**KINE 7010 – Research Methods in Physical Activity**

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| **Credit Hours:** 3 | **Instructor:** Michael Brown, Ph.D. |
| **Term:** Fall 2018 | **Email:** mdb0075@auburn.edu |
| **Classroom:** STACT 253 | **Telephone:** 334-844-1982 |
| **Days:** MWF | **Office:** Kinesiology Bldg. Room 279 |
| **Class Hours:** 11:00 – 11:50 | **Office Hours:** 1:00-2:00, Wed. or by appointment |

**Description**

The intent of the course is to train students in research approaches in kinesiology and physical activity. Emphasis is placed on development of research proposals, since they are part of many jobs in the profession. Emphasis is also place on understanding the scientific method, reviewing and critiquing the literature, technical writing, and research ethics. This is not a statistics class but we will take the approach of including descriptions of examples of commonly used statistical procedures. There will be occasions when it will be necessary to bring your laptop computer to class. There will be a great deal of student participation and class discussion.

**Objectives**

Upon completion of the course, students will understand the different types of research and their approaches, how to review and critique the literature, and how to develop a research proposal. Students will learn through in-class group discussions and exercises, assigned reading, and the textbook.

**Text Book:** *Research Methods in Kinesiology and the Health Sciences*, Susan Hall and Nancy Getchell

**Additional Reading Material:**  Posted on Canvas. You are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the posted readings.

**Assessment/Grading**

Homework assignments 15%

Quizzes 10%

Group oral presentation of written research proposals 20% (final week of class)

Group written research proposal 25%

In class group assignments 15%

Quizzes (3) 15%

Homework assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. Assignments turned in late will lose 10% of their maximum grade per day. There will be deadlines set for drafts of the different components of the research proposal and for the poster. Quiz dates will be announced at least 1 week prior to the quiz. If you are unable to make class and therefore cannot turn in an assignment because of an emergency, you must notify me by 10:00 AM on the due date. If a due date conflicts with any religious holidays you must notify me no later than 1 week prior. Every effort will be made to accommodate such a situation.

**Proposed Class Schedule**

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| August 20 | Course administration |
| August 22 | What is research? The scientific method |
| August 24 | The scientific method |
| August 27 | The scientific method |
| August 29 | Overview- Types of Research |
| August 31 | Reviewing and critiquing the scientific literature |
| September 3 | **Labor Day** |
| September 5 | **RBD Library instruction lab** |
| September 7 | Research ethics |
| September 10 | Research ethics (Assemble groups) |
| September 12 | Understanding different types of research-experimental |
| September 14 | Understanding different types of research-experimental |
| September 17 | Understanding different types of research-descriptive |
| September 19 | **No class** |
| September 21 | **No class** |
| September 24 | Understanding different types of research-descriptive |
| September 26 | Understanding different types of research-qualitative |
| September 28 | Understanding different types of research-other approaches |
| October 1 | Developing and idea |
| October 3 | Developing and idea |
| October 5 | Research writing style (Submit 3 research ideas) |
| October 8 | Preparing a research proposal |
| October 10 | Preparing a research proposal |
| October 12 | **NO class-Fall break** |
| October 15 | Research writing style |
| October 17 | Writing the specific aims page |
| October 19 | Writing the specific aims page |
| October 22 | Open-Specific aims workshop |
| October 24 | Basic statistical concepts |
| October 26 | Basic statistical concepts |
| October 29 | Finding relationships among variables |
| October 31 | Finding relationships among variables  **Submit draft of specific aims** |
| November 2 | Nonparametric statistical tests |
| November 5 | Nonparametric statistical tests |
| November 7 | **Peer review of specific aims** |
| November 9 | **Peer review of specific aims** |
| November 12 | Writing/PowerPoint |
| November 14 | Writing/PowerPoint |
| November 16 | Writing/PowerPoint |
| November 19-23 | **Thanksgiving** |
| November 26 | **Open** |
| November 28 | Presentations |
| November 30 | Presentations |
| December 3 | Presentations |
| December 5 | Presentations |
| December 5 | **Last day of class (Submit research proposals)** |
| December 8-9 | Study days |
| December 10-14 | Finals exams |

*This syllabus is intended to be a guide. The instructor reserves the right to make changes to any or all of its content at his discretion. Check your auburn university email often for updated information.*

***Class Policies***

*Attendance:* It is expected that students taking a graduate class will attend every class meeting, will arrive on time, and will actively participate in each class. If you must miss class because of illness or other emergency, please try to notify the instructor in advance. You are still responsible for any work missed during an absence.

*Plagiarism*: There are no group assignments or projects in this course. All exams, research abstracts library assignment, faculty biographies, and any other written work must reflect the individual efforts of each student. Please refer to the Tiger Cub for information regarding academic honesty.

*Cell Phones*: As a courtesy to everyone, please turn off your cell phone during class. If you have a compelling reason for leaving your phone on, please let me know at the beginning of class. Also, please

do not text message during class.

*Best Work*: Students are expected to show evidence of thorough reading of assigned textbook chapters and supplemental readings. Please take pride in your work and be motivated to do your best work in this class; if you are, you will gain the maximum benefit from the course.

*Honesty Code:* The University Academic Honesty Code and the Tiger Cub Rules and Regulations pertaining to Cheating will apply to this class.

*Professionalism*: As faculty, staff, and students interact in educational settings, they are expected to demonstrate professional behaviors as defined in the College of Education’s conceptual framework. These professional commitments or dispositions are as follows: 1) engage in responsible and ethical practices, 2) contribute to collaborative learning communities, 3) demonstrate a commitment to diversity, and 4) model and nurture intellectual vitality.

*Accommodations*: Students who need accommodations are asked to arrange a meeting during office hours the first week of classes, or as soon as possible if accommodations are needed immediately. If you have a conflict with my office hours, an alternate time can be arranged. To set up this meeting, please contact me by e-mail.

Bring a copy of your Accommodation Memo and an Instructor Verification Form to the meeting.

If you do not have an Accommodation Memo but need accommodations, make an appointment with The Program for Students with Disabilities, 1244 Haley Center, 844-2096 (V/TT).

It is the student’s responsibility to inform the instructor of any medical conditions or allergies that may affect in class participation or performance. Students with any health problems should have completed a Health Referral Form.

*Attendance*: The material and experiences in this class are important and if you are not in class, you cannot take an active role as a student. Class attendance and appropriate participation is paramount to your success as a student.

If an unusual condition such as a serious illness results in this situation (8 total absences) students are encouraged to consult the AU Bulletin and/or an academic adviser in their college to determine if they meet university guidelines for requesting withdrawal from the course.