**SOCI 3220: QUANTITATIVE DATA COLLECTION**

**Professor:** Dr. Gül Seçkin, M.S.G., Ph.D.

**Class Date/Location/Time**: Tuesday & Thursday, Gate 141, 2:00 pm-3:20 pm

**Office Hours:** Tuesday & Thursday 12:30 pm-1:45 pm and by appointment.

***OVERVIEW***

This class is designed to teach you about sociological thinking by exploring the various stages of quantitative research data collection and analytical methodologies. By examining relevant societal issues, you will come to understand the importance and relevance of the quantitative approach to understanding society. Throughout this course, you will gain knowledge about: (1) the various stages of empirical research procedures, (2) quantitative data collection methodologies used in the social sciences, and (3) how to design and execute research projects, specifically quantitative data analytical methodologies. If you have any questions or difficulties with the course material, please feel free to schedule an appointment with me via email. Please keep in mind that the schedule listed below may be subject to change depending on unforeseen circumstances or needs.

This course thrives on collaboration. Through group projects and discussions, you'll delve into sociological concepts and quantitative methods together. Your peers' insights will enrich your learning experience, emphasizing the importance of your participation. Therefore, your active participation in this class is crucial for fostering a dynamic learning environment. Engaging in discussions, collaborating on activities, and exchanging ideas with peers enhances your grasp of the course content

***BOOKS***

You can buy or rent electronic versions of these books from the publisher's website, or get paper copies from the UNT bookstore.

(1) Schutt, R. K. (2019). *Investigating the Social World*. Sage. ISBN: 9781506361192.

(2) Nardi, P. M. (2018). *Doing Survey Research*. Routledge. ISBN: 978-1-138-04338-1.

(3) The professor will provide additional readings as need. They will be available on Canvas.

***SCHEDULE***

Please note that the course schedule provided below may be subject to changes as determined by the professor. It is important to stay updated on any announcements regarding the course that may be posted on Canvas.

Week 1: August 22-24

*Reading from Investigating Social World by Schutt*

* Chapter 1: Science, Society, and Social Research

Week 2: August 29-31

*Reading from Doing Survey Research by Nardi*

* Chapter 1: Why We Do Research
* **Exercise 1** due on Sunday, September 3, 2023 by 11:59 p.m.

Week 3: September 5-7

*Reading from Doing Survey Research by Nardi*

* Chapter 2: Finding Ideas to Research

Week 4: September12-14

*Reading from Investigating Social World by Schutt*

* Chapter 2: The Process and Problems of Social Research
* **Exercise 2** due on Sunday, September 17, 2023 by 11:59 p.m.

Week 5: September 19-21

*Reading from Investigating the Social World by Schutt*

* Chapter 3: Research Ethics and Research Proposals

Week 6: September 26-28

*Reading from Investigating the Social World by Schutt*

* Chapter 3: Research Ethics and Research Proposals (Continued)
* **Exercise 3** due on Sunday, October 1, 2023 by 11:59 p.m.

Week 7: October 3-5

*Reading from Doing Survey Research by Nardi*

* Chapter 3: Designing Research: Concepts, Hypotheses, and Measurement

Week 8:October 10-12

*Readings from Investigating the Social World by Schutt*

* Chapter 4: Conceptualization and Measurement
* **Exercise 4** due on Sunday, October 15, 2023 by 11:59 p.m.

Week 9:October17-19

*Readings from Investigating the Social World by Schutt*

* Chapter 5: Sampling and Generalizability

Week 10: October 24-26

*Reading from Doing Survey Research by Nardi*

* Chapter 5: Sampling and Generalizability (Continued)
* **Exercise 5** due on Sunday, October 29, 2023 by 11:59 p.m.

Week 11:October 31-November 2

*Reading from Investigating Social World by Schutt*

* Chapter 6: Research Design and Causation

Week 12: November 7-9

*Reading from Investigating Social World by Schutt*

* Chapter 8: Survey Research
* **Midterm** ison Thursday, November 9th.

Week 13: November 14-16

*Reading from Investigating Social World by Schutt*

* Chapter 9: Quantitative Data Analysis
* Chapter 14: Research Using Secondary Data and Big Data

Week 14: November 21-23

* THANKSGIVING BREAK

Week 15:November 28-November 30

*Readings from Investigating Social World by Schutt*

* Chapter 16: Summarizing and Reporting Research
* **Critical Analysis of Quantitative Research** is due on Sunday, December 3, 2023 by 11:59 p.m.

