



CRJ330: RESEARCH AND METHODS FOR THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROFESSIONAL

Credit Hours: 3

Contact Hours: This is a 3-credit course, offered in accelerated format. This means that 16 weeks of material is covered in 8 weeks. The exact number of hours per week that you can expect to spend on each course will vary based upon the weekly coursework, as well as your study style and preferences. You should plan to spend 14-20 hours per week in each course reading material, interacting on the discussion boards, writing papers, completing projects, and doing research.

Faculty Information: Faculty contact information and office hours can be found on the faculty profile page.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OUTCOMES

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces students to statistical techniques most commonly encountered in the analysis of quantitative data in social and criminal justice fields. Emphasis is placed on descriptive and inferential statistics. The learning experience culminates a comprehensive report of hypothesis testing with secondary data.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

Students learn basic concepts and analytical methods of quantitative data analysis in this course. The course covers the writing structure of a quantitative research report, the building blocks of quantitative research (e.g., variables, hypothesis, and levels of measurement), data summary, and bivariate analysis. Discussions are heavily used in class to help students understand the weekly course material and to prepare students for writing Critical Thinking Assignment papers and the Portfolio Project.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Define key research terms and concepts associated with research.
2. Describe and distinguish the various methods of conducting empirical research and know the steps in the research process.
3. Recognize the role of research and its application for informing policies about criminal justice issues.
4. Implement research literacy as critical consumers of research studies published in scientific journals of criminal justice fields and distributed in the government sources.
5. Locate and summarize research literature and statistics relevant to a particular research question.
6. Demonstrate basic analytical logic given appropriate summary data.
7. Demonstrate critical thinking in the analysis of crime and social control.
8. Recognize ethics of scientific research and key procedures of protecting research subjects.

PARTICIPATION & ATTENDANCE

Prompt and consistent attendance in your online courses is essential for your success at CSU-Global Campus. Failure to verify your attendance within the first 7 days of this course may result in your withdrawal. If for some reason you would like to drop a course, please contact your advisor.

Online classes have deadlines, assignments, and participation requirements just like on-campus classes. Budget your time carefully and keep an open line of communication with your instructor. If you are having technical problems, problems with your assignments, or other problems that are impeding your progress, let your instructor know as soon as possible.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required:

Bachman, R. & Schutt, R. (2017). *The practice of research in criminology and criminal justice* (6th ed.). SAGE Publications, Inc. ISBN-13: 978-1506306810

NOTE: All non-textbook required readings and materials necessary to complete assignments, discussions, and/or supplemental or required exercises are provided within the course itself. Please read through each course module carefully.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Due Dates

The Academic Week at CSU-Global begins on Monday and ends the following Sunday.

- **Discussion Boards:** The original post must be completed by Thursday at 11:59 p.m. MT and peer responses posted by Sunday 11:59 p.m. MT. Late posts may not be awarded points.
- **Opening Exercises:** Take the Opening Exercise before reading each week's content to see which areas you will need to focus on. You may take these exercises as many times as you need. The Opening Exercises will not affect your final grade.
- **Mastery Exercises:** Students may access and retake Mastery Exercises through the last day of class until they achieve the scores they desire.
- **Critical Thinking:** Assignments are due Sunday at 11:59 p.m. MT.

WEEKLY READING AND ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

MODULE 1

Readings

- Chapters 1 and 2 in *The Practice of Research in Criminology and Criminal Justice*
- Sarre, R. (2017). How I would spend \$100 million to reduce crime. *Current Issues in Criminal Justice*, 28(3), 339-354.

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (40 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Portfolio Milestone (10 points)

Portfolio Project Milestone Option #1 or #2

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Read about the two options for the Portfolio Project. Select one of the options and submit a brief (one page) paper indicating the following:

1. Which option you are selecting
2. Why you chose that option
3. The research question that will guide your proposal.

MODULE 2

Readings

- Chapters 3 and 4 in *The Practice of Research in Criminology and Criminal Justice*
- Kuntsche, E., Rossow, I., Engels, R., & Kuntsche, S. (2016). Is 'age at first drink' a useful concept in alcohol research and prevention? We doubt that. *Addiction*, 111(6), 957-965.
- Reading 2

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (40 points)

Critical Thinking (100 points)

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Option #1: Stanford Prison Experiment Paper

Read about the Stanford Prison Experiment in your text and on the following website:
www.prisonexp.org.

