

RECR 5800.002
RESEARCH SEMINAR
THURSDAYS – 6:30 PM TO 9:20 PM
PEB 219

Instructor: John Collins, Ph.D.
Recreation, Event, and Sport Management
Office Hours
by appointment at
940-565-3422 or johnr.collins@unt.edu

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this course is to guide the graduate student through the process of developing and completing a specific quantitative data-based research project that fulfills the culminating experience requirement for the Master's degree.

OBJECTIVES:

The student will begin developing or completing a primary individual research project that involves the collection and analysis of an IRB approved empirical data set and the preparation and submission of materials that coincide with his/her research project.

- Develop a semester-long progress contract with the instructor,
- Submit a proposal that outlines the purpose for the project, a review of literature related to the project, and the research methods related to this project,
- Submission of an IRB application with related materials,
- Complete data collection, entry and analysis (SPSS printouts),
- Creation of an abstract to be submitted for a conference presentation,
- Creation of a poster that provides a summary of the research project and the findings,
- Creation of a research paper ready for submission to a peer reviewed journal.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Pan, M. 2016. Preparing literature reviews: Qualitative and quantitative approaches, 5th ed. Pyrczak Publishing. Glendale, CA.

Pyrczak, F. 2017. Evaluating research in academic journals: A practical guide to realistic evaluation, 6rd. Pyrczak Publishing. Glendale, CA.

Verdugo, E. 1998. Practical problems in research methods. Pyrczak Publishing. Glendale, CA.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

Belcher, W. (2009). Writing your journal article in twelve weeks: A guide to academic publishing success, 1st. ISBN-10: 141295701X | ISBN-13: 978-1412957014

Becker, H. (2007). Writing for social scientists: How to start and finish your thesis, book, or article, 2ed. ISBN-10: 0226041328 | ISBN-13: 978-0226041322

Day, R. and Gastel, B. (2011). How to write and publish a scientific paper, 7ed. ISBN-10: 0313391971 | ISBN-13: 978-0313391972

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

Culminating Research Project

1-Development Phase (to be completed by students enrolled in RECR 5800.002 for the first time)

-Research Project Orientation	100 points
-Research Project Timeline Contract	100 points
-Literature review synthesis (12 current articles-minimum)	300 points
-Psychometric scale (dependent variable) and other questionnaire items (independent variables)	200 points
-Poster presentation	400 points
A. Introduction	
B. Literature Review Synthesis	
C. Hypotheses	
D. Research Method	
i. Population and sampling scheme	
ii. Data collection scheme	
iii. Measures	
o Psychometric scale features	
o Behavioral measures	
o Demographic measures	
iv. Anticipated Data Analysis	
E. References	100 points
-IRB application submitted/approved	<u>200 points</u>
	1400 points

2-Analysis Phase (to be completed by students enrolled in RECR 5800.002 for the second time)

-Research Project Orientation	100 points
-Research Project Timeline Contract	100 points
-Data Collection	200 points
-Data Analysis (processed via SPSS)	400 points
-Final Poster	200 points
A. Introduction	
B. Literature Review Synthesis	
C. Hypotheses	
D. Research Method	
i. Population and sampling scheme	
ii. Data collection scheme	
iii. Measures	
o Psychometric scale features	
o Behavioral measures	
o Demographic measures	
iv. Data Analysis	
o Descriptive analysis of the demographics using frequencies to generate means and standard deviations	
o At a minimum, there must be nine pre-determined demographic variables included in your survey unless a deviation has been approved by your faculty advisor.	
o Scale reliability (alpha) of the psychometric scale and sub-scales	
o Descriptive analysis of all variables	
o Chi Square analysis where appropriate	
o T-Test	
o ANOVA with post hoc analysis	
o Correlations	

- Regression
- E. References
- 2-3 Page Project Abstract
- Peer Review Paper (Submitted)

200 points
500 points
1700 points

All assignments must be turned in as hard copies at the beginning of class on the due date. E-mailing assignments is not accepted unless pre-approved by the instructor. All assignments must be typed using a word processor computer program, doubled spaced, 12-point font, and printed using a legible cartridge. Professional "quality" for each of the assignments is the standard.

