PSY 6314.DM1 – Research Methods – summer I, 2018
Course Syllabus

Dr. Brittany Draper, Clinical Instructor

Office: Academic Building, 201E
Office hours: No office hours for summer term
Office phone: 486-6123
E-mail address: brittany.draper@angelo.edu (preferred method of communication)
Place: On-line Course, Days & Times in Course Room will vary

Please feel free to contact me by e-mail if you have any questions or concerns. I am available for online chat by appointment via Blackboard Collaborate within Bb Collaborate Sessions tab.

Course Description: This course involves an in-depth study of non-experimental, quasi-experimental, and true experimental (or randomized) designs focusing on advantages and disadvantages of each. Special emphasis is placed on how the various research designs are related to generalized causal inference and the common misinterpretations connected with these inferences and associated statistical analyses. Representative topics include:

- Ethical concerns in research
- Experimental design
- Data collection techniques
- Data entry and analysis using SPSS

Course Objectives:

- Essential – Gaining a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, and theories)
- Important – Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)
- Important – Developing skill in expressing oneself orally or in writing

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. The student will understand basic non-experimental design.
2. The student will understand basic quasi-experimental design.
3. The student will understand basic experimental design.
4. The student will be able to evaluate a research design to determine its adequacy.
5. The student will be able to conduct basic analysis of data relevant to each design using SPSS.

Class Attendance: Online courses provide students with a flexible and convenient way to learn. In order to succeed in this and other online classes, you will need to be self-motivated, dedicated, determined, and have a serious commitment to learning and working on your own. Time management is imperative to success in completing coursework. You will need to be very organized and take responsibility for your own learning. Students should spend a minimum of 7-9 hours per week on course material and preparing assignments. Your time will
be best utilized reading assigned chapters and PowerPoint materials on a weekly basis and try not to be left behind. A week in this course will be Monday at 12:00 a.m. through Sunday at 11:59 pm. Monday begins each new week for assignments and readings.

**Late Work Policy:** No late work will be accepted. The correct answer(s) will be provided by the instructor soon after each assignment is closed, therefore any submission after the due date will be considered invalid automatically.

Extra Credit Opportunities: No extra credit is provided in this course.

**Course Evaluation:**

1) Four (4) quizzes will be posted on Blackboard, each worth 30 points (120 points total, 48% of total grade). Each quiz consists of 30 T/F statements. You will have until Sunday of each week to complete each quiz by 11:59 p.m., and each quiz can only be taken once. You may use your textbooks and/or notes on the quizzes. Each quiz will have a timer set for 1 hour. Each quiz will be force completion, so once you start a quiz, you must finish it.

Testing via Respondus™ Monitor

Access to the quizzes will be through Respondus™ Lockdown Browser and will be video recorded via Respondus™ Monitor [See Other Required Materials for a list of needed equipment]. Use of another electronic device (such as a cell phone) is prohibited.

There are two practice quizzes: a) one is a Webcam test and b) a short 10 question practice quiz over ASU trivia that is not graded. These tools will be available to the student to assure accessibility. Students are highly encouraged to go through these practice quizzes in advance of taking a graded quiz. This process will allow you to become familiar with the technology associated with testing and improve the testing environment. These quizzes, instructional videos, and more information regarding Respondus Monitor can be found under the Respondus Monitor Help tab in your Blackboard course.

**In order to complete the quizzes, you must have the Lockdown Browser on your computer. Go to blackboard to the "support" tab and follow the instructions to download the browser. Once it’s downloaded onto your computer, double-click on the icon in order to connect to blackboard. Login to Blackboard and click on a quiz or exam to complete. Select “no” for the password (note: if you can’t get past this point, something is wrong – the quizzes/exams are password protected, but you will NOT be given the password). Once you select no you should be able to proceed with the quizzes. **If you have any problems downloading lockdown browser, please contact IT (942-2911) as soon as possible to resolve technological issues so you do not miss the deadlines for these assignments. Not having a webcam for Respondus Monitor or the Lockdown browser downloaded in time to complete assignments will result in zeros for any assignments not completed in time.

2) One (1) research paper critique will be completed during the term, and the critique is split into two assignments (part 1 and part 2). Each submission for the assignment is worth 30 points (60 points total, 24% of total grade). Students are expected to read a research paper provided by the instructor and complete the Research Paper Critique forms. This activity
reflects what we learn from each chapter in order to help students develop an ability to critically read and understand research papers. Critique forms and research paper are available on Blackboard. The due dates/times for the critique assignments are noted on the course calendar.

3) There will be three (3) statistical analysis assignments using SPSS. The first two assignments will be worth 20 points, and the third assignment will be worth 30 points (70 points total, 28% of total grade). The questions for each assignment are available on the Blackboard. Due dates/times are noted on the course calendar.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final Grade</th>
<th>Point Percentage</th>
<th>Point Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
<td>225-250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89%</td>
<td>200-224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-79%</td>
<td>175-199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69%</td>
<td>150-174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 60%</td>
<td>Below 150</td>
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*Grades ending in .5 or higher (89.5, for instance) will be rounded up to the next grade (90%). Grades ending in .4 or below (89.4%, for example) will not be rounded up to the next grade (89%).