Provide an overview of what occurred during this experiment. What was the purpose of the experiment? Identify the ethical issues with this study. Finally, if you were a part of an institutional review board, would you approve this study? Why or why not?

Requirements:

- Your written paper should be two to three pages in length, not counting the title and reference pages, which you must include.
- Use terms, evidence, and concepts from class readings.
- You need to cite at least three sources for this assignment, outside of the textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a great place to find resources.
- Format your paper according to CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements.
- If you need assistance with your writing style, start with the links under the Research Help and Writing Help tabs on the CSU-Global Library's homepage.

Review the Module 2 Critical Thinking Rubric for full details on how you will be graded on this assignment.

Option #2: Tuskegee Study Paper

Read about the U.S. Public Health Service Syphilis Study at Tuskegee in your text and on the following website: <https://www.cdc.gov/tuskegee/timeline.htm>.

Provide an overview of what occurred during this experiment. What was the purpose of the experiment? Identify the ethical issues with this study. Finally, if you were a part of an institutional review board, would you approve this study? Why or why not?

Requirements:

- Your written paper should be two to three pages in length, not counting the title and reference pages, which you must include.
- Use terms, evidence, and concepts from class readings.
- You need to cite at least three sources for this assignment, outside of the textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a great place to find resources.
- Format your paper according to CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements.
- If you need assistance with your writing style, start with the links under the Research Help and Writing Help tabs on the CSU-Global Library's homepage.

Review the Module 2 Critical Thinking Rubric for full details on how you will be graded on this assignment.

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

MODULE 3

Readings

- Chapters 5 and 6 in *The Practice of Research in Criminology and Criminal Justice*
- Waters, J. (2015). Snowball sampling: a cautionary tale involving a study of older drug users. *International Journal of Social Research Methodology*, 18(4), 367-380.

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (40 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Portfolio Milestone (20 points)

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Submit the introduction and literature review sections of your Portfolio Project. Please refer to the Portfolio Project Directions to see the required lengths for each section.

MODULE 4

Readings

- Chapters 7 & 8 in *The Practice of Research in Criminology and Criminal Justice*
- Ariel, B., Sutherland, A., Henstock, D., Young, J., Drover, P., Sykes, J., & ... Henderson, R. (2016). Report: Increases in police use of force in the presence of body-worn cameras are driven by officer discretion: a protocol-based subgroup analysis of ten randomized experiments. *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, 12(3), 453-463.

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (40 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Critical Thinking (100 points)

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Option 1: Assessing Surveys

Visit the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) website at:
<https://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=dcdetail&iid=245>

Review the questionnaires for response categories. What response format is most often used? How are the filter questions used? Are there any Likert-type response categories included? How could the question order impact responses?

Requirements:

- Your written paper should be two to three pages in length, not counting the title and reference pages, which you must include.
- Use terms, evidence, and concepts from class readings.
- You need to cite at least three sources for this assignment, outside of the textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a great place to find resources.
- Your paper must be formatted according to CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements.
- If you need assistance with your writing style, start with the links under the Research Help and Writing Help tabs on the CSU-Global Library's homepage.

Review the Module 4 Critical Thinking Rubric for full details on how you will be graded on this assignment.

Option 2: True Experimental Design

Identify how prison officials could use a true experimental design if they wanted to test the impact of a new rehabilitation program designed to be administered to inmates in the four weeks leading up to their release. Be sure to identify the elements of a true experiment and specifically how the impact of the program would be tested.

Requirements:

- Your written paper should be two to three pages in length, not counting the title and reference pages, which you must include.
- Use terms, evidence, and concepts from class readings.
- You need to cite at least three sources for this assignment, outside of the textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a great place to find resources.
- Your paper must be formatted according to CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements.
- If you need assistance with your writing style, start with the links under the Research Help and Writing Help tabs on the CSU-Global Library's homepage.

