

**Nova Southeastern University
Center for Psychological Studies**

Course Outline

Course # & Title: PSY 507 - Research & Evaluation for Counselors

Credit Hours: 3

Location/Section: Tampa/TP1

Dates: June 6, 7, & 8, 2008
June 27, 28, & 29, 2008

Instructor: Mark Middlebrooks, Ph.D.
30700 Wekiva River Road
Sorrento, FL 32776
(407) 471-5335
Email: markmidd@nova.edu

Class Meeting Times:

Fridays	6:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Saturdays	8:30 PM - 6:00 PM
Sundays	8:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Required Text:

Babbie, E. R. (2007). *The practice of social research* (11th Ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.
ISBN 0-495093254

Course Description:

This course seeks to prepare counselors to be informed consumers of research and evaluation. It covers basic statistics, research designs, and program evaluation. It provides experience in reading research and evaluation reports.

Course Objectives:

Successful participation in this course will be demonstrated by the following:

- Critique a research article or evaluation and critically analyze its strengths and weaknesses
- Design, conduct and report on a sound research study and program evaluation grounded in appropriate literature

- Understand basic types of research methods including quantitative and qualitative research designs, single case designs, action research and outcome based research
- Demonstrate knowledge of basic parametric and nonparametric statistical concepts
- Describe rationale, assumptions, limitations, and similarities underlying statistical techniques
- Understand research ethics and legal implications including the necessity of adhering to humane subject review
- Demonstrate library research skills as evidenced by appropriate literature review, used in conjunction with conducting and writing a research project (reported in American Psychological Association (APA) formatted style research report)
- Demonstrate ability to conduct a research project (including appropriate literature review) as evidenced by writing a research project (reported in American Psychological Association (APA) formatted style research report)

Calendar of Assignments:

June 6

Chapter 1: Human Inquiry and Science

Chapter 2: Paradigms, theory and social research

June 7

Chapter 3: The ethics and politics of social research

Chapter 4: Research design

Chapter 5: Conceptualization, operationalization and measurement

June 8

Chapter 6: Indexes, scales, and typologies

Chapter 7: The logic of sampling

Midterm Exam

June 27

Chapter 8: Experiments

Chapter 9: Survey Research

Chapter 10: Qualitative Field research

June 28

Chapter 11: Unobtrusive research

Chapter 12: Evaluation Research

Chapter 13: Qualitative Data analysis

Chapter 14: Quantitative Data analysis

June 29

Chapter 15: The elaboration model

Chapter 16: Statistical Analyses

Chapter 17: Reading and writing social research

Appendix A: Using the library

Final Exam

All written work due

Description of Written Assignments:

Exams:

There will be two exams equally weighted. One will be given at Midterm and the other is a Final exam. Exams will include material covered in the lectures, required readings, and class discussions.

Extra credit:

Extra credit will be available (ten points maximum possible) for a short (no longer than ten pages) paper. The paper should include but is not limited to the following: 1) relevant literature (articles or books, films, etc.) which may expand, highlight or bring out other points pertinent to the primary topic of review (topics may come from the required or related readings, lectures, or be based on experience as a non paid volunteer); 2) a cogent statement of the primary position or viewpoint which the literature suggests and, 3) your personal perspective regarding the particular topic.

Participation and report as a volunteer in a recognized facility may be accepted for extra credit. Points are awarded on the basis of a paper describing the benefits and costs of being involved in the volunteer experience. Research relevant to being a volunteer or relevant to the area in which you volunteer should be included.

All written work must be in APA style and include a face sheet with the following information: University name, student's name, course name and number and date.

Grading criteria:

Grading will be based on an accumulation of points. A maximum of 100 points (not counting the 10 points that are possible from the extra credit paper) is possible. Points will be awarded on the following basis:

Midterm Exam.....	50%
Final Exam.....	50%
 Total Grade.....	 100%

(Total Grade including possible extra credit.....110%)

Grading scale:

A	90 - 100
B	80 - 89
C	70 - 79
F	0 - 69

Bibliography:

Hays, W. L. (1988). *Statistics* (4th ed.). New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston.

Hopkins, K. D. & Glass, G. V. (1978). *Basic statistics for the behavioral sciences*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall.

Huff, D. (1954). *How to lie with statistics*. New York: Norton.

Neale, J. M. & Liebert, R. M. (1986). *Science and behavior: An introduction to methods of research*. (3rd ed.). E

Smith, R. A. & Davis, S. F. (2004). *The Psychologist as Detective: An introduction to conducting research in psychology* (3rd Ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Stern, P.C. (1979). *Evaluating social science research*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Wilkinson, W. K., & McNeil, K. (1996). *Research for the helping professions*. Pacific Grove, CA.: Brooks/Co.