

**Eastern Illinois University
Kinesiology and Sports Studies
KSS 5000-002 - Research Methods in Kinesiology and Sports Studies
Fall 2017 Syllabus**

Instructor: Scott Ronspies, Ph.D.

Office: Lantz 2504

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday: 10:00am-11:00am; By Appointment

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Credits: 3

Course Catalog Description:

(3-0-3) An exposure to various types of research methods in related subject areas, a critical evaluation of selected studies, and writing the research report.

Prerequisites & Notes

Graduate degree-seeking status or permission of the department chair.

Required Textbook:

1. Thomas, J., Nelson, J., & Silverman, S. (2015). *Research methods in physical activity* (7th ed.). Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics.

Highly Recommended:

1. Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.).

2. Selected professional materials via D2L.

3. Poster Board and Poster

Student Learning Objectives:

In order to meet the goals for KSS 5000, the course is designed to help students achieve the following objectives:

1. To understand the research process and scientific method.
2. To learn about different types of research and research design.
3. To learn about ethical use of human subjects and animals in research.
4. To complete a literature search and review.
5. To write a research article or min-thesis in clear scientific fashion.

Course Requirements:

The following are some of the essential factors that constitute evidence of critical thinking, and indeed will inform an assessment of participants' performance in all areas of the course.

- Accurate and precise understanding of course topics: Posing questions that address the basic information contained in the readings (e.g., identify key beliefs and values expressed by the author). The demonstration of a sound

understanding of the topics meets the requirements for a grade of a **C** in this course.

- Engagement with assigned readings, presenters, and class discussions. How do the readings/observations/teaching assignments/discussions connect with the topic at hand? In addition, for the associated materials, students must pose questions that are textually implicit, thereby requiring analysis and interpretation of specific parts of the readings and text. In terms of critical thinking, students must focus on understanding the reasons underlying someone's particular beliefs or values related to research and the process of conducting research, including their own. Both understanding and engagement are required for **B** level work.
- "Deep thinking" concerning the intersections of the material: How do one's observations and experiences connect with class materials? Do these observations and experiences confirm or contradict what is read and discussed? For the associated materials, another level of questioning is appropriate here; that is, much more open-ended questions that frequently go beyond the readings. Such questions are intended to provoke a discussion of an abstract idea or issue, or perhaps an ethical dilemma. The student must now ask whether the evidence or reasons offered are adequate and justified. Further, students must state and defend their own views, supported by reasons and evidence. Success with "deep thinking" as well as accurate observation and teaching episodes are required for **A** level work.

Teaching Methods:

The following may be used during this course to provide variety in student learning: student-centered discussion, debate, lecture, video, internet tasks, readings, and small group work.

Course Requirements/Evaluation

<i>Cognitive Assessments (Exams)</i>	15%
<i>Checks for Understanding (Quizzes)</i>	10%
<i>Class Discussions/Readings/Assignments</i>	10%
<i>Journal Article Critique/Review/Presentation</i>	10%
<i>Final Paper</i>	35%
<i>Final Poster Presentation</i>	20%
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Total:	100%

A = 100-90

B = 89-80

C = 79-70

F = below 69

Institutional Review Board (IRB) Training:

As part of the course, each student is required to complete the online IRB training. This is an online course which covers issues regarding individuals' participation in research. Ethical issues such as informed consent, treatment of research participants, and participants' rights are covered in the training. The training includes short quizzes at the end of each section of the program. To earn credit for this activity, students will print and turn in a copy of their certification of passing the course to the instructor. For instructions on how to take the course visit:

http://www.eiu.edu/grants/COMP_IRB_Training.php. This expectation must be completed to pass the course. The instructor will submit the certificates along with Form H to:
http://www.eiu.edu/~grants/Files_IRB/IRB%20Forms/Course%20Certification%20Policy.pdf

Student Expectations/Course Policies:

Although I will do my utmost to provide you with valuable knowledge and experiences, little can be gained unless you are making a concerted and noticeable effort to be a self-motivated, responsible, and active learner. In an effort to guide the goal of responsibility, motivation and participation, I offer the following as course operating guidelines:

