

PHED 381

Research Methods in Physical Activity and Sports Management (3 credit hours)

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00 to 3:15 p.m.

Lois Rhame West Center Room 219

Writing-Intensive Class

Instructor:

Dr. Janet Wojcik

Office: Lois Rhame West Center Room 216G

Office Phone: (803) 323-4687

Email: wojcikj@winthrop.edu

Web Page: <http://faculty.winthrop.edu/wojcikj/default.htm>

Office hours: Mon. and Wed. 2:00 to 3:00 p.m., Tues. 10:00 to 11:00a.m., Wed., 5:00 to 5:30, Thurs. 12:30 to 1:45, Fri. by appointment, other times available by appointment.

Required Texts:

Thomas, J.R., Nelson, J.K., & Silverman, S.J. (2005). *Research methods in physical activity*, (5th ed.). Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics. (older editions also OK)

American Psychological Association. (2005). *Concise rules of APA style*. Washington, DC: authors (or any current APA manual, published 2001 and newer, will work).

Catalog Description/Goals:

Students will learn to read, interpret, and write research in health and physical education, athletic training, health, exercise/fitness, and sports management.

Objectives:

1. Be able to use library resources and with writing skills and personal knowledge of a selected professional subject, to successfully write a research paper using a topic chosen by the student.
2. Explain and apply the following fundamental research topics and skills: variables, hypotheses, research questions, review of literature, sampling procedures, methods and experimental design, instrument selection, validity and reliability, internal and external validity, ethics, plagiarism, descriptive and inferential statistics, deductive and inductive reasoning, types of research methods including experimental, quasi-experimental, correlational, descriptive, survey, qualitative, historical, and philosophical.
3. Explain and apply the following fundamental concepts: form a research problem or question, develop hypotheses, identify dependent and independent variables, justify hypotheses and problem, operational definitions, limitations and delimitations, be able to write a review of literature with an overall summary, recommend instruments and procedures to test hypotheses, propose appropriate collection of data and statistical analyses, identify threats to internal and external validity.
4. Demonstrate competency in using technology to search databases and write reports.

5. Apply American Psychological Association (APA) manuscript formatting and reference style.

Learning Outcomes

Course Objective	Performance Assessment
Use library resources	Paper drafts, final paper
Topics and skills	Quizzes, exams, paper drafts, final paper
Fundamental concepts	Quizzes, exams, paper drafts, final paper
Library searches, write reports	Paper drafts, final paper
APA format	Quizzes, exams, final paper grade

General Education/Writing-Intensive Component

This class meets the University’s guidelines for Writing-Intensive courses. The *entire semester* will be spent developing a research proposal on a new, original topic culminating in a final project paper approximately 15-20 pages in length and incorporating at least 6 original research articles as references. Once a topic is chosen and approved, it cannot be changed.

Paper topics MUST cover any one of these subject areas:

- Athletic Injuries with the exception of ACL injuries and ankle sprains
- Physical Activity/Fitness programs for children, adolescents, adults, elderly, athletes, or persons with chronic disease or disabilities
- Sport Psychology or Health Behavior
- Nutrition for health, fitness, or sport
- Sport management: marketing, management, survey research, athletic administration, law
- A special topic of personal interest subject to instructor approval

Class time will be spent on learning how to develop the proposal and its required components. Turning in regular drafts of student work and getting instructor feedback on them are key to improving both writing and course grade. *Students should keep copies of all drafts of each revision in case there are questions.* You can either submit a hard copy or by email (read receipt) or email function within WebCT. Total professionalism does matter, so drafts and the final paper WILL be evaluated on neatness, completeness, and “correctness”—in content, in clarity of writing, and use of APA style.

Formatting of all papers must follow APA style, a common writing style used in Psychology and other social sciences, and in Education. Many schools require Masters theses and Doctoral dissertations to be written in APA style. Further instruction in APA format will occur during class time.

