

UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
ADCS 3260 – RESEARCH IN ADDICTIONS
Course Syllabus – Spring, 2018

INSTRUCTOR: Carrie Leonard, M.Sc., Ph.D. Candidate
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LECTURES: Friday, 9:00am-11:50am, MH M1090
OFFICE HOURS: Friday, 12:30pm – 2:30pm (or by appointment)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides students in the health disciplines with the practical foundational skills to understand, critically evaluate, and apply health research findings in the course of evidence-informed decision-making and practice. A variety of qualitative and quantitative approaches to investigating the health of populations will be considered.

CLASS FORMAT

Lecture based – 3 hours per week (3 credits)

PREREQUISITES

Third-year standing (a minimum of 60.00 credit hours)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Articulate the importance of engaging in research critique.
2. Discuss concepts relevant to health & social research and the critique of research evidence.
3. Identify strengths and limitations in existing research evidence.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the research process for quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods research studies.
5. Articulate the role that quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods research serve in answering health & social research questions.
6. Demonstrate increased skill and confidence in the evaluation of reported research evidence, by participating in collaborative critique of actual research articles.
7. Discuss the importance of research ethics, including the application of the Tri-council Policy.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Aveyard, H. (2014). *Doing a literature review in health and social care: A practical guide* (3rd ed.). Maidenhead: McGraw-Hill Education, Open University Press.

Bryman, A., & Bell, E. A. (2016). *Social research methods* (4th Canadian Ed.). Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press.

RECOMMENDED TEXT

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Students are responsible for the timely completion of all materials indicated in this course outline.
- Students must follow the academic regulations and policies laid out in The University of Lethbridge calendar, Part 4. Students are responsible, in particular, for all sections in 4.5 dealing with the Student Discipline Policy – Academic Offenses.
<https://www.uleth.ca/ross/sites/ross/files/imported/academic-calendar/2017-18/part04.pdf>
- All work submitted in this class should adhere to APA (6th edition) standards; obtaining the manual is *strongly* encouraged (online or in print). The use of Purdue guidelines is NOT recommended.
- Please see the current U of L calendar for policies regarding Academic Integrity, Intellectual Honesty, Plagiarism, and Fraud. <https://www.uleth.ca/ross/sites/ross/files/imported/academic-calendar/2017-18/part04.pdf>

EVALUATION

- There are 5 components to the evaluation of this course (see course schedule for important dates):
 - **TCPS-II Certificate (7% of overall grade)**
 - The TCPS-II core tutorial is available at:
<http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/eng/education/tutorial-didacticiel/>
 - It is free, but you will need to set up your own account. Once you have completed your tutorial successfully, you will be awarded a certificate of completion. Submit the pdf file of your certificate via Moodle on or before the due date. *Note:* This certification can be used on your resume or CV.
 - **Midterm exam (25% of overall grade)**
 - This test will be administered in class, and will be 1.5 hours in length. It will be comprised of multiple-choice and short-answer questions, and will cover information from the Social Research Methods textbook and lectures.
 - **Peer reviewed article critique (13% of overall grade)**
 - In groups of your choosing (5 people per group), you will present a comprehensive critical evaluation of a peer-reviewed journal article. Presentations should not exceed 10 minutes and will be followed by a 3-5 minute question/answer period. Groups will have articles randomly assigned to them. Some class time may be allotted to work on this assignment. (*Note:* Presentation grading rubric will be provided in advance of presentation dates via Moodle).
 - **Term project (30% of overall grade)**
 - For this project, in groups of your choosing (5 people per group), you will develop a research question, conduct a thorough literature review, and design a study to answer your research using appropriate research methodology. *Note: Term project research questions must be approved by the instructor.*
 - This project requires submission of BOTH a hardcopy and an electronic copy (in .doc,.docx, or .odt format), on or before the due date. Submissions will be graded only when both copy formats have been submitted, and if either copy format is missing, the project will be considered 'late.' Only one submission per group is required, and the author's note should specify the contributions of each group member. (*Note:* electronic copies are to be submitted via Moodle). This project will be graded based on two components:
 - Paper component (20% of 30% component grade)
 - Literature review. (15 out 20) Each group member should contribute at least 3 peer-reviewed journal articles to this review. This portion of your term project should be written as an introduction to your research question, using the peer reviewed journal articles to highlight a) what research has been done in the past, b) why there is a need for your project (e.g., the topic has not been addressed yet, research suggests

