

SOC 4323: Applied Research

Fall 2015

CRN 63865

Humanities and Social Science 2032

T/Th 12:30-1:45

Dr. Rebecca Barrett-Fox

Office: 3064 Humanities and Social Sciences

Office Hours: T/Th 11-12:40 and by appointment

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Books and Materials

American Swastika: Inside the White Power Movement's Hidden Spaces of Hate by Simi and Futrell

Amish Grace: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy by Kraybill and Nolt

Living in the Crosshairs: The Untold Stories of Anti-abortion Terrorism by Cohen and Connon

You MUST bring copies of these books to class each day when we discuss them!

Access to MS Office and Blackboard (Bb)

Purpose and Goals/Learning Outcomes

Catalog Course Description: Techniques for analyzing social science data using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences and other data analysis systems

Purpose and Goals: The purpose of this course is to reinforce concepts learned in Methods of Social Research by seeking models of them in exemplary published and ongoing research produced by professionals in the social sciences and by completing original research projects. Key concepts include research design, question articulation, hypothesis writing, literature review, critical inquiry, interviewing, observation, participant-observation, and ethnography. The goal is that all students will be able to engage confidently and critically with peer-reviewed research as it is presented in popular formats and scholarly journals, working papers, and monographs. I will know if you achieved this goal if you are able to successfully demonstrate the following *Student Learning Outcomes* in the following ways:

- Identify the components of research and critically engage scholarly research (as demonstrated in a reading journal)
- Analyze a research study using sociological methods (as demonstrated in a reading journal)¹
- Comprehend the ethical standards of social science research (as demonstrated on an online tutorial certification)
- Summarize research findings from research-based articles and present them in visually (as demonstrated in an infographic)
- Design, execute, and reflect upon an applied research project (as demonstrated in a major project)

¹ Also a *Program Outcome* that all graduating seniors should be able to demonstrate.

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Course Requirements

Reading Journal: You will read a number of books and articles this semester. Nearly every day of class will require some reading. To practice critically engaging course materials, you will complete a reading journal entry for each chapter (including introductions but not prefaces) of each book we read and each article we read. Your journal must include: 1) a header with your name, my name, the course name, and the date; 2) an APA-style citation to the source; 3) at least 250 words of notes about the reading in the LEFT column of the journal; 4) at least 100 words of response to the assigned reading in the RIGHT column of the journal. These are due at the start of class every day. Work submitted late will be awarded a 0/10 points. Total value: 30% of final grade.

Online tutorial and certification: A-State subscribes to an online tutorial to prepare students and faculty for research with human subjects; the Human Research Curriculum is available to you at citiprogram.org. The training is lengthy and includes multiple parts, so you will need to devote ample time to it. When you have completed the training, submit a .pdf file of your completion certificate (which will be generated automatically when you complete the training) via Blackboard. *This assignment is pass/fail. If you complete it, you will earn full credit. If you do not complete it, you will earn a 0.* Total value: 5% of final grade.

Infographic: You will select 4 peer-reviewed, research-based articles on a topic related to your major project. You will submit an APA-style bibliography of sources (10 points) and a reading journal entry (as described above) over each source (40 points). You will use the findings in the articles to create an infographic that presents the findings in a visually engaging manner. You may use an online infographic tool to help in this. You will post a draft of this infographic on Discussion Board (50 points) and submit it via Bb, where up to two peers will review it and offer feedback—and you will likewise provide feedback to two of your peers; you will both submit this feedback to Bb and email it directly to the author (10 points). You will submit a second draft, based on their feedback, via Bb (15 points). You will also practice presenting this infographic to an audience of at least two people (not necessarily classmates) in a presentation of 3:00-3:30 minutes. You will receive written feedback from them, which you will submit to Bb (15 points). You will post a final draft of your infographic to Discussion Board (20 points) and submit it to Bb. You will deliver your presentation to your classmates in a presentation of 4-5 minutes (25 points), who will evaluate it in class. Total value: 15% of final grade.

Major project: You will propose and execute a major research project. This project is due in stages: 1) topic (5 points), 2) audience/client (5 points), 3) research question(s) (10 points), 4) first draft of a proposal, without a methods statement (10 points), 5) second draft of a proposal, without a methods statement (5 points), 6) one-minute oral proposal to be delivered in class, without your methods statement (5 points), 7) working bibliography (15 points), 8) notes, in reading journal style, over items in your bibliography (100 points), 8) a comparison of at least 6 research-based articles (40 points), 9) an IRB application (150 points), 10) your tools (50 points), 11) a 2-minute presentation of your methods to the class (15 points), 12) your raw data (100 points), 13) a 2-4 page summary of your findings (75 points), 14) a 3-4 minute presentation of your research findings to the class (20 points), 15) a 1-2 page discussion of your findings (50 points), and 16) a research log (20 points). Total value: 50% of final grade.

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Extra Credit: You have ONE opportunity to earn extra credit this semester. You will locate a research-based article, working paper, white paper, book, or book chapter related to the topic of HATE, broadly understood but rooted in the social sciences (sociology, anthropology, criminology, critical legal studies, social history, geography, etc.). The text must have been published in the last year, and it cannot be an article any of your classmates select. You will submit a reading journal entry on the article (as described above) and then create a script for a podcast in which you introduce the reading and summarize its methods and findings. The script must be 1:45-2:00 in length. You will take a draft of this script to the writing center to receive feedback. Then you will submit a copy of the final draft, along with a recording of you reading the script. Each stage of this assignment has a due date, and you must meet each due date in order to participate in the extra credit. If you do so, you will earn up to an additional 5% on your final grade for the course.

Policies

Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities or challenges that create a barrier to success in this class and who need accommodation in order to succeed in the course should contact me promptly. Confidentiality will be maintained, and every reasonable effort will be made to meet student needs. Any student requiring accommodation must be registered with ASU's Office of Disability Services, 972 3964.

Inclement Weather Policy: We will maintain our schedule regardless of the weather. If you are unable to attend class due to the weather, be sure to submit any work due in class prior to the start of class.

Academic Misconduct Policy:

Cheating, including plagiarism, is an act of dishonesty with the intention of obtaining and/or using information in a fraudulent manner. Plagiarism is a serious offense against academic integrity usually involves passing off the work, words, or ideas of others as your own without giving proper credit. If you have questions about what constitutes cheating, including plagiarism, you should ask me. Remember these two rules to avoid an accusation of cheating: 1) When it doubt, cite. 2) Don't collaborate if it could be interpreted as cheating.

For further information, including specifics about what constitutes plagiarism or cheating, see ASU's Academic Integrity Policy at <http://studentconduct.astate.edu/AcademicIntegrity.html>.

All accusations of student cheating will be shared with the student's advisor and, if needed, coach, as well as the department chair and dean of the college. Students accused of cheating will meet with me to discuss the matter. Students found guilty of cheating will face penalties ranging from failure on the assignment to expulsion from the university. *Please note that I press the matter of cheating as far as it can go and always urge the harshest possible penalty.*

Late Work: I do not accept late work.

Extensions: If you anticipate being unable to complete an assignment prior to its due date, contact me via email at least 24 hours before it is due. In the subject line, write "Request for an

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extension on _____” and describe the assignment. Extensions are not guaranteed, and multiple requests for extensions are likely to be denied.

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Course Outline

Date	Work due
8/25	Nothing
8/27	Read introduction and chapters 1 and 2 of <i>American Swastika</i> Write reading journal response Glance at the “Topics for Major Project” directions online; be sure, too, to read the directions for keeping a research log
9/1	Read chapters 3 and 4 of <i>American Swastika</i> Write reading journal response
9/3	Read chapters 5 and 6 of <i>American Swastika</i> Write reading journal response CITI training due
9/8	Read chapters 7 and 8 of <i>American Swastika</i> Topic for major project due
9/10	Catch up day
9/15	Read preface (no need for notes)-chapter 3 of <i>Amish Grace</i> Write reading journal responses over chapters 1, 2, and 3
9/17	Read chapters 4-6 of <i>Amish Grace</i> Write reading journal responses
9/22	Read chapters 7-9 of <i>Amish Grace</i> Write reading journal responses Client for major project due Working bibliography for infographic due online
9/24	Read chapters 11-13 of <i>Amish Grace</i> Write reading journal responses Research questions due
9/29	Catch up day First draft of a proposal due Notes over articles in infographic bibliography due online
10/1	First draft of infographic due online and on Discussion Board
10/6	Second draft of the proposal due Peer reviews of at least two infographics due online—also email directly to the author
10/8	No class Revision of infographic due online
10/13	No class Feedback on infographic presentation due online
10/15	Read introduction and chapter 1 of <i>Living in the Crosshairs</i> Write reading journal responses Oral presentations of proposal Final draft of infographic due online
10/20	Read chapters 2 and 3 of <i>Living in the Crosshairs</i> Write reading journal responses Working bibliographies for major project due Infographic presentation by:

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10/22	Read chapters 4, 5, and 6 of <i>Living in the Crosshairs</i> APA-style citation for extra credit article due (optional assignment)
10/27	Read chapters 7 and 8 of <i>Living in the Crosshairs</i> Write reading journal responses Notes over items in bibliography due Infographic presentation by:
10/29	Read chapters 9 and 10 of <i>Living in the Crosshairs</i> Write reading journal responses Comparison chart of sources Infographic presentation by:
11/3	IRB due online Final draft of proposal due online Tools due online 2 minute presentations due in class Reading journal entry on extra credit article due (optional assignment)
11/5	Read TBA article Write reading journal response Infographic presentation by:
11/10	Read TBA article Write reading journal response Infographic presentation by:
11/12	No class First draft of podcast script due (optional assignment)
11/17	Read TBA article Write reading journal response Infographic presentation by:
11/19	Read TBA article Write reading journal response Infographic presentation by:
11/24	No class for Thanksgiving
11/26	
12/1	Raw data due online Presentation of findings in class
12/3	Final draft of podcast script due (optional assignment) Recording of podcast due (optional assignment) Presentation of findings in class
12/10	Discussion of findings due online by 4:45 Research log due online by 4:45

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