INFO 5080
Research Methods and Analysis
Section: 020
SYLLABUS
Spring 2023
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COURSE INFORMATION
• INFO 5080, Sections 020, 3 Credit Hours
• Title: Research Methods and Analysis
• Meeting Dates (Face-to-face): See Table 2
• Meeting Time: Friday 9:00 AM - 11:50 AM
• Room: Discovery Park (DP) Room D215

Instructor Contact Information
• Dr. Jiangping Chen. Professor and Chair, Department of Information Science, College of Information, University of North Texas.
• Office: DP E292BA
• Office Hour: Wednesday Morning, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM or by appointment
• Email address outside of the class site: Jiangping.Chen@unt.edu

Teaching Assistant
• Lydia Oladapo (LydiaOladapo@my.unt.edu)
• TA Office Hour (Online): Thursday 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Communicating with Your Instructor and Teaching Assistant
Students are welcome to make an appointment with the instructor and/or the teaching assistant (TA) to discuss course-related questions (online or in-person at the allocated office hour). If you need to schedule an individual meeting with the instructor or the TA, please send her an email via the course website in Canvas Course Messages or the email provided in this syllabus. It is preferred that you email both the instructor and the TA if you have questions regarding the course. Sending your email to Both the instructor and the TA will answer your questions sooner.

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions
• None

Course Format
This class holds face-to-face lectures by the instructor. The class will have lectures, question-answering, and hands-on exercises. A lot of interaction will be conducted in the class meetings. Class attendance is essential to achieve the learning objectives, so students are required to attend each class meeting.

This course also uses Canvas (canvas.unt.edu) to submit class assignments, in-class exercises, and/or the term project. If necessary, course lectures and materials will be available at the course site on Canvas and are accessible to all students. Prior to the meeting, please preview the course material at the class canvas site and prepare your questions for discussion. In addition, students will submit most assignments through the assignment tools available on Canvas.
Course Catalog Description

Principles, techniques, and areas of research. Basic research designs and measurement problems. Evaluation of representative studies. Quantitative methods and applications.

Course Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes

After finishing this class, students will be able to achieve the following learning outcomes.

1) Define and explain key concepts related to research methods and analysis
2) Identify major components of a research article
3) Describe major type of research and methodology with examples
4) Compare different types of research methods
5) Perform basic qualitative and quantitative data analysis, including descriptive and inferential statistics
6) Write a quality review to evaluate a research article
7) Design and implement a research project
8) Complete a research report which include significant components of a research article.

Class Materials

This course does not have required textbooks, but the following supplementary materials and/or readings are recommended. More resources can be found from the modules in the class website.


Teaching Philosophy

Learning is a process in which students challenge themselves with the instructor's guidance. It is more effective when students and the instructor have constant interactions in the classroom and through methods of communication. There is no wrong question but no question is not desired for my class. I enjoy learning together with my students by teaching new course content added to a course. Students' feedback is always welcomed for improving teaching and learning. We will have in-class assignments, discussions, and a term project. I want my students to learn not only knowledge and skills for this particular subject, but also to improve their abilities to learn, to communicate, and to establish good learning behaviors that benefit their life.
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TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS/ASSISTANCE

UIT Help Desk: http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm

The University of North Texas provides student technical support in the use of Canvas and supported resources. The student help desk may be reached at:
Email: helpdesk@unt.edu
Phone: 940.565-2324
In-Person: Sage Hall, Room 330
- Hours are: Monday-Thursday 8 AM-midnight, Friday 8 AM-8 PM, Saturday 9 AM-5pm, Sunday 8 AM-midnight
- Canvas technical requirements: https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements
- Other related hardware or software necessary for the course include a headset/microphone for synchronous chats, a word processor, etc.

Minimum Technical Skills Needed

Using the Internet and the learning management system Canvas, using email with attachments, creating and submitting files in commonly used word processing program formats, and using Excel and other open-source tools for statistical analysis.

Student Academic Support Services

- Code of Student Conduct: provides Code of Student Conduct along with other useful links
- Office of Disability Access: exists to prevent discrimination based on disability and to help students reach a higher level of independence
- Counseling and Testing Services: provides counseling services to the UNT community, as well as testing services, such as admissions testing, computer-based testing, career testing, and other tests
- UNT Libraries
- UNT Learning Center: provides a variety of services, including tutoring, to enhance the student's academic experience
- UNT Writing Center: offers free writing tutoring to all UNT students, undergraduate, and graduate, including online tutoring
- Succeed at UNT: information regarding how to be a successful student at UNT

ASSESSMENT & GRADING

Assessments

A student's grade is composed of the following:
- In-class Assignments (25%)
- Assignments (20%)
- Mid-term Exam (20%)
- Term Project (35%)
Grading

The UNT scale for grading is as follows:

- A = 90-100
- B = 80-89
- C = 70-79
- D = 60-69
- F = 59 and below

The grade you earn from each assignment will be converted into the grade points following the percentage provided.

