

SOCIOLOGY 300.2 and SOCIOLOGY 300.3
Sociological Research Methods
Fall 2009

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Prerequisites: Sociology major/minor, Human Development major, or instructor consent
General Education: No

Course Description

Sociological research methods is an introduction to the fundamentals of research design in Sociology. It is the first in a sequence of methods courses for Sociology majors. Students will learn how to select a research topic, formulate a research question, utilize library resources, evaluate ethical issues, design data collection instruments, utilize the library, write a literature review and construct a research proposal.

The course will include both qualitative and quantitative approaches to research design and analysis. Students will gain a foundational understanding of a variety of research methods, including experiment, surveys, participant observation, in-depth interviewing and content analysis. Students will gain experience in conducting research through a series of participatory assignments and through development of their own original research proposals.

Course Requirements

Students will be evaluated through the completion of research exercises, a midterm, a final, a research proposal and in-class activities. Participation in activities and discussion is required in this class. Quizzes may be incorporated into the course requirements to encourage completion of readings in a timely manner.

Required Books will be announced on the class listserv prior to beginning of the fall 2009 semester.