**Week 16:** December 5-7

*Reading from Doing Survey Research by Nardi*

* Chapter 10: Presenting Results, Making Conclusions, and Writing Reports
* **Final** is on Thursday, December 14, 2023.

***GRADE COMPONENTS***

(1) ***Exercises***: To encourage critical thinking, you must answer questions about the material covered in the class and/or your course textbooks. There will be five exercises, and each exercise is worth 20 points, which will count towards your final grade. This course component is worth a total of 100 points. You can access detailed instructions on Canvas.

(2) ***Critical Analysis of Quantitative Research***: The aim of this task is to give you the opportunity to assess published quantitative research in a critical manner. The instructions will be available on Canvas. Your critical analysis has the potential to earn you a maximum of 100 points.

(3) ***Midterm***: You will need to use your analytical and critical thinking abilities to answer the questions provided. This assignment carries a weight of 100 points. You will find detailed instructions on Canvas.

(4) ***Final Exam***: To earn 100 points towards your course grade, you'll need to use your analytical and critical thinking skills to answer the questions provided. Look for detailed instructions on Canvas.

(5) ***Attendance & Participation***: The attendance policy is designed to promote active learning, ensure student engagement, and provide a conducive environment for effective learning and collaboration. Students are expected to attend all scheduled class sessions. To earn points, it is necessary to be present throughout the entire session. Please make sure to arrive on time and leave only when the class session has ended for everyone. Active participation in class discussions, activities, and group work is crucial for comprehensively understanding the course material. This requirement is in place to ensure that students benefit from the interactive and participatory nature of the class. Regular attendance also helps foster a sense of community within the class. Your attendance and participation will count for 100 points.

***GRADE DISTRIBUTION***

A: 90-100; B: 80-89; C: 70-79; D: 60-69; F: 59 or below.

***COURSE POLICIES***

**Missed/Late Assignments**

Please be aware that all assignments need to be submitted by the due date specified on the syllabus. However, in case of a legitimate reason for submitting a late assignment, please contact the instructor before the due date. The instructor has the right to decide if a late assignment can be submitted without a point penalty and/or if a missed in-class assignment can be made up. Unapproved late assignments will be marked down three points for each late day. Please note that the syllabus is not a contract and may be subject to change. While we will try to adhere to the provided schedule, changes may be necessary due to unforeseen needs and events.

**Incomplete Assignments**

To request an incomplete grade, it is necessary to submit a written request at least one week before the final exam week. The request must be accompanied by documentation explaining why the course cannot be completed before the end of the semester. The incomplete grade will only be considered if the student has completed at least 50% of the course exams and assignments with a passing grade.

**Academic Integrity/Plagiarism**

Assignments should showcase your understanding, critical thinking, and ability to synthesize course material. This course stresses the significance of genuine engagement with the subject matter and using outside resources and AI responsibly to enhance your learning experience while adhering to the principles of academic integrity. Students may use AI as a supplementary technological tool. However, it is important to note that copying or plagiarizing AI-generated content without proper attribution is a violation of academic honesty. Plagiarism is strictly prohibited, regardless of the source.

***UNIVERSITY POLICIES***

I recommend you to refer to UNT Policies (regarding withdrawals, student accommodation with health challenges, absence due to athletic events, student misconduct, academic dishonesty and the services). Pertinent Information can be found at the following websites:

<https://disability.unt.edu/>;

<http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>;

<http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/withdrawals>

**Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences.** According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

**ADA Accommodation Statement.** UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one’s specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website at [disability.unt.edu.](http://disability.unt.edu/)

**Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation** (Policy 16.004). The University of North Texas prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

**Access to Information – Eagle Connect.** Students’ access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: [my.unt.edu.](http://www.my.unt.edu/) All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student’s Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail: [eagleconnect.unt.edu/](http://eagleconnect.unt.edu/)

**Emergency Notification & Procedures.** UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

**Student Evaluation Administration Dates.** Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via *IASystem* Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website at [www.spot.unt.edu](http://www.spot.unt.edu/) or email spot@unt.edu.

**Retention of Student Records.** Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student’s records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University’s policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

**References and Cross References**.

UNT Policy 04.008, Records Management and Retention

UNT Policy 06.035, Academic Freedom & Academic Responsibility

UNT Policy 06.038, Safety in Instructional Activities

UNT Policy 06.039, Student Attendance and Authorized Absences

UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity

UNT Policy 16.001, Disability Accommodation for Students and Academic Units

UNT Policy 16.005, Sexual Harassment