- mixed results, to add further support to existing literature, etc.), and c) to inform your research hypothesis/hypotheses.
- Study design. (5 of 20) Considering your research question and hypothesis/hypotheses, this portion of your term project should be developed as though you were going to implement your study. You will need to express precisely how you would investigate your research question. While variations will occur due to study questions, some examples of necessary inclusions for this component include: how you would ensure ethical standards, who would be included in your sample, rationale for any exclusion criteria, what materials would you use, etc. You should also indicate, based on your study design, what limitations you can foresee.
 - Presentation (10% of the 30% component grade)
 - In a 10-minute presentation, with 3-5 minutes for a question/answer period, you will present your term project. This presentation will be scheduled for approximately 1 week prior to the paper component so that, presentation feedback can be incorporated into your paper. (Note: The presentation grading rubric will be available via Moodle in advance)
 - **Final Exam (25% of overall grade)**
 - This test will be administered during the final exam period, with the time and location set by the Registrar's Office. It will be 2 hours in length, and will be comprised of multiple choice and short answer questions, and will cover information from the Social Research Methods textbook and lectures. The final exam is comprehensive.

LATE/MISSED COURSE COMPONENTS

The late or missed assignments are dealt with according to the following terms:

- Missed exams: For the midterm and final exam, missed tests are excused only for important medical, family, or religious reasons. A note from the appropriate authority is required before a makeup exam will be considered, but a makeup test will normally be given during office hours.
- Late TCPS-II certificates will be subject to a 15% per day grade reduction. TCPS-II certificates submitted more than 4 days late will receive a grade of zero.
- Late presentations will not be 'made-up.' As these presentations are group projects, group members with *unexcused* absences during presentations will receive a grade reduction of 50% of the presentation grade.
- Term project papers are considered late if one, or both, the hardcopy or the electronic copy is not submitted on time. A late penalty of 15% per day will be applied for all group members up to a maximum of 4 days. Term papers submitted later than 4 days after the deadline will not be graded.

GRADING BREAKDOWN

The grading system for this course is consistent with that established in the Faculty of Health Sciences, effective May, 2002.

Letter	GPA	Percent	Letter	GPA	Percent
A+	4.0	95 - 100%	C+	2.3	71 - 74.9%
A	4.0	91 - 94.9%	C	2.0	67 - 70.9%
A-	3.7	87 - 90.9%	C-	1.7	63 - 66.9%
B+	3.3	83 - 86.9%	D+	1.3	59 - 62.9%
B	3.0	79 - 82.9%	D	1.0	55 - 58.9%
B-	2.7	75 - 78.9%	F	0	0 - 54.9%

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Please Note: Grades will not be adjusted on the basis of need or desire. In addition, students will not be given the opportunity to improve their grades by completing additional assignments. As such, it is important to monitor your performance in the course. Remember: You are responsible for your grades in this course.

EMAIL POLICY

Outside of office hours, by far the best way to reach me is via email. I endeavour to answer all emails by the end of the following business day (if not sooner). Because I cannot verify the sender of any email that does not originate from a University of Lethbridge account, I will reply **ONLY** to messages sent from a "uleth.ca" account. Furthermore, I ask that you include the course name and topic of your email in the Subject line, as well as your full name (as it appears on your registration) at the end of your message.

MOODLE

Log in with your own user name and password to check the course Moodle site regularly (moodle.uleth.ca). Information will be made available in Moodle throughout the semester, including the course syllabus (which states dates for all readings and exams), additional resources (e.g., lecture/topic summary slides, videos, etc.), and any other announcements. Moodle gradebook will be used so that you may keep track of your grades. All course materials on the Moodle course site should be treated as copyrighted material – meaning you may personally use any of the materials posted; however, you may not share or distribute any posted materials with individuals not registered in this course in this semester. The instructor will not be held accountable for students who choose to violate copyright law. See the Copyright statement below for more information.

