COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a seminar on designing research and on writing effective research proposals. The exam and the proposal each count 50% of your grade. The problem statement is due in Week 3. The full literature search is due by week 6. A draft of your proposal is due by week 8 and the final draft is due on April 26th, the last class of the semester.

There is one exam. It will be distributed in week 4 and is due by class of week 11.

Much of what we learn in this seminar is the result of discussions about the research plans of the participants. This makes support for each other's work crucial to everyone's success. Support means coming prepared to provide helpful critiques and suggestions.

Send me all exams and proposal drafts by e-mail.


COURSE SCHEDULE AND READING LIST

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Week 1 - Anthropology in the social sciences

- Text chapter 1
Weeks 2 - The language and logic of social research

Text chapter 2

Weeks 3 - The design of social research. Experimental thinking. Testing hypotheses

Problem statement due

Text chapter 5 and pp. 550–553, and pp. 609–611
Field experiment. Harris, Marvin, Josildeth Gomes Consorte, Joseph Lang, and Bryan Byrne 1993. Who are the Whites: Imposed census categories and the racial demography of Brazil. Social Forces 72:451462.

Weeks 4 - The logic of representative sampling. The central limit theorem. Time allocation.

Final exam distributed

Text chapters 6-7 and pp. 402–408

Weeks 5 - Nonprobability sampling.

Text chapter 8

Week 6 - Composite measures: scales and indexes

Literature search due

Text chapter 12
Building and testing scales. Handwerker, W. Penn 1996, Constructing Likert Scales: Testing the Validity

**Weeks 7-8 Analyzing quantitative data**

- Text chapters 16-18 (for reference and review)

**Weeks 9-10 - Analyzing qualitative data**

- Text chapters 19-21 (for reference and review)

**Weeks 11 - 14 - Presentations and critiques**

http://nersp.osg.ufl.edu/~ufruss/researchdesign/syllabus.htm
Final exam due, week 11

Final proposal due, week 14