A 10 percent point deduction on each assignment will occur for sloppiness, poor grammar, spelling, and/or typographical errors. If the assignment is submitted late, there will be a 10 point deduction, and then another ten point deduction for each additional 24-hour period the assignment remains overdue.

CLASS MEETINGS:

The students will meet as a group on assigned days to provide updates and overviews of the work they have completed to that date. Students will work on individually assigned material and work in the (COE) data analysis lab throughout the semester as well as meet with the instructor on an individual basis throughout the semester for guidance and support with their research project.

GRADING OF ASSIGNMENTS:

A = 100-90	Excellent	Indicates exceptional achievement. Discussed relationships thoroughly, relates evidence supporting or refuting viewpoints.
B = 89-80	Good	Indicates extensive achievement. Discussed relationships and Viewpoints requested. Use of course material is obvious.
C = 79-70	Satisfactory	Indicates acceptable achievement.
F = <70	Unsatisfactory	Indicates inadequate achievement.

RECREATION, EVENT, AND SPORT MANAGEMENT PHILOSOPHICAL STATEMENT:

The RESM faculty value leisure, recreation, event, and sport; and believe in its diverse personal, community, and societal benefits. We also believe in an inclusive, holistic, and lifespan approach to leisure, recreation, event, and sport management. Our program attempts to prepare graduate students for professional service in an evolving and diverse world by addressing changing demographic, political, financial, and technological issues. As a team, the RESM faculty working with each student, will strive to create a student-oriented learning environment that lays a foundation to promote lifelong learning, effective human relations skills, critical thinking, problem solving abilities, and creativity.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY:

To receive maximum benefit from this course students are expected to attend all class periods. **You are allowed to miss classes that have conflicts with development related projects and professional opportunities but these must be documented activities and approved by myself before the day of class.** I will expect a written review of the activity that required you to miss class. Your normal work schedule should have been organized so that it will not conflict with your opportunity to miss this class. If you will not be in class you are required to notify me at least 1 hour before the beginning of class via e-mail. Failure to attend a class that is not pre-excused will cost you 10 points from your overall grade. It is your responsibility to

obtain any material you may have missed from another student.

CLASS POLICIES:

The course will be governed by all policies described in the ***Faculty Handbook***, the ***Student Guidebook***, and the ***Graduate Catalog*** of the University of North Texas.

Student - Instructor Communication: All official independent student requests must be submitted through the University Eagle-mail system. Any request, notifications, or work submissions that are submitted to the instructor outside of class via an independent e-mail system (hotmail, yahoo, msn) will not receive a reply or recognition. This process will ensure that the University will be able to maintain a back-up of all correspondence to protect your submission from possible corruption or lost communication.

Course Calendar:

The assigned readings will prepare you for each lecture, lesson, or site visit. It is expected that you will have **Read This Material**. Please bring the syllabus to class each session to record any changes in topic or assignment.

DATE	TOPIC	READING
R 8-31	Course overview, requirements, and policies	Lecture
R 9-7	Research Model + Annotated Bibliography	Lesson 1
R 9-14	Survey Instrument + IRB Forms	Lesson 2
R 9-21	Poster Prototype	Lesson 3
R 9-28	IRB Approval	Handouts
R 10-5	TBA	Handouts
R 10-12	Data Collection	Handouts
R 10-19	Data Analysis - Descriptive	
R 10-26	Data Analysis - Inferential	Handouts
R 10-29	Written Results	Handouts
R 11-3	Written Conclusion	
R 11-9	Final Poster	Handouts
R 11-16	2-3 Page Project/Poster Abstract	Handouts
R 11-23	Thanksgiving Holiday	
R 11-30	Peer Review Manuscript Submitted	
R 12-8	TBA	
R 12-14	FINAL – Poster Presentations	