Paper formats in APA style

- Typed, 12-point Times New Roman Font
- Double spaced throughout, *including the reference list*
- 1” margins on all sides
- Page numbers top right corner on all pages, including title page and reference pages
- Title page must contain your name, date, PHED 381, Dr. Wojcik, title, running head (abbreviated title)
- Each chapter and reference page are started on a new sheet

Class Attendance and Participation

Students are expected to attend all classes unless there is illness or other special circumstances (i.e., traveling with an athletic team). The Winthrop attendance policy will be in effect. If more than 25% of classes are missed without documentation, the final grade is an automatic F. It is your responsibility to contact the instructor regarding any missed material and assignments. This course will utilize WebCT for content and postings. **Our Department is going GREEN, so you will no longer receive a hard copy of the PowerPoint notes.** You must use your Winthrop email account to use WebCT. Info on how to log-in to WebCT can be found from a link on the WU Students homepage, so log-on through <http://online.winthrop.edu>. Your log-in ID and password will be wu_ followed by your Winthrop PID, so as a student I would be wu_wojcikj2. Once you log-in, you can change your password.

Students are expected to be prepared to participate in class discussions. Any materials required for that day should be read prior to class. Periodic homework will be given, especially worksheets for statistical calculations. These will be discussed in class.

Cell Phone/Texting Policy

Any student seen making text messages during class will be asked to leave the room for the day. Cell phones should be set to vibrate or off, especially if the vibrate ring is loud.

Grading

There will be three in-class exams and one final research paper. Drafts of papers and final papers should be turned in by the beginning of class. Each day late without an excused absence or other arrangements will result in lowering of the letter grade. Grades will be posted on WebCT.

- Tests and quizzes: 50%
- Final paper: 35%
- Drafts of writing assignments: 10% (1.5% Intro, 4% Review of Literature and References (2% for two drafts), 1.5% Methods, 3% near-final drafts)
- Completion of CITI Program Human Subjects Course *by October 29*: 5%

Since the College of Education now allows plus/minus grading system, it will be used this semester.

A = 90+	B- = 80-82	C- = 70-72	D- = 60-62
B+ = 87-89	C+ = 77-79	D+ = 67-69	F = <60
B = 83-86	C = 73-76	D = 63-66	

S/U Option

For students choosing this option, a grade of C or higher must be achieved to receive an S grade. A grade of C- is recorded as a U.

Student Code of Conduct

Infractions of academic discipline are dealt with in accordance with the student Academic Conduct Policy, which is in the Student Conduct Code in the Student Handbook online (<http://www2.winthrop.edu/studentaffairs/handbook/StudentHandbook.pdf>)

Each student must do his/her own individual work on the research paper. Collaborative efforts are not permitted. Papers written in other courses may not be recycled/modified for use this course. Writing assistance may be obtained from The Writing Center and instructor only.

Students must utilize www.turnitin.com for the final paper. You will need to set up a student account if you don't already have one. The course ID is **2757303**, and the password is **goeagles**. Specific instructions will be given on when and how to submit towards the end of the semester. *Failure to submit or pass turnitin.com with $\leq 25\%$ similarity will result in a grade of Incomplete until the paper is corrected. High percentages may be turned in for academic misconduct.*

Students with Disabilities

Winthrop University is dedicated to providing access to education. If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact Gena Smith, Coordinator, Services for Students with Disabilities, at 323-3290, as soon as possible. Once you have your Professor Notification Form, please get it to me so that I am aware of your accommodations well before the first assignment, test, or paper.

Institutional Review Board (IRB)

All students MUST complete the CITI online program for Human Subjects Training. The certification is good for three years, and takes about an hour.

To complete this online training, log on to the CITI website and register as follows:

1. Log on to the CITI website: <http://www.citiprogram.org> (or see the link on WebCT)
2. Click on "New User Register Here"
3. Click on "The Protection of Human Research Subjects". Look for "Undergraduate Researcher".
4. On the "Select your Institution or Organization" page, scroll down the "Participating Institutions" drop down box and select "Winthrop University".
5. At this point you will be asked to create your own username and password. Make a note of your selection as you will need this information the next time you log in to the system.
6. If it asks, select your learner group based upon the type of research you will be conducting:
 - Social & Behavioral Research Investigator
7. Go through the modules, take the quizzes, and print out or forward an email of your completion certification to turn in for receiving your course credit.
8. Complete the CITI course by October 29.