In-class assignment (25%). There will be Six in-class assignments. Some in-class Assignments can be very simple; some can be more complicated. However, each in-class Assignment will be counted 5 points to your final grade. In other words, you could get extra credits if you turned in all the in-class Assignments and with good grades. These in-class Assignments are designed to help students understand concepts and methods discussed in class. Students are encouraged to use any learning materials at their disposal and will be able to ask the instructor for help. In-class assignments will be open when the class is in session and are due in specified duration, or by the end of class.

Assignments (20%, each for 10%). The class will have Two individual assignments. This assignments are designed to assess students' understanding and application of important research concepts and topics. Assignments should be well written, and typewritten with MS Word, and diagrams, if applicable, should be drawn using graphics software such as PowerPoints, draw.io, etc.

Mid-term Exam (20%). There will be a mid-term exam for this course. The Exam will be made available to students on canvas on specified dates in Table 2. How to prepare for the Mid-term Exam will be discussed in class meetings.

Term Project (35%). (Progress Reports 10%; Final Report 15%; Presentation 8%; Team evaluation 2%). The purpose of the term project is to apply what has been taught in this course to design and conduct a small-scale study. Students will work in teams (no more than 4 people) to tackle one particular problem assigned or approved by the instructor. The instructor will guide the students to complete the term project. Term project topics and their specifications will be distributed and discussed in class.

COURSE CALENDAR

The contents of the course are organized into 12 Lessons. Please refer to Table 1 for lessons, topics, and readings materials. Table 2 lists the suggested study schedule, assignments, quizzes, and term project due dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modules</th>
<th>Lessons</th>
<th>Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. General Organization of Research</td>
<td>Lesson 1</td>
<td>Introduction to Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lesson 2</td>
<td>Literature Search and Review</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lesson 3</td>
<td>Research Procedures and Components</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Types of Research</td>
<td>Lesson 4</td>
<td>Research Methodology and Major Types of Research Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lesson 5</td>
<td>Experimental Research</td>
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Lesson 6  Survey Research  
Lesson 7  Other Research Methods  

3. Statistical Methods for Data Analysis  
Lesson 8  Levels of Data and Descriptive Statistics  
Lesson 9  Data Representation and Visualization  
Lesson 10  Inferential Statistics  

4. Critiquing Research Papers  
Lesson 11  Research Reports and Structure  
Lesson 12  Reliability and Validity of Research  

Meetings, Due Dates and Suggested Study Schedule  
(In-class Assignments are due by the end of the class. Assignments are due on Thursdays at Noon of the specified week.)  

<p>| Table 2. Meetings, Study Schedule and Due Dates |
|---|---|---|---|</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
<th>Study Focus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan 17 -21</td>
<td>Jan 20</td>
<td>Syllabus, Department Integrity Guidelines, and other Policies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jan 22- 28</td>
<td>Jan 27</td>
<td>Module 1 Overview, Team Formation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jan 29 - Feb 4</td>
<td>No meeting</td>
<td>Study module 1 online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Feb 5 - 11</td>
<td>Feb 10</td>
<td>Module 1 Q&amp;A, Module 2 Overview, term project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Feb 12 - 18</td>
<td>No meeting</td>
<td>Study Module 2, Term project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Feb 19 - 25</td>
<td>Feb 24</td>
<td>Module 2 Q&amp;A, feedback on term project Module 3.1 Overview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Feb 26 -Mar 4</td>
<td>No Meeting</td>
<td>Study Module 2 and 3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mar 5 - 11</td>
<td>Mar 10</td>
<td>Module 3.1 Q&amp;A Module 3.2 Overview, Term project-data collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mar 12 -18</td>
<td>No Meeting</td>
<td>Spring Break, No Class (iConf virtual meeting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mar 19- 25</td>
<td>Mar 24</td>
<td>Module 3.2 QA, Module 4 Overview, Assignment 1 presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mar 26-Apr 1</td>
<td>NO Meeting</td>
<td>iConference 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Apr 2 - 8</td>
<td>Apr 7</td>
<td>Module 3.2 QA, Assignment 1 Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Apr 9 -15</td>
<td>Apr 14</td>
<td>Term project report, course summary, Q&amp;A, Assignment 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Apr 16 - 22</td>
<td>No Meeting</td>
<td>Work on Term Project and Assignment 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Apr 23 - 29</td>
<td>Apr 28</td>
<td>Term project presentation and feedback, Course summary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>April 30 - May 6</td>
<td>No Meeting</td>
<td>Working on term project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>May 7 - 12</td>
<td></td>
<td>Term Project Final Report and Evaluation Due May 9 Midnight</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Spring 2023
COURSE EVALUATION

Student Evaluation Administration Dates
Student feedback is important and an essential part of this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 14, 15, and 16 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 http://spot.unt.edu/ or email spot@unt.edu.