Review the Module 4 Critical Thinking Rubric for full details on how you will be graded on this assignment.

MODULE 5

Readings

- Chapters 9 and 10 in *The Practices of Research in Criminology and Criminal Justice*
- Jackson, A. (2016). Gang risk factors among urban Jamaican youth: A qualitative analysis. *International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences*, 11(2), 132-147.

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (40 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Critical Thinking (100 points)

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Option 1: Crime Mapping

Describe crime mapping. What are the three main functions of crime mapping? What is GIS, and how has it improved crime mapping? How do law enforcement agencies utilize crime mapping?

Requirements:

- Your written paper should be two to three pages in length, not counting the title and reference pages, which you must include.
- Use terms, evidence, and concepts from class readings.
- You need to cite at least three sources for this assignment, outside of the textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a great place to find resources.
- Format your paper according to CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements.
- If you need assistance with your writing style, start with the links under the Research Help and Writing Help tabs on the CSU-Global Library's homepage.

Review the Module 5 Critical Thinking Rubric for full details on how you will be graded on this assignment.

Option 2: Secondary Data Analysis

Describe secondary data analysis. What are the four major types of secondary data? Provide a specific example of each of the four. Which research methods rely on secondary data? What are some of the methodological issues associated with secondary data analysis?

Requirements:

- Your written paper should be two to three pages in length, not counting the title and reference pages, which you must include.
- Use terms, evidence, and concepts from class readings.
- You need to cite at least three sources for this assignment, outside of the textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a great place to find resources.
- Format your paper according to CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements.
- If you need assistance with your writing style, start with the links under the Research Help and Writing Help tabs on the CSU-Global Library's homepage.

Review the Module 5 Critical Thinking Rubric for full details on how you will be graded on this assignment.

MODULE 6

Readings

- Chapters 11 and 12 in *The Practice of Research in Criminology and Criminal Justice*
- Cooke, B.J. (2014). An evaluation of prison-based dog-training programs in two U.S. States using a mixed-methods approach. *SAGE Research Methods Cases*.

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (40 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Portfolio Milestone (20 points)

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Submit the methods section of your Portfolio Project. Please refer to the Portfolio Assignment Directions to see the required length for this section.

MODULE 7

Readings

- Chapters 13 and 14 in *The Practice of Research in Criminology and Criminal Justice*
- Pike, S. (2016). An exploration of the changes to police investigation of homicide in England and Wales from 1980 to the present: a qualitative research study. *SAGE Research Methods Cases*.

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (40 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

MODULE 8

Readings

- Chapter 15 in *The Practice of Research in Criminology and Criminal Justice*
- Moreland, M. R. (2014). Exposing children to domestic violence: Research report. *Family & Intimate Partner Violence Quarterly*, 7(2), 177-179. Retrieved from https://search.freefind.com/find.html?si=21899659&pid=r&n=0&_charset_=UTF-8&bcd=%C3%B7&query=Exposing+Children+to+Domestic+Violence&s=online

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (40 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Portfolio Project (250 points)

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Option #1 Police Body Camera Research Proposal

This Portfolio Project is scenario-based. In this scenario, you have been hired as a research consultant by a police department to develop a research proposal. The research proposal is to study the impact of the police department's officers wearing body cameras. The police officers have not started to use the body cameras yet; they are waiting on your research proposal, and they are willing to implement the use of the body cameras as a part of the research design. The police chief explains to you that the reason that the police department has decided to have their police officers wear body cameras is due to use of force complaints by citizens.

