

**Duplichain University**  
**Division of Criminal Justice**  
**M.S. in Criminal Justice**  
**MCRJ 504: Research Method I**  
**Spring 2012**

**Instructor: Naoshi Sambonsugi, Ph.D.**

Email:

Cell Phone: (Noon – 9p.m. Central Time)

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course examines various methods of social science research including theory construction, evaluation, and testing. Particular emphasis will be placed on data collection techniques and advanced complex methods.

## **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

After taking this course, students should be able to perform an empirical study, with data collection and statistical analysis, and write a paper with potential for conference/publication.

## **ANGEL & e-MAIL**

You must have access to the class Angel site. All announcements and class related documents will be posted here. Some class announcements will be distributed via e-mail.

## **REQUIRED TEXTS**

Frankfort-Nachmias, Chava & Nachmias, David. *Research Methods in the Social Science*, 6<sup>th</sup> Ed. Worth Publishers, 2000. ISBN 1572599294.

## **RECOMMENDED TEXT**

Cronk, Brian. C. *How to use SPSS: A step by step guide to analysis and interpretation*. Los Angeles CA: Pyrczak Publishing, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> edition.

## **COURSE POLICIES**

1. Regular and active class participation is strictly part of course requirements. Reading required materials in advanced is expected and will help in class participation as well as help to facilitate learning.
2. No Make-Up Test and No Late Assignments are accepted without advance permission from the instructor and a valid excuse.
3. Academic honesty is expected and strictly observed.

## **PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

Each week a student will be expected read assigned chapters (usually 2 chapters) in the main textbook and post at least one question for each chapter on discussion board, which will be due at noon on Monday (Central Time).

The midterm exam will consist of 2-3 essays, which should be answered in less than 5 double-spaced pages (excluding title and reference pages).

Final paper will be an empirical study, which will be 10-15 double-spaced pages (excluding title and reference pages).

### **Criteria:**

1. Assignments (Discussion): 20 pts (2pts × 10)
2. Midterm exam: 30 pts
3. Final paper: 50 pts

### **Grading:**

- A: 90-100 points
- B: 80-89 points
- C: 70-79 points
- D: 60-69 points
- F: less than 60 points

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Class Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>
WK1	Introduction	
WK2	Scientific Approach and Conceptual Foundations	Ch 1 & Ch 2
WK3	Element of Research and Ethics	Ch 3 & Ch 4
WK4	Research Designs	Ch 5 & Ch 6
WK5	Measurement and Sampling	Ch 7 & Ch 8
WK6	Observational Methods and Survey Research	Ch 9 & Ch 10
WK7	Mid-term exam	
WK8	Questionnaire Construction and Qualitative Research	Ch11 & 12
WK9	Secondary Analysis and Data Preparation	Ch 13 & 14
WK10	Univariate and Bivariate Analysis	Ch 15 & 16
WK11	Multivariable Analysis	Ch 17 & 18
WK12	Inferences	Ch 19
WK13	Consultation Period	
WK14	Final Paper Due	

\* Dates and content are subject to change throughout the semester. Changes will always be announced on the course website in advance.