You can access your course grade at any time through Blackboard (http://blackboard.angelo.edu). Click on “Tools,” then “My Grade.” Calculate your current grade by dividing your total points earned to date by the total number of possible points.

Required texts:


The text for this course is available in the ASU Bookstore (located in the University Center).

Other Required Materials:

- Computer with MAC or Windows Operating System, Microsoft Office Word & Microsoft PowerPoint (97-2003, 2007, and/or 2010)
- High Speed Internet Access
- Ethernet adapter cable required (wireless connections can drop during quizzes and Collaborate sessions)
- Webcam
- Logitech USB microphone headset
- Refer to Angelo State University’s Distance Education website for further technology requirements: http://www.angelo.edu/distance_education/

*Students will need SPSS to complete this analysis assignment. SPSS is available to all
students via Citrix in both the MCS lab and Library Commons. You should be able to find the programs by going to "Start", "All Programs", "Citrix Applications" and then "SPSS". Students without access to ASU computer labs or SPSS will need to purchase a 6 month rental of: IBM SPSS Statistics Base Gradpack 22 for windows. It is available at: http://www.hearne.software/Software/SPSS-Grad-Packs-for-Students-by-IBM/Pricing?product=SPSS%20Grad%20Packs%20for%20Students%20by%20IBM&currency=USD&region=US&version=Statistics+Base+Grad+Pack&class=Student&platform

The 2 weeks free trial version is available at the IBM website. You need to go to the following link, https://www-01.ibm.com/marketing/iwm/iwm/web/pick.do?source=SWG-STATS-DESKTOP_TRIAL&S_TACT=M161008W&lang=en_US

Honor Code: Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is available on the web at http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf.

Disabilities: Persons with disabilities that warrant academic accommodations must contact the Office of Disability Services, University Center Room 112 (942-2047), in order to request such accommodations prior to their being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days: A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence.

Classroom Etiquette: Please be respectful of others in the course room. When in doubt, use the golden rule! Please do not type in all caps in the course room.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism at ASU is a serious topic. The Angelo State University's Honor Code gives specific details on plagiarism and what that encompasses. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word for word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. We use the APA Style Manual of the American Psychological Association as a guide for all writing assignments. Quotes should be used sparingly. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list. Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Bb Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center http://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php.

Questions: If at any time during the course that you have a question, you can post the question in the “I Have a Question” discussion thread. These questions will be available for other students to view, so if you do not want other students to read them, do NOT post them in this area. Private questions/concerns should be addressed through email.
Please note: This syllabus & course calendar are subject to change at the discretion of Dr. Draper in the event of extenuating circumstances.

Class Schedule, Topics to be Covered, & Recommended Readings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Module</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topics/Reading Assignments</th>
<th>Assignments/Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1          | 6/4/18 – 6/10/18 | • Multimethod Approach (Sommer Chapter 1)  
              • Research Ethics (Sommer Chapter 2)  
              • Interviews, Questionnaires, and Scales (Sommer chapters 8, 9, & 10) | Quiz 1 (chapters 1 & 2)  
                                                             Quiz 2 (chapters 8, 9, & 10)  
                                                             Both will be available from 6/4/18 at 8:00 a.m. - 6/10/18 at 11:59 p.m. |
| 2          | 6/11/18 – 6/17/18 | • Case Studies (Sommer Chapter 13)  
              • Standardized Tests & Sampling (Sommer Chapters 16 & 17)                      | Quiz 3 (chapters 13, 16, & 17)  
                                                             6/11/18 at 8:00 a.m. - 6/17/18 at 11:59 p.m. |
| 3          | 6/18/18 – 6/24/18 | • Experimentation (Sommer Chapter 6)                                                      | Quiz 4 (chapter 6) 6/18/18 at 8:00 a.m. - 6/24/18 at 11:59 p.m.  
                                                             Research Paper Critique Part 1 Assignment Due 6/24/18 by 11:59 p.m. |
| 4          | 6/25/18 – 7/1/18  | • Descriptive Statistics (Sommer Chapter 18)  
              • SPSS Getting Started: Data entry – Basic Operations (Aspelmeier Chapter 2)  
              • Describing Distributions (Aspelmeier Chapter 5)                                | Analysis Assignment #1 Due 7/1/18 by 11:59 p.m. |
| 5          | 7/2/18 – 7/8/18   | • Inferential Statistics (Sommer Chapter 19)  
              • Comparing Means: t-tests (Aspelmeier Chapter 7)                                | Analysis Assignment #2 Due 7/8/18 by 11:59 p.m. |
| 6          | 7/9/18 – 7/15/18  | • One-Way ANOVA: Means Comparison with Two or More Groups (Aspelmeier Chapter 8)         | Analysis Assignment #3 Due 7/15/18 by 11:59 p.m. |
| 7          | 7/16/18 – 7/22/18 | • Repeated-Measures ANOVA (Aspelmeier Chapter 10)                                        | Research Paper Critique Part 2 Assignment Due 7/23/18 (Mon) by 11:59 p.m. |
| 8          | 7/23/18 – 7/27/18 |                                                                                |                                                                                      |