You will need to complete the following sections of the research proposal:

1. An introduction providing some preliminary information on the brief history of this issue and some relevant current events (two pages). Develop a research question.
 2. A literature review on five current (last five years) research studies on the topic to include the research methods used and the findings of the research (five pages).
 3. A methods section in which you identify and support the research design, identify and support one quantitative method that will be used, identify and support one qualitative method that will be used, identify which type of mixed method design, and describe how the triangulation of these two methods will help to better answer the research question. Identify any potential ethical issues. You will really need to show how the research methods that you propose are best suited to answer the research question you created.
- Your project should be supported by 7-10 scholarly resources.
 - If you use in-text citations, then you must also have a Reference page. Be sure your citations and references adhere to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA.

Option #2: Reentry Program Research Proposal

This Portfolio Project is scenario-based. In this scenario, you have been hired as a research consultant by a parole office to create a research proposal to understand the effectiveness of a new, four-week reentry program that will be administered to parolees immediately upon release from the prison. The program involves immediate placement into a job, housing, mandatory counseling, and daily check-ins for the parolee with the parole officer. The office supervisor explains to you that the reason for the four-week reentry program is due to the high recidivism rates (66%) in the past year of all parolees in that county, many of whom recidivated within the first four weeks upon release. The four-week reentry program has not started yet. The parole office is waiting to see your proposal and is willing to implement the program as part of the research design.

1. An introduction providing some preliminary information on the brief history of this issue and some relevant current events (two pages). Develop a research question.
2. A literature review on five current (last five years) research studies on the topic to include the research methods used and the findings of the research (five pages).
3. A methods section in which you identify and support the research design, identify and support one quantitative method that will be used, identify and support one qualitative method that will be used, identify which type of mixed method design, and describe how the triangulation of these two methods will help to answer the research question better. Identify any potential

ethical issues. You will need to show how the research methods that you propose are best suited to answer the research question you created.

- Your project should be supported by 7-10 scholarly resources.
- If you use in-text citations, then you must also have a Reference page. Be sure your citations and references adhere to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA.

COURSE POLICIES

Course Grading

32% Discussion Participation
0% Opening Exercises
8% Mastery Exercises
30% Critical Thinking Assignments
30% Final Portfolio Project

Grading Scale	
A	95.0 – 100
A-	90.0 – 94.9
B+	86.7 – 89.9
B	83.3 – 86.6
B-	80.0 – 83.2
C+	75.0 – 79.9
C	70.0 – 74.9
D	60.0 – 69.9
F	59.9 or below

IN-CLASSROOM POLICIES

For information on late work and incomplete grade policies, please refer to our [In-Classroom Student Policies and Guidelines](#) or the Academic Catalog for comprehensive documentation of CSU-Global institutional policies.

Academic Integrity

Students must assume responsibility for maintaining honesty in all work submitted for credit and in any other work designated by the instructor of the course. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, plagiarism, reusing /repurposing your own work (see *CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements* for percentage of repurposed work that can be used in an assignment), unauthorized possession of academic materials, and unauthorized collaboration. The CSU-Global Library provides information on how students can avoid plagiarism by understanding what it is and how to use the Library and Internet resources.

Citing Sources with APA Style

All students are expected to follow the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements* when citing in APA (based on the APA Style Manual, 6th edition) for all assignments. For details on CSU-Global APA style, please review the APA resources within the CSU-Global Library under the “APA Guide & Resources” link. A link to this document should also be provided within most assignment descriptions in your course.

Disability Services Statement

CSU-Global is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Any student with a documented disability requesting academic accommodations should contact the Disability Resource Coordinator at 720-279-0650 and/or email ada@CSUGlobal.edu for additional information to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

Netiquette

Respect the diversity of opinions among the instructor and classmates and engage with them in a courteous, respectful, and professional manner. All posts and classroom communication must be conducted in accordance with the student code of conduct. Think before you push the Send button. Did you say just what you meant? How will the person on the other end read the words?

Maintain an environment free of harassment, stalking, threats, abuse, insults, or humiliation toward the instructor and classmates. This includes, but is not limited to, demeaning written or oral comments of an ethnic, religious, age, disability, sexist (or sexual orientation), or racist nature; and the unwanted sexual advances or intimidations by email, or on discussion boards and other postings within or connected to the online classroom. If you have concerns about something that has been said, please let your instructor know.