview, Products/Portfolio, Challenge Exam. Contact an Education Advisor for more information.

Transfer Credit: For transfer information within British Columbia, Alberta and other institutions, please visit <http://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

Students should also contact an academic advisor at the institution where they want transfer credit.

Prior Course Number: N/A

Textbooks and Required Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

Blackstone, A. (2019). *Principles of Sociological Inquiry, Qualitative and Quantitative Methods*. <https://open.bccampus.ca/?s=sociological&x=0&y=0>

This textbook is only available online as an open source online textbook at the above link and is free of charge with unlimited access.

Course Reading Package available online in course page.

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <http://go.cotr.bc.ca/tuition/tCalc.asp> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to

- recognize the interdisciplinary nature of research methodologies;
- identify the ethical principles of research;
- interpret the origin, development, and nature of science;
- discuss and explain the nature of social scientific research;
- develop insightful and practical research questions;
- demonstrate the elements of research design;
- demonstrate the strengths and limitations of various research designs;
- demonstrate the collection and analysis of data;
- engage in the scientific process by developing and presenting a research proposal;
- demonstrate Indigenous research methodologies; and
- distinguish and recognize qualitative and quantitative.

This course should help students

- use written and oral communication skills effectively, employing methods appropriate to message and context;
 - think clearly and critically, fusing experience, knowledge and reasoning into considered judgment; and
 - identify, interpret, and solve problems, effectively implementing and evaluating proposed strategies.
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COURSE TOPICS:

- Linking Methods with Theory
- Research Ethics
- Beginning a Research Project
- Research Design
- Developing a research proposal
- Defining and Measuring Concepts

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- Sampling
- Survey Research: A Quantitative Technique
- Interviews: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches
- Field Research: A Qualitative Technique
- Unobtrusive Research: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches
- Data Analysis
- Reading and Understanding Social Research
- Indigenous Research Methodologies
- Writing Research Reports

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT:

Assignments	% Of Total Grade
Assignments	25%
Research Proposal (Includes production and presentation of a Research Proposal)	35%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	<u>20%</u>
Total	100%

Please see the instructor's syllabus for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as details of evaluation, penalties for late assignments, and use of electronic aids.

EXAM POLICY:

Students must attend all required scheduled exams that make up a final grade at the appointed time and place.

Individual instructors may accommodate for illness or personal crisis. Additional accommodation will not be made unless a written request is sent to and approved by the appropriate Department Head prior to the scheduled exam.

Any student who misses a scheduled exam without approval will be given a grade of "0" for the exam.

COURSE GRADE:

Course grades are assigned as follows:

Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
Mark (Percent)	≥ 90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	< 50

A grade of "D" grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

ACADEMIC POLICIES:

See www.cotr.bc.ca/policies for general college policies related to course activities, including grade appeals, cheating and plagiarism.

COURSE CHANGES:

Information contained in course outlines is correct at the time of publication. Content of the courses is revised on an ongoing basis to ensure relevance to changing educational, employment, and marketing needs. The instructor endeavours to provide notice of changes to students as soon as possible. The instructor reserves the right to add or delete material from courses.