PLAGIARISM STATEMENT

The University of Lethbridge subscribes to Turnitin.com, a plagiarism detection service. Please be advised that student work submitted for credit in this course may be submitted to this system to verify its originality. Students must submit both electronic and hard copy versions of their work upon request.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY

Reasonable accommodations are available for students who have a documented disability. If you have been diagnosed with a disability, there is no need to face the challenge of University without support. Please contact the Accommodated Learning Centre at 403-329-2766 to set up an appointment : <https://www.uleth.ca/ross/accommodated-learning-centre/>. After registering with the Accommodated Learning Centre, your instructor will be notified by a formal letter of any accommodations you require. In addition, students are responsible for requesting accommodations from the instructor at least ***two weeks*** in advance of the evaluation date. The instructor and student are jointly responsible for arranging the resources needed for the evaluation process.

Note: It is University of Lethbridge policy that you must have written consent of the Instructor of your course to video or audio record lectures. The instructor does not allow for video recording or photographs of lectures. Audio recording will be permitted with prior written consent.

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT

All University of Lethbridge students, faculty and staff must comply with Canadian law and institutional license agreements pertaining to copyright. At the same time, keeping abreast of our copyright obligations and options is a complex task as copyright matters locally and globally are in flux and are likely to remain so for at least the near future.

The University's Copyright website (www.uleth.ca/copyright) is a source of current copyright information that includes:

- answers to common copyright questions (see the [FAQs](#)),
- guidance on whether you need permission or a license to copy a particular work (see the [Copyright Permissions Flow Chart](#)),
- guidance on assessing whether fair dealing may apply to specific instances of copying you wish to undertake (see the [Guidelines for Copying under Fair Dealing](#)), and
- a [permissions look-up tool](#) to help you determine the kinds of copying and other uses permitted by the Library's license agreements covering specific online journals and other online resources.

You are encouraged to contact the University Copyright Advisor (copyright@uleth.ca) for assistance with any copyright questions or issues.

CLASS SCHEDULE (tentative and subject to change)

WEEK	TOPIC	CHAPTERS	DUE DATES
Week 1 Jan 12	INTRODUCTION	(B & B) C1	
Week 2 Jan 19 *Add/drop Jan 15	ETHICS & RESEARC DESIGNS	(B & B) C3 & C2	
Week 3 Jan 26	RESEARCH DESIGNS CONTINUED & FINDING LITERATURE LIBRARIAN VISIT? **Define & receive approval for your term project research question	(B & B) C2 (A) C2 & 3	TCPS-II by 11:59pm

WEEK	TOPIC	CHAPTERS	DUE DATES
Week 4 Feb 2	QUANTITATIVE DESIGNS	(B & B) C5 pp. 84- 101 & C7 pp. 138-137	
Week 5 Feb 9	QUANTITATIVE DATA ANALYSIS	(B & B) C13 (A) C5	
Week 6 Feb 16	MIDTERM EXAM		
Week 7 Feb 19 - 25	READING WEEK – NO CLASS		
Week 8 Mar 2	PEER REVIEW ARTICLE CRITIQUE PRESENTATIONS		
Week 9 Mar 9	QUALITATIVE DESIGNS	(B & B) C10, C11 pp. 197-115, pp. 217, pp. 220-222	
Week 10 Mar 16	QUALITATIVE DATA ANALYSIS	(B & B) C14 (A) C6	
Week 11 Mar 23	MIXED METHODS	(B & B) C15	
Week 12 Mar 30 *Mar 30 – Good Friday	NO CLASS		
Week 13 Apr 6 *Apr 2 Easter Monday	TERM PROJECT PRESENTATIONS		
Week 14 Apr 13 *Last day of classes = Apr 14	APPLYING RESEARCH KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER	(B & B) C17 (A) C7 & 8	TERM PROJECTS (hardcopy in class & electronic by 11:59pm in Moodle)
	FINAL EXAM PERIOD April 17 – April 25		