1. **Be here.** The class is largely interactive and participatory. These types of experiences cannot be made up. You should plan to attend every class and to be on time.
2. **Participate with effort.** This asks that you are prepared and put forth a solid and consistent effort in class. This includes giving input and feedback during discussions and group work as well as producing graduate level work. Do what you have to do to be ready.
3. **Take initiative for yourself.** Most of your learning will be the result of your own initiative, not the prodding of instructors or rewards (or threats) of grades. You alone must be responsible for creating value for yourself in this course. How well you do will in a large part will be the result of how well you are able to carry on without direct supervision. Taking initiative means asking questions when material, concepts, or expectations are not clear. (It is OK not to know, but it is not OK to continue not knowing.) It also means doing reading and work outside of class. For this course, reading beyond the assignment is necessary to achieve markedly superior work.
4. **Help others.** The ultimate success and reward for each of you depends on your ability to help and support your classmates in their learning and in their attempts to be responsible for their own learning. This also includes creating a safe learning environment; that is, one in which the confidentiality of one another's sharing is respected, where complaints are directed only to someone (and received only by someone) who can do something about the situation, and where differences of opinion and healthy debate are prized.

Assignments:

Late assignments will not be accepted and receive no credit. In addition, no extra credit will be provided in the course.

Academic Integrity:

Students are expected to maintain principles of academic integrity and conduct as defined in EIU's Code of Conduct (<http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>). Violations will be reported to the Office of Student Standards.

Academic Misconduct:**Policy on Plagiarism, Ethics and Academic Integrity:**

It is important that students become ethical leaders in their field of study. Please note this is an important issue in graduate education.

1. Copy And Paste Of Any Source Is Not Acceptable:

Direct copy and paste is considered plagiarism unless you are using a direct quotation with proper citation. Students are required to conduct literature reviews as a part of their graduate study. When writing any report or thesis, students are expected to summarize findings and appropriately cite materials. Direct quotes should only be used for emphasis and should be a small portion of the entire paper.

2. Cite References In Your Paper:

Even when summarizing findings, students need to cite the sources of materials. Readers cannot be misled to any impression that the work is only yours when in reality it is the work of others.

3. Do Your Own Work:

Students are expected to fulfill their individual responsibility to complete their assignment. It is not acceptable to copy other's work.

Note: If a student is found to have plagiarized any portion of an assignment, the university policy on academic integrity will be followed. The student will receive a zero on the assignment at the discretion of the faculty.

Students with Disabilities:

If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services (OSDS). All accommodations must be approved through OSDS. Please stop by Ninth Street Hall, Room 2006, or call 217-581-6583 to make an appointment.

The Student Success Center:

Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center (www.eiu.edu/~success) for assistance with time management, test taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and

other skills to support academic achievement. The Student Success Center provides individualized consultations. To make an appointment, call 217-581-6696, or go to 9th Street Hall, Room 1302.

Electronic Devices:

Please extend courtesy to your instructor and fellow students by placing cell phones in silent/vibrate mode. Thank you for your cooperation.

NOTES:

- Students are responsible for all tasks and for being prepared for course activities.
- The instructor reserves the right to penalize students for being late, absent and not prepared for the course via grade deductions.
- Please schedule personal/professional appointments outside of course meeting times.

KSS 5000 - Tentative Schedule

Week	Class Activities	Reading/Assignments
Week 1	Introductions Intro to class PowerPoint How research affects daily lives	▪ Read chapter 1 for next Monday Start to think about research topic Bring 5 items for Wednesday that are important in your daily life
	Go over personal items and relate to research Go over IRB expectations to conduct research	Look over syllabus for Friday Continue to finalize a research topic
	Go over syllabus Explain IRB Training	Complete IRB training for Monday
Week 2	Go over chapter 1 PowerPoint How to search library for articles	Complete chapter 1 quiz for Wednesday Read article: how to read research
	Go over and examine ball mass (basketball) article Reading & Evaluating Articles PDFs	Read VO2 article Class activity: Reading & Evaluating PDFs Locate article & Evaluate PDF assignment due Wednesday
	Go over VO2 article Class activity: Reading Research PDF	Read chapter 2 Start to finalize topic Locate article & Evaluate PDF assignment due Wednesday
Week 3	Read chapter 2	
	Go over chapter 2 Talk about topic selections Discuss Locating article assignment	Quiz 2 due on Friday Bring written topic idea proposal to share with peers
	Chapter 2 PowerPoint Share topic proposal ideas with peers Go over article critique assignment	Quiz 2 in class Read chapter 3 for Monday Complete quiz 3 for Wednesday 1 st article critique: coming due Topic of paper: coming due
Week 4	Go over article critique assignment Let students finish quiz 2 Look at Introduction section writing examples	Read chapter 3 Chapter 3 quiz due on Friday (Poll Everywhere) Chapter 3 class activity handout

