Description

This course introduces students to the concepts, design, implementation, and interpretation of research in health and community wellness. Students will learn to synthesize existing literature and determine gaps worth researching. Students will learn both quantitative and qualitative research methods through hands on data collection and analysis experience. The course emphasis is for students to prepare and present scholarly research projects to experts and peers in the field. Overall, students will become informed consumers of research and develop an understanding of how research can guide decision making in the field.

Requisites

Prerequisites:
Community Health & Wellness CMWL

Corequisites:

Contact Information

Dr. Ashlee Davis
Email: ashleed@westga.edu
Office: Coliseum 2038
Phone: 678-839-6081

Office Hours
Monday, Wednesday, 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM, Coliseum 2038
Tuesday, Thursday, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, Virtual (Google Meet)
Other times by appointment.

Meeting Times

Monday, 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM, Coliseum 3006

This is a hybrid course. Students will meet face-to-face for 50% of the course. Other course activities/assignments will take place in CourseDen.

Materials

There is no required textbook for this course. All necessary materials will be provided in CourseDen.

Outcomes

The student will:

1. Understand the principles fundamental to the practice of health and community wellness research.
2. Analyze the critical role of research in understanding and advancing health and community wellness.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of ethical issues in research.
4. Develop critical and objective skills in reviewing related literature to formulate research questions and hypotheses for a research project.
5. Develop a conceptual/technical framework for a research study based on the research design process.
6. Design and conduct a research study in health and community wellness based on the literature review and research question development.
7. Understand and apply quantitative/qualitative approaches for designing a research study and employ appropriate methods and techniques.
8. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of various sampling techniques, data collection methods, and measurement issues as they relate to the empirical research studies.
9. Understand and use basic statistical techniques for data analysis and interpretation.
10. Collect, analyze, and interpret data and report the results in writing and orally.

Criteria

Grading Information and Policy

Students are graded using the following scale:

A = 280 - 252 points
B = 251 - 224 points
C = 224 - 196 points
D = 195 - 168 points
F = 167 or less points

Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Assessment Tools</th>
<th>Submit via</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syllabus Quiz</td>
<td>5 pts extra credit</td>
<td>Answer Key</td>
<td>CourseDen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Project Assignments</td>
<td>7 @ 20 pts ea</td>
<td>Rubric</td>
<td>CourseDen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Assignments</td>
<td>3 @ 10 pts ea</td>
<td>Rubric</td>
<td>CourseDen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation Activities</td>
<td>14 @ 5 pts ea</td>
<td></td>
<td>In Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Evaluation</td>
<td>40 pts</td>
<td>Rubric</td>
<td>CourseDen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total points</td>
<td>280</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1. Syllabus quiz (5 points extra credit)

Students will complete a five question quiz covering content from the syllabus to ensure students understand course requirements and expectations.

2. Individual Participation Assignments (3 @ 10 points each)

Working alone, students will complete three assignments to apply research concepts covered in each respective module.

3. Group Project Assignments (7 @ 20 points each)

Working as a part of an assigned group, students will complete seven group assignments. Each assignment will make up a part of the research project proposal.

4. Class Participation Activities (14 @ 5 points each)

Working alone or together, depending on the activity, students will apply information learned via assigned readings, class discussions, or videos during in-person activities. There will be class participation activities during every face-to-face class session.

5. Group Evaluation (40 points)

Students will evaluate each group member using the assigned rubric in CourseDen.

Please see CourseDen for specific details and criteria for each assignment.

**Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>To Do</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Topic: Intro to Health and Community Wellness Research</td>
<td>Do: Syllabus Quiz (extra credit)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Read: Assigned readings on CourseDen</td>
<td>Individual assignment #1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Watch: Introduction video</td>
<td>In class activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due Aug 20</td>
<td>Topic: Ethics</td>
<td>Do: Individual assignment #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Read: Assigned readings on CourseDen</td>
<td>Group Assignment #1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Watch: Supplemental Video</td>
<td>In class activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Topic: Research design process &amp; Writing Center Presentation</td>
<td>Do: Group Assignment #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due Aug 27</td>
<td>Read: Assigned readings on CourseDen</td>
<td>In class activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Watch: Supplemental Video</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 &amp; 5</td>
<td>Topic: Intro to Health and Community Wellness Research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due Sept 10</td>
<td>Read: Assigned readings on CourseDen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon., Sept 6</td>
<td>LABOR DAY HOLIDAY</td>
<td>No face-to-face meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Read</td>
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<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 &amp; 7</td>
<td>Literature Review</td>
<td>Assigned readings on CourseDen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 &amp; 9</td>
<td>Qualitative &amp; Quantitative</td>
<td>Assigned readings on CourseDen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 &amp; 11</td>
<td>Methodology</td>
<td>Assigned readings on CourseDen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 &amp; 13</td>
<td>Data Collection &amp; Analysis</td>
<td>Assigned readings on CourseDen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 &amp; 15</td>
<td>Abstract</td>
<td>Assigned readings on CourseDen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Group evaluations and Presentation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course Policies and Resources**

**Attendance Policy**

This class is a hybrid course. Students will meet face-to-face one day per week. Attendance is expected at every in-person meeting. All other course content will be completed via CourseDen.

**Missed Assignments**

Students are allowed to make-up one missed assignment, for any reason, without penalty. When possible, students should contact the instructor before the missed assignment occurs. Additional missed assignments cannot be made up.
The only exception is if the student has a University-excused absence. This would include absences for a student-athlete to participate in an athletic event or if Student Advocacy Services or Health Services has requested the absence (usually in the case of a family death or communicable illness). Students must communicate with the instructor prior to the absence and documentation must be provided. Under these circumstances, students can make up missed assignments for full or partial credit.

