Course Overview and Goals:
This course is designed to assist students in completing their thesis. There are two components of the course: completion of an empirical research study, including its design and implementation and completion of the written thesis document and defense.

Course Expectations:
Students enrolled in this course are expected to be in regular communication with me about their thesis project. These expectations will be outlined further in face to face meetings.

Required Textbooks:
None.

Course Evaluation:
Writing: Substantive content and the quality of the student's writing will be considered in all written assignments. Substantive content includes closely following instructions for the content of the assignment. Quality of writing covers clarity of expression and organization, appropriate use of references and academic writing style, use of inclusive language, and correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Please contact the instructor if this is unclear or needs further explanation.

Written Work:
ALL written work that contains citations and/or references should conform to the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. Every student would benefit from having access to this manual. It is available in most bookstores (i.e., Barnes & Noble; amazon.com) and the reference for it is:


You can also access Purdue OWL APA Style Help as a source for help with citations.

Please remember that mere submission of assignments does not necessarily constitute successful completion of them. Each piece of work submitted and/or presented will be evaluated in regard to quality factors such as cogency, clarity of presentation, adherence to APA publication and other guidelines, evidence of effort, and timeliness. All of these will be factored into your grade for each assignment.

http://www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk/

ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY SYLLABUS STATEMENTS

Sources of Support: You are more than your grades or your ability to perform in college. Your general well-being is important to me as a faculty member, and this university as a whole. Issues such as insufficient food, safe housing, and mental health concerns may leave you struggling to complete assignments and perform to your standards. We have support on campus for students in these positions.

Food Pantry
Research shows that college students experience food insecurity at higher rates than the American household rate, and that food insecurity can negatively impact academic performance and persistence. Ram
Pantry exists through the Office of Multicultural Affairs and is available 8-5, Monday through Friday to assist with food scarcity.

Counseling Services
Diminished mental health, including significant stress, mood changes, excessive worry, or problems with eating and/or sleeping can interfere with optimal academic performance. The source of symptoms might be strictly related to your course work; if so, please speak with me. However, problems with relationships, family worries, loss, or a personal struggle or crisis can also contribute to decreased academic performance.

ASU provides mental health services to support the academic success of students. Counseling Services offers free, confidential psychological services to help you manage personal challenges that may threaten your well-being. Getting help is a smart and courageous thing to do -- for yourself and for those who care about you.

Disability Services
ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation.

The Office of Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting: Ms. Dallas A. Swafford (dallas.swafford@angelo.edu)

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. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

Incomplete Grade Policy
It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

Title IX
Angelo State University is committed to the safety and security of all students. If you or someone you know experience sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic or dating violence, stalking, or discrimination, you may contact ASU’s Title IX Coordinator: Michelle Nicole Boone (michelle.boone@angelo.edu). You may also speak with her if you need help with pregnancy accommodations.

I also want you to know that I will seek to keep any information you share with me private to the greatest extent possible, but as a professor, I have a mandatory reporting responsibilities to share information regarding sexual misconduct and crimes I learn about to make our campus safer for all. This includes in written assignments or conversation. This is called being a “Responsible Employee” is a legal responsibility that I have to uphold. It is meant to connect you with resources and to inform you of your options in addressing the report.
**Conduct Policies**

*Academic Integrity*

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU. The Department of Psychology, Sociology, and Social Work adheres to the academic honesty statement as set forth in the Angelo State University Student Handbook (2011-2012) [University Honor Code](#).

*Plagiarism*

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s [Academic Integrity policy](#) in the Student Handbook. 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. 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 Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the [ASU Writing Center](#).

*Copyright Policy*

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

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**SYLLABUS DISCLAIMER**

This syllabus constitutes an agreement between the student and the instructor. Your continued enrollment in this course constitutes your agreement to abide by the terms of this syllabus. If changes must be made to the schedule or to any other aspect of the syllabus, all students will be notified in class and in writing as soon as possible. Any changes made to the course policies or the schedule/calendar will apply to all students.