Extra Credit Project

Normally, extra credit assignments are NOT given in this course. However, we will try something new as an extra credit project to hopefully incorporate it in the next semester as a required element. We will attempt to make brief, several minute videos on using statistical tests in "real-life" school or work situations. Students who volunteer will develop a script, act it out, shoot the video, and edit it in a collaborative effort. The number of videos depends on the number of volunteers. Cameras will be provided, and I can provide assistance. Extra credit will be in the form of 5 additional points to the exam of each student's choice.

CLASS TIMELINE (subject to change)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Class Topic</i>	<i>Paper</i>
8/25	T	Class 1: Overview	
8/27	Th	Class 2: Ch. 1, Intro to Research, Last day to drop/add is Friday, 8/28	
9/1	T	Class 3: Ch. 2, Developing the Problem & Using Literature	Start to define paper topic
9/3	Th	Class 4: Review of Literature (con't) and Intro to APA format	Refining topic ideas, be ready to discuss
9/8	T	Class 5: Ch. 3, Presenting the Problem (Last day for S/U selection is Tues 9/8, today)	Refine topics
9/10	Th	Class 6: Presenting the Problem con't: further developing your research hypothesis and logic	TOPICS finalized
9/15	T	Class 7: Potential library database training, MEET AT LIBRARY CLASSROOM (must apply for May 2010 graduation by today to avoid a late fee)	Find at least 3 original research articles related to your topic,
9/17	Th	Class 8: Ch. 4, Formulating the Methods	First Outline or Draft of Review of Lit Due (2%)
9/22	T	Class 9: Ch. 5, Ethical issues in research	
9/24	Th	Class 10: Review for Exam I	Turn in revisions of Review of Lit anytime
9/29	T	Class 11: Exam I	
10/1	Th	Class 12: Exam I returned, Start Intro on Stats	
10/6	T	Class 13: Ch. 6, Basic Stats Concepts,	
10/8	Th	Class 14: Ch. 7, Stats Issues	Another draft of lit review due, MINIMUM 2-3 articles reviewed (2%)
10/13	T	Class 15: Ch. 8, Relationships Among Variables, review Ch. 2 on Intro	
10/15	Th	Class 16: Ch. 9, Differences Among Groups	Draft of Intro due, must include all sections (1.5%)
10/20	T	FALL BREAK—NO CLASS	
10/22	Th	Class 17: Ch. 10, Nonparametric Statistics (Last	Turn in revisions of Intro or Review of Lit at anytime

		day to withdraw for N grade or S/U rescind is Fri 10/23)	
10/27	T	Class 18: Ch. 11, Measuring Research Variables	Turn in revisions of Intro or Review of Lit at anytime
10/29	Th	Class 19: Review for Exam Exam II on Stats (CITI IRB course must be completed by 10/29)	
11/3	T	Class 20: Exam II on Stats	Class 19: Review for Exam Exam II on Stats
11/5	Th	Class 21: Ch. Review Exam, Review Ch. 4 on Methods	Turn in revisions of any section
11/10	T	Class 22: Chs. 12, 13, 19, Historical, Philosophical, and Qualitative Research, Rev. Ch. 4 on Methods	First Draft of Methods due , must include all sections (1.5%)
11/12	Th	Class 23: Ch. 15, Survey Research	Additional Methods or other drafts if needed
11/17	T	Class 24: Ch. 16, Descriptive Research	Turn in near-final full paper drafts starting today (3%)
11/19	Th	Class 25: Ch. 17, Epidemiology Research	Continue to turn in near-final full paper drafts
11/24	T	Class 26: Ch. 18, Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Research	Continue to turn in near-final full paper drafts
11/26	Th	THANKSGIVING—NO CLASS	Continue to turn in near-final full paper drafts
12/1	T	Class 27: Ch. 20-21, Reporting results, how to write up, conferences, journals, grants	Final full drafts accepted through Tuesday, 12/1, NOON.
12/3	Th	Class 28: Review for Final Exam, cumulative, but emphasis on last section	FINAL papers due
12/11	F	FINAL EXAM, 8 a.m. , Class Room 219	