**Extra Credit**

Any extra credit opportunities will be made available to the entire class. Extra credit will not be provided to students on an individual basis.

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**College/School Policies**

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**College of Education Vision**

The College of Education at the University of West Georgia will be recognized for *Innovation in Teaching, Leadership, and Wellness* with programs designed to transform lives and contribute to the betterment of society.

**College of Education Mission**

Locally connected and globally relevant, the Mission of the College of Education is to prepare graduates for professional careers in diverse settings within three dynamic areas of focus: *Teaching, Leadership, and Wellness*. With programs that range from undergraduate through doctoral study, the College of Education is committed to excellence in pedagogy, professional service, engaged partnerships, and applied research.

**Diversity and Inclusion Statement for the College of Education**

The College of Education (COE) embraces diversity across dimensions, including, but not limited to, age, religion, creed, education, ethnicity, gender expression, national origin, physical and cognitive ability, race, sex, sexual orientation, socioeconomic class, and veteran status. Building on these identities, we support empathy, social and environmental justice, and an ethical framework for our actions. In accordance with the University of West Georgia and all of our departments, the COE denounces institutional and systemic racism and other forms of biases and is committed to taking actionable steps toward dismantling these systems and working toward equity and inclusion. The full COE Diversity and Inclusion Statement may be viewed on the website homepage of the College of Education.

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**Institutional Policies**

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**Honor Code**

At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the honor code. West Georgia students pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.

The University of West Georgia maintains and monitors a confidential Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. This database collects and reports patterns of repeated student violations across all the Colleges, the Ingram Library, and the School of Nursing. Each incidence of academic dishonesty is subject to review and consideration by the instructor, and is subject to a range of academic penalties including, but not limited to, failing the assignment and/or failing the course. Student conduct sanctions range from verbal warning to suspension or expulsion depending on the magnitude of the offense and/or number of offenses. The incident becomes part of the student's conduct record at UWG.

Additionally, the student is responsible for safeguarding his/her computer account. The student's account and network connection are for his/her individual use. A computer account is to be used only by the person to whom it has been issued. The student is responsible for all actions originating through his/her account or network connection. Students must not impersonate others or misrepresent or conceal their identities in electronic messages and actions. For more information on the University of West Georgia Honor Code, please visit the [Office of Community Standards](https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpsa/ocs/index.php) site.
Academic Support

Accessibility Services: Students with a documented disability may work with UWG Accessibility Services to receive essential services specific to their disability. All entitlements to accommodations are based on documentation and USG Board of Regents standards. If a student needs course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if he/she needs to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, the student should notify his/her instructor in writing and provide a copy of his/her Student Accommodations Report (SAR), which is available only from Accessibility Services. Faculty cannot offer accommodations without timely receipt of the SAR; further, no retroactive accommodations will be given. For more information, please contact Accessibility Services (https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php).

Center for Academic Success: The Center for Academic Success (http://www.westga.edu/cas/) provides services, programs, and opportunities to help all undergraduate students succeed academically. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6280 or cas@westga.edu.

University Writing Center: The University Writing Center (https://www.westga.edu/writing/) assists students with all areas of the writing process. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6513 or writing@westga.edu.

Online Courses

UWG takes students’ privacy concerns seriously: technology-enhanced and partially and fully online courses use sites and entities beyond UWG and students have the right to know the privacy policies of these entities. For more information on privacy and accessibility for the most commonly used sites, as well as technology requirements visit the UWG Online (https://uwgonline.westga.edu/) site.

Students enrolled in online courses can find answers to many of their questions in the Online/Off-Campus Student Guide (http://uwgonline.westga.edu/online-student-guide.php).

If a student is experiencing distress and needs help, please see the resources available at the UWG Cares (http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares/) site. Online counseling (https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/index.php) is also available for online students.

UWG Email Policy

University of West Georgia students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be an official means of communication between the University and the student. The purpose of the official use of the student e-mail account is to provide an effective means of communicating important university related information to UWG students in a timely manner. It is the student’s responsibility to check his or her email.

Credit Hour Policy

The University of West Georgia grants one semester hour of credit for work equivalent to a minimum of one hour (50 minutes) of in-class or other direct faculty instruction AND two hours of student work outside of class per week for approximately fifteen weeks. For each course, the course syllabus will document the amount of in-class (or other direct faculty instruction) and out-of-class work required to earn the credit hour(s) assigned to the course. Out-of-class work will include all forms of credit-bearing activity, including but not limited to assignments, readings, observations, and musical practice. Where available, the university grants academic credit for students who verify via competency-based testing, that they have accomplished the learning outcomes associated with a course that would normally meet the requirements outlined above (e.g. AP credit, CLEP, and departmental exams).

HB 280 (Campus Carry)

UWG follows University System of Georgia (USG) guidance: http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information# (http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information)

You may also visit our website for help with USG Guidance: https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php (https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php)

Mental Health Support
If you or another student find that you are experiencing a mental health issue, free confidential services are available on campus in the Counseling Center. Students who have experienced sexual or domestic violence may receive confidential medical and advocacy services with the Patient Advocates in Health Services. To report a concern anonymously, please go to UWGcares.

ELL Resources

If you are a student having difficulty with English language skills, and/or U.S. culture is not your home culture, specialized resources are available to help you succeed. Please visit the E.L.L. resource page for more information.

COVID-19

The health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff remain the University of West Georgia’s top priority.

For the most recent information on coronavirus disease (COVID-19) visit:

- Georgia Department of Public Health (https://dph.georgia.gov/)

Additional Items