

The University of Findlay
College of Science
Fall Semester, 2005

*The Mission of the University is to equip our students
for meaningful lives and productive careers.*

Course Number/Title:	ENVM 598 Research Methods
Credit Hours:	1
Class Time/Place:	Internet
Prerequisites:	None
Instructor:	Michael Edelbrock, Associate Professor The University of Findlay 1000 North Main Street Findlay, OH 45840 419/434-6994 419/434-4387 fax murphy@findlay.edu
Office Hours:	8:30 am to 12:00 Noon Monday and Friday By Appointment, Brewer 135
Course Description	This course provides instruction in the design, formulation and appraisal of a potential research topic and is the foundational class for the integrated culminating project. The course will enable the student to better understand the research process from conception to completion, including the use of online reference materials.
Relationship to the Conceptual Framework	This class will be a foundational class for the Capstone Culminating Project. The Research Methods Course is designed to give students the appropriate background, resource location, and knowledge to be able to complete a research component in their Capstone Project.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course the student will:

- Describe ethical decisions faced by a researcher
- Identify the elements of an NIH grant submittal
- Describe quantitative and qualitative research methods and design
- Determine the importance and reason for appropriate controls in research design
- Analyze, interpret and critique peer-reviewed journals in the ESH field
- Utilize Research Links through UF Library and ESH Resource Center
- Describe hypothesis driven research theory
- Evaluate and apply statistical analysis to quantitative and qualitative data
- Demonstrate experimental design through an assigned research project
- Format a Review Article under a peer-reviewed journal's author guidelines
- Present data and information in an understandable format
- Prepare the results of focused research in an understandable format

General Education Learning Outcomes Addressed [check all that apply]

Goal 1. Students will take courses which expose them to a range of basic religious beliefs and diverse ethical perspectives and which encourage them to develop their own perspectives on global issues.	
Goal 2. Students will become familiar with the historical, scientific, literary, and/or philosophical content of a range of disciplines.	
Goal 3. Students will acquire and practice skills for reading, writing, speaking, listening, abstract inquiry, critical thinking, logical reasoning, and using computers and related technology.	X
Goal 4. Students will develop an appreciation for and means of analyzing art, literature, music, communication, science, and/or theatre.	X
Goal 5. Throughout their general education experience, students will analyze and reflect upon the challenges facing our global society as well as the importance of being a life-long learner and responsible citizen.	

Required Textbooks and other materials Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles
 Links to Internet Resources
 Government Research Databases
Campus Library Resources

Knowledge Base Print Sources, Multimedia/Technology Sources, Professional Sources

Instructional Strategies [strategies that might be utilized-check all that apply]

Case Analysis	X	Library and Internet Research	X
Debate		Practice/drill	
Discovery/Independent Research	X	Problem solving	
Discussion/Questioning/Interviewing		Reading assignments	X
Experiential Learning		Role playing/simulation games	
Field Experience		Service Learning	
Group Presentation		Video/Audio Review and Critique	
Laboratory Experiences		Other	
Lecture			

Methods of Assessment [check all that apply]

Abstracts		Participation	
Attendance		Peer Evaluation	
Capstone Project		Portfolio	
Case Study		Portfolio Lab Performance	
Exams		Presentations	
Group Projects		Professional Evaluation	
Homework Assignments	X	Quizzes	
Internet Research	X	Research project	X
Journaling		Other	
Lab Performance			
Oral/written review of literature	X		

Grading Assignments 200 pts
 Research Project 300 pts

**Grading
Scale/Distribution**

A: > 92 %
B: > 82 %
C: > 72 %

Honor Code

I will not knowingly engage in any dishonorable behavior, cheat, steal, lie or commit any act of plagiarism during my academic work, course, or endeavor. If I observe an act which I believe violates the University's Honor Code, I may, in my discretion, report it to the appropriate personnel.

**Course Policies and
Practices**

You will be expected to provide professional level responses for each of the assignments. Use of resources must be documented. Use of work related experience is encouraged. It is the students' responsibility to obtain permission for any information supplied to the class.

- All assignments are to be turned in a type written format, all assignments that require the student to create and submit a Microsoft project file are to be imbedded into a word file and submitted in word format
- Extra credit is **not available** in this course
- All assignments are to be submitted via email as an attached file
- Course participants may only submit original work products, copying portions of material from texts, other papers etc. is considered plagiarism and will be dealt with in the most severe manner allowable by the University. Students are encouraged to exchange ideas and study together, *BUT the assignments, case studies, reports, papers and exams are individual work products, and must be done on an individual basis. Any assignment, case study, report, paper or exam prepared in whole or part by anyone other than the student submitting the work will cause that work to receive a grade of ZERO. Copying large (more than a few lines) from another and then citing a reference is still considered plagiarism.*
- **If you have any questions regarding what is plagiarism please see the Course Information in blackboard**
- All tests, quizzes, case studies reports, research papers, become the property of the instructor
- ANY assignments, case study or exam **NOT submitted on time will receive a full letter grade** deduction

Final Exam Date

Final Project date: See Schedule

Special Services

If you are a student with a disability, it is your responsibility to register with the Office of Disability Service and notify your instructor one week prior to any needed service so that reasonable accommodations can be made for you.

Course and Instructor Evaluation

Students Complete On-line and submit

Additional Information

Tentative Course Outline (Course outline is subject to change throughout the semester)

Chats Dates: Sept. 11, 7pm; after 1st class, class is asynchronous, however I will open the chat room at 7:30 pm on the following dates to answer questions
Sept. 25; October 9, 23; November 6, 13

Sept 11	Class chat meeting	Discuss course outcomes
Sept 11 – Sept 25	Student concentration on Resources and Peer-reviewed literature	
Sept 30		Assignment #1 Due
Sept 26 - Oct 15	Student concentration on Ethics, Experimental Design, Statistics	
Oct 15		Assignment #2 Due
Oct 16	Student concentration on Focused	
Nov 15	Research on ESH Topic	
Nov 18		Research Project - Due

Course/College Specific Information:

Chat sessions are optional and are question and answer only. If you are having difficulty with an assignment or have questions about the material log in at 7:30 pm on chat nights. The instructor will be available unless no one is present in the chat room.

All emails must be saved and submitted with a file extension that includes the course number, student name, and assignment: Example ENV570smithAssign1

Failure to save and submit work in this format will result in rejection of the submission.