



School of Arts & Science
SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT
SOC 230-01
Aboriginal Research Methodology
2007F

COURSE OUTLINE

The Approved Course Description is available on the web @ _____

Ω Please note: this outline will be electronically stored for five (5) years only.
It is strongly recommended students keep this outline for your records.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Dr. Francis Adu-Febiri		
(b)	Office Hours:	Mondays & Wednesdays 1:30-2:30, Tuesdays & Thursdays 11:30-1:30, or By Appointment		
(c)	Location:	Paul 228		
(d)	Phone:	370-3105	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	adufebir@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:			

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Assess the relevance and limitations of existing sociological research concepts, methods and techniques for researching First Nations communities and issues.
2. Develop questionnaires and interview schedules that are appropriate to First Nations research respondents and informants.
3. Evaluate the importance of archival material, research reports, statistical data, and oral history according to the research needs of First Nations communities.
4. Carry out observations and in-depth interviews in Aboriginal communities.
5. Create workable research proposals focusing on First Nations communities and/or issues.

3. Required Materials

(a)	Texts	Stringer, E. 1999. <i>Action Research</i> . Thousand Oaks, California: Sage Publications. Leedy, Paul D. and Jeanne Ellis Ormrod 2001. <i>Practical Research: Planning and Design</i> , Seventh Edition, Upper Saddle River, NJ: Merrill-Prentice Hall
-----	-------	---

each student in the group; iv) As a group select one of the problem statements with its accompanying question or formulate new relevant PROBLEM and accompanying QUESTION that the chapter(s) fail to address adequately; v) Submit the individual and the group problem statements and questions with a list of your group members to the instructor for grading.

- b) **RESEARCH PROPOSAL STAGE:** i) In your proposal groups discuss the development proposal stage indicated in the schedule; ii) Write a synopsis of the specified proposal stage based on your research topic; iii) Submit it to the instructor with a list of the names of your group members for grading.

CLASS DISCUSSIONS

The problem statements and questions that the various groups generate will constitute the core of class discussions. In the class discussions each group, if necessary, will be asked to provide rationale for and defend the problem statements and questions it creates if necessary. **Evaluation of group discussions will be based on the statement of research problems formulated and questions created, supported and defended.**

INTERACTIVE LECTURE:

This is the instructor's presentation on selected topics. Students are encouraged to ask questions, make comments and respond to questions during the presentation process.

ORAL PRESENTATION (10%) AND WRITTEN RESEARCH PROPOSAL

(20%):

Get two or three partners from the class and come up with a relevant topic that focuses on a relevant issue in a specific First Nations' community for your oral presentation and research proposal.

The projects involve a collaborative work requiring students to join together with others in teams of not less than 3 and not more than 4. Each team will be required to make an oral presentation and develop the presentation into a written research proposal. **Emphasis should be placed on a coherent, logical argument that integrates concepts, theory and empirical information. A clear presentation and critical thinking will also be rewarded.** The presentation must be approximately 15 minutes and the length of the research proposal may range between 5 and 10 double-spaced typewritten pages. Grades for oral presentation and written report will be group-based. **Students who prefer individual grades should provide a convincing reason for that and should discuss it with the instructor before the deadline for the submission of the term paper.**

The oral presentation and written research proposal must address the following:

- Title Page
- Abstract or Executive Summary
- Introducing the study: Stating why your project is needed--the problem background, the problem statement and its significance, the research questions, and thesis/hypotheses
- Stating the goals, objectives and limitations of the project
- Providing definitions of major concepts
- Doing/writing a knowledge review

- Constructing the methodology: philosophy, theory, research design, research methods and techniques
 - Reporting (communicating your research findings)
 - Implementation strategies, targets, rationale and beneficiaries of the action plan flowing from the research
 - Funding, costs and benefits of your research
 - Schedule: Each Action and when it would be executed (provide approximate dates)
 - Discussing ethical implications of the research
 - References/Bibliography
 - Appendices: Detailed budget and other document which if put in the main text would interrupt its flow.
- **Please note that** “The most likely projects to be funded will be rapid, sustainable, small scale, low budget interventions for the most pressing needs identified by the communities” Dr. Phil Bartle: <http://www.scn.org/cmp/modules/res-prp.htm>.
- **The due date of the written report is Wednesday December 05, 2007. You lose marks for late submission of report--2 marks a day.**

FINAL EXAMINATION: ESSAY-TYPE:

The default and other options of the final exam will be in Camosun College final exam week (**December 10-15 & 17-18, 2007**). For the default final exam, the instructor will give you FOUR questions based on the required readings, group/class discussions, student oral presentations, and interactive lectures. You will be required to answer ANY ONE of them in 60 minutes. The other options are: 1) Open book exam, 2) Group written exam, and 3) Oral exam. **Note that the final exam is an essay exam and emphasis should be placed on a coherent, logical argument that integrates concepts, theory and empirical information. A clear presentation and critical thinking will also be rewarded.**

EVALUATION

FRAMEWORK:

Evaluation will be based on one in-class essay-type final examination, group/class discussions, oral presentations and a research proposal. All the components of the evaluation will be graded on the basis of their sociological quality and relevance to First Nations communities.

Group/Class Discussions	30%
Oral Presentation	10%
Research Proposal	20%
Final Examination	40%

NOTE: To attain a passing grade, students must complete all the evaluation components of the course.

6. Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED