

**KINE 3325: Undergraduate Research Methods
Fall 2011**

Instructor: Priscila Caçola, Ph.D.

Office: 222 MAC

Office Hours: by appointment

Phone: (817) 272-0955

Email: cacola@uta.edu

Course Location and Time: Lone Star Auditorium, MWF 1:00– 1:50pm

Library Course Guide: <http://libguides.uta.edu/kine3325>

Librarian: Andy Herzog (amherzog@uta.edu)

Graduate Assistant: Ms. Amanda Martinez (amandah@uta.edu)

Description of Course Content: [Catalog Description] Course Current practices in the conduct of quantitative research, measurement, and evaluation processes applied to programs related to exercise science, pedagogical kinesiology, athletic training and related fields will be examined. Enrolled students will develop and conduct a research project based on their declared discipline. Prerequisite: KINE 1400, KINE 3315, MATH 1302, MATH 1308, or permission of department.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. The student will develop an understanding of various research methods.
2. The student will develop the ability to design studies.
3. The student will understand IRB procedures.
4. The student will be able to use basic statistical techniques for evaluation.
5. The student will be able to apply reliability and validity theories to research methodology.
6. The student will be able to explain the role of research methodology in informing practices in the field.
7. The student will be able to critique, develop and present "research" materials.
8. The student will be able to identify uses, misuses, and abuses of measurement and evaluation.
9. *To provide athletic training students with the knowledge of techniques related to evidence based practice that are necessary for effective performance as an athletic trainer (Athletic Training Education Competencies [5th e.] – EBP 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 7.0, and 8.0).*

Required Text: Morrow, J. R., Jackson, A. W., Disch, J. G., & Wood D. P. (2011). Measurement and Evaluation in Human Performance. Human Kinetics: Champaign, IL.

Assignments/ Grading Policy:

- ✓ Exam 1: 15%
- ✓ Exam 2: 15%
- ✓ Group Project (Paper): 20%
- ✓ Group Project (Oral presentation): 15%

- ✓ Group Project (Poster presentation): 15%
- ✓ Homework: 10% total
- ✓ Attendance (*penalty for more than 3 non-excused absences*), appropriate behavior, participation, and assistance with lab research: 10%

Extra Credit: The instructor will announce any extra credit if the opportunity arises.

* To compute your grade, take the total points earned for a specific part of the evaluation (exams, etc.) divided by points possible and multiply the points allotted for that part of the course by the percentage of total point earned in that section. Do the same for each part of the course grade and add the parts together, that is your score out of 100%.

A = 90-100%, B = 80-89%, C = 70-79%, D = 60-69%, F <60%

* *Please note: **I do NOT discuss grades.** If you have feel that your grade does not reflect your performance, please put your reasoning **in writing** (explain the assignment, your responses and why you do not agree with your grade).*

Attendance Policy: Class attendance is expected. Excused absences include university approved absences or those that I receive prior notification of (i.e. illness, doctor appointments, etc.). Each student is expected to prepare for class by reading the material prior to class. If you miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining all information presented, this means talk to your classmates about getting notes PRIOR to asking me questions about the lecture class. Remember: Poor planning on your part is not an emergency on my part.

Keep in mind that examples of improper participation include, but are not limited to: Leaving class early before the instructor dismisses class. Sleeping, reading the paper, working on other assignments, organizing calendars or other inattentive activity.

* No video or audio recording allowed.

* Have cell phones turned off and put up. No text messaging will be allowed.

* No headphones with music players are allowed.

Drop policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/ses/fao>).

Americans with disabilities act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Academic Integrity: It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. According to the UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2, "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts."

** The Department of Kinesiology has zero-tolerance policy regarding dishonesty.*

Student Support Services Available: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may contact the Maverick Resource Hotline by calling 817-272-6107, sending a message to resources@uta.edu, or visiting www.uta.edu/resources.

Electronic Communication Policy: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory will be asked to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS) about the course and how it was taught. Instructions on how to access the SFS system will be sent directly to students through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback data is required by state law; student participation in the SFS program is voluntary.

Final review week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabi. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. Classes are held as scheduled during this week and lectures and presentations may be given.