	Go over chapter 3 Powerpoint Sign up for topic meeting times	Chapter 3 class activity handout Chapter 3 quiz: Monday Detailed written topic proposal meetings on Wednesday or Friday
	Chapter 3 class activity handout Sign up for topic meetings	Assignments TBA
Week 5	Quiz 3: Poll Everywhere	Topic meetings Wednesday and Friday
	Topic Meetings	
	Topic Meetings	
Week 6	Assign chapter 4 reading for Wednesday Go over manuscript author guidelines Begin writing process for study	Article critique due next Monday
	Go over chapter 4 PowerPoint Show chapter 3 dissertation example	Article critique #2 due Monday Bring APA Tip Hard Copies for Friday
	Go over APA PowerPoint APA examples: in text citations & reference list citations	Review APA materials on D2L APA Example Quiz for Friday
Week 7	APA practice with articles and books in groups Article Critique #2 Due	Reference List due Wednesday -10 articles -6 books -5 websites
	Reference List Due Go over reference list	Continue working on writing Bring a cheat sheet with Literature Review tips for Monday
	No formal class meeting	Work on study and writing
Week 8	Go over informed consent PowerPoint Hand literature review packet to a peer	Literature review PowerPoint
	Writing the Literature Review PowerPoint Share ideas from Lit. Review cheat Sheets	
	No Class Meeting - Fall Break	Start to set dates for writing submissions to be edited by peers
Week 9	Go over how to give comments & track changes in Microsoft Word	Continue writing Introduction draft coming due
	Chapter 15 PowerPoint: Surveys Chapter 15 Quiz: Take home on D2L	Continue writing Have draft of Intro ready to send to peers for feedback on Monday
	No formal class meeting	Continue writing Prepare introduction draft for peers on Monday
Week 10	Assign peer feedback groups Talk about giving peer feedback & expectations	Peer feedback coming due Read chapter 5 for Wednesday Continue writing
	Chapter 5 PowerPoint Small groups: ethic scenarios	Continue writing
	No formal class meeting	Continue writing No formal assignment for Monday
Week 11	Deadline for methods section: November 8 th Small group sharing of feedback for intro Feedback PowerPoint group assignment Feedback document from me overall	Continue writing No formal assignment for Wednesday
	Take midterm exam in groups of 3	Methods section coming due

	Student topic meeting #2 sign up	Continue working on study project
Week 12	Student topic meetings	Meet with each students Monday & Wednesday
	Student topic meetings	Continue writing
	Methods section due Assign new peer feedback groups Email PDF: Step by step guide to writing manuscript Share methods section example with my comments	Continue writing Methods Peer Feedback coming due
Week 13	Writing the Results PowerPoint	Continue writing
	Writing the Discussion PowerPoint	Continue writing Methods Peer Feedback coming due
	How to create conference poster PowerPoint & materials (tips, etc.)	Continue writing & preparing for research fair presentations
Week 14	Go over how to print poster with Copy center at MLK Union Set deadline for complete draft & Peer Feedback: Monday, December 2 nd Provide class with my feedback for methods section Course evaluations Provide name and title for fair brochure	Continue writing & preparing for research fair presentations
	No formal class meeting: Students can meet with instructor if they choose	Continue writing
	No formal class meeting:	Continue writing & preparing for research fair presentations
Week 15	Thanksgiving Break	Continue writing & preparing for research fair presentations
	Thanksgiving Break	Continue writing & preparing for research fair presentations
	Thanksgiving Break	Continue writing & preparing for research fair presentations
Week 16	Peer feedback for final draft	Prepare for final submission of manuscript and finalize research fair materials
	Last formal class meeting: Research Fair (5:00pm-6:30pm)	Manuscript and Posters due

Welcome to KSS 5000!!! 😊