COURSE POLICIES AND STATEMENTS

Diversity Statement
As members of the UNT community, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact. In my courses, I ask that we each strive to follow the Principles of Engagement, created by our UNT Division of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access. UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. UNT’s full Non-Discrimination Policy can be found in the UNT Policies section of the syllabus.

Assignment Policy
Students should submit the assignments and term project reports via Dropbox at the class site in canvas.unt.edu. Submitting files should be in .doc (or .docx) files with the Excel analysis worksheet if applicable.

Examination Policy
There are no final exams for this section.

Instructor Responsibilities and Feedback
- Helping students grow and learn
- Providing clear instructions for projects and assessments
- Answering questions about assignments and the project
- Identifying additional resources as necessary
- Providing grading rubrics
- Reviewing and updating course content
- Assignments grades and feedbacks will be returned to the students within one week after the submission deadline.

Late Work and Missed Work
Students are expected to submit assignments and projects on time. The due dates are Thursdays at Noon of the week specified in Table 2. Meetings, Study Schedule and Due Dates. If an extenuating circumstance such as a medically diagnosed illness or a family emergency arises, which prevents you from submitting your assignments, you should contact the instructor and the TA as soon as possible.
before the due date. Late work without the permission of the instructor will receive a grade with a 10% penalty (or 10 points out of 100) per day after the due date. A student who is having trouble with assignments is strongly encouraged to contact the instructor and the TA as early as possible for personal advising.

Course Incomplete Grade
The UNT Graduate Catalog (http://catalog.unt.edu/index.php?catoid=16) in the “Grading system” of the Academics section describes and explains grading policies. A grade of Incomplete (I) will be given only for a justifiable reason and only if the student is passing the course. The student is responsible for meeting with the instructor to request an incomplete and discuss requirements for completing the course. If an incomplete is not removed within the time frame agreed to by the instructor and student, the instructor may assign a grade of F.

Withdrawal
The UNT Graduate Catalog (http://catalog.unt.edu/index.php?catoid=16) describes and explains withdrawal policies and deadlines. The UNT semester course schedule lists specific deadlines regarding withdrawal. A grade of Withdraw (W) or Withdraw-Failing (WF) will be given depending on a student's attendance record and grade earned. Please note that a student who simply stops attending class and does not file a withdrawal form may receive an F.

Attendance Policy
Students are encouraged to attend each class meeting. Prior to the meeting, please preview the readings for the class and prepare your questions for discussion. You will miss classwork and activities if you do not attend the class.

Students’ Responsibility for Their Learning
The students are required to follow the course schedule and finish the classwork, assignments, and the term project. Students are expected to study 9-12 hours weekly to achieve satisfactory class performance.

UNT POLICIES

Academic Integrity Policy
Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003 Student Academic Integrity (https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003) academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. The Department of Information Science also established its Academic Integrity Policy and will require that instructors follow the policy to handle violation cases. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. We will talk more about this at our first meeting. And the content will be tested in In-class Assignment-1.
ADA Policy

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 ones’ 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.

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 class website for contingency plans for covering course materials.

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 the 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 records; however, information about students’ 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.

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct. Access to Information - Eagle Connect Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. In addition, all official communication from the University will be delivered to students' Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forwaremailil: eagleconnect.unt.edu/.

Sexual Assault Prevention

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available
to provide support and assistance. UNTs’ Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim’s compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565 2759.

**Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses**

**Federal Regulation**

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website at http://www.ecfr.gov/. The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G). The paragraph reads:

“For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is take online or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to the completion of the class. An online or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-student’s course of study is in a language study program, no online or distance education classes may be considered to count toward student's full course of study requirement.”

**University of North Texas Compliance**

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experiences integral to completing this course. If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

1. Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
2. Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone at 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

**Student Verification**

UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses.
See UNT Policy 07-002 Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses.

Use of Student Work

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g., software, photographs, reports, presentations, an email postings) he or she creates within a class, and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student's permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- The work is used only once.
- The work is not used in its entirety.
- The use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- The student is not identified.
- The work is recognized as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student's written permission.

Download the UNT System Permission, Waiver, and Release Form