E-culture policy: You may email me at any time if you need information.

Timeline for grade grievances: Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current undergraduate catalog. The student has one calendar year from the date a grade is assigned to initiate a grievance. The normal academic channels are 1) Department Chair, 2) Academic Dean, and 3) the Provost.

The University of Texas at Arlington College of Education
Mission, Core Values and Professional Dispositions

MISSION: To develop and deliver an educational program that ensures the highest teacher, administrator and allied health science preparation and performance to be a recognized contributor in the field of educational and allied health science research and practice through effective teaching, quality research and meaningful service.

The educator and Administrator Preparation units' collaboratively developed shared vision is based on these CORE VALUES, dispositions and commitments to:

- Excellence
- Learner-centered environment
- Research-based
- Collaboration
- Diversity
- Technology
- Field experiences
- Life-long learning

Each candidate in the Educator and Administrator Unit of the College of Education of UT-Arlington will be evaluated on PROFESSIONAL DISPOSITIONS by faculty and staff. These dispositions have been identified as essential for a highly-qualified educator. Instructors and program directors will work with candidates rated as “unacceptable” in one or more stated criteria. The candidate will have an opportunity to develop a plan to remediate any deficiencies.

Demonstrates excellence

- Meets stated expectations of student performance.
- Keeps timelines. Arrives on time for class and other activities.
- Produces significant artifacts of practitioner evidence.
- Possesses a willingness to set goals.
- Attends all classes/trainings and practicum experiences.
- Completes activities as assigned.
- Has appropriate personal appearance and/or hygiene for professional setting.

Participates in a learner centered environment and shows respect for self and others

- Uses appropriate and professional language and conduct.
- Supports a "high quality" learning environment.
- Shows respect and consideration for the thoughts and feelings of others.

Research-based pedagogy

- Has an awareness of and willingness to accept research-based concepts.
- Identifies important trends in education.
- Demonstrates interests in learning new ideas and strategies.
- Relates class discussions and issues to current events in education.

Participates in on-going collaboration with peers and professionals

- Demonstrates kindness, fairness, patience, dignity and respect in working with peers, staff and instructors.
- Works effectively with others.
- Assists others in the university classroom or practicum setting.
- Demonstrates an openness to assistance from others.
- Receives feedback in a positive manner and makes necessary adjustment.

Exhibits stewardship of diversity

- Shows appropriate stewardship and tolerance to diverse people, environments, and situations.

Advocates use of technology

- Uses and applies existing technologies sufficiently in work.
- Shows a willingness to use and apply emerging technologies in work.

Shows interest in the learner and the learning-process

- Demonstrates significant learning improvement over time.
- Shows interest in the learning process and demonstrates the necessary amount of time, energy, and enthusiasm for becoming better learners, teachers, and practitioners.

**FALL 2011 – KINE 3388
TENTATIVE LECTURE SCHEDULE**

Week	Date	Topic	Assignment due (before class)
1	8/26	Syllabus/ Introduction	
2	8/29	Group work day: Details of research project. Selection of groups and general topic areas	
2	8/31	Ch. 1 (Introduction)	Read Ch. 1 - text
2	9/02	Ch. 1 (Introduction)	
3	9/05	Labor Day Holiday	
3	9/07	Study Guide – Info PAPER FORMAT - Instructions	
3	9/09	Ch. 1 (Developing the problem)	Group work: Question identified
4	9/12	Mr. Andy Herzog	Group Work: Provisional Title DUE
4	9/14	Ch. 1 (Presenting the problem)	
4	9/16	Group Work: Work on introduction	HW#1 DUE
5	9/19	Ch. 1 (Formulating the method)	
5	9/21	IRB Orientation (Ms. Robin Dickey)	Group work: Introduction DUE
5	9/23	Ch. 1 (Types of Research)	
6	9/26	Group Work: Work on methodology IRB Orientation	
6	9/28	Ch. 3 (Descriptive Stats)	HW#2 DUE
6	9/30	Ch. 3 (Descriptive Stats)	
7	10/3	EXAM 1	
7	10/5	Ch. 4 (Correlation and Prediction)	Group work: Methodology DUE
7	10/7	Ch. 4 (Correlation and Prediction)	
8	10/10	Ch. 5 (Inferential Statistics)	HW#3 DUE
8	10/12	Ch. 5 (Inferential Statistics)	
8	10/14	Group Work: Adaptation of Methodology/ Data organization	
9	10/17	Ch. 6 (Norm-referenced Reliability and Validity)	HW#4 DUE
9	10/19	Ch. 6 (Norm-referenced Reliability and Validity)	
9	10/21	Group Work: Methodology	
10	10/24	Ch. 7 (Criterion-referenced Reliability and	HW#5 DUE

		Validity)	
10	10/26	Ch. 7 (Criterion-referenced Reliability and Validity)	
10	10/28	Group Work: Paper	HW#6 DUE
11	10/31	EXAM 2	
11	11/02	Group Work: Results	
11	11/04	Group Work: SPSS Lab work on results	
12	11/07	Group Work: SPSS Lab work on results	
12	11/09	Group Work: Discussion	
12	11/11	Group Work: Paper	
13	11/14	PRESENTATION FORMAT	
13	11/16	Group Work: Meetings with Dr. Caçola	
13	11/18	Group Work: Meetings with Dr. Caçola	
14	11/21	Group Work: Meetings with Dr. Caçola	
14	11/23	Group Work: Meetings with Dr. Caçola	
14	11/25	Thanksgiving	
15	11/28	Group Presentations	
15	11/30	Group Presentations	
15	12/02	Group Presentations	
16	12/05	Open discussion, clarification of questions	
16	12/07	12:00 – 2:30pm Research Day – Poster presentations	
16	12/09	Group Project paper	Paper Due

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS:

Plagiarism: As part of this class you are required to complete the UTA plagiarism tutorial at <http://library.uta.edu/plagiarism/index.html> at the end of the tutorial there is a quiz. If you successfully complete the quiz you will have the option of emailing the results. Email this form to Ms. Amanda Martinez at amandah@uta.edu. This is mandatory and **MUST** be completed by the end of the 9/09. **ANY STUDENT FOUND TO HAVE PLAGIARIZED WORK WILL RECEIVE AN F FOR THE CLASS.**

Homework assignments: All assignments will be accepted BEFORE the class period on the day they are due. Anything turned in after this time will be considered late. Late assignments will NOT be accepted. All homework will comprise 10% of the final grade (see grading below).

Exams: There will be two exams worth 50 points each. Exams will comprise 30 % of the final grade. There will be no make-ups for missed major exams, except for university excused absences that must be turned in one week prior to the exam. However, in cases of extreme emergencies contact the instructor before the exam and your situation will be considered for approval or denial. Without notification, your absence on exam day gives you a zero grade for the exam.

Unless you have a university excused absence, even with notification there is no guarantee that you will be allowed to make up the exam.

- You will need your UTA ID, a Scantron (882-E) and a #2 pencil for each of the major exams.
- Bring the minimum to class on exam days. You will leave all of your belongings outside of the room.
- No hats, head coverings, players or cell phones will be allowed on exam days.
- **Cheating is not allowed. Cheating will result in a zero grade for the exam.**

Project: Each student will be responsible for completing a group research paper/project during the semester. This project will consist of the student working in a group with colleagues. The group will select a topic of interest within the field of Kinesiology and conduct a research activity relating to that topic. The group will design, conduct, and compute all results for the project. It is recommended that students work in a group with colleagues in their selected sub-discipline (Pedagogy, Athletic Training, or Exercise Science). Under certain circumstances the group will also have to fulfill UTA Institutional Review Board requirements related to research.

A written paper and presentation of the research project (in both an oral and a poster Format) will be required. We will discuss the parameters of this project in depth during the semester. Students must actively participate in this group project to successfully complete the course. The project will comprise 50% of the final grade.

* *Peer evaluation:* You will be asked to evaluate how helpful were the other members of your group, regarding their participation in the group project (the in-class group activities and the development of the project [poster/presentation/paper]). Individuals' peer evaluation score will be the average of the points he/she receives from the members of his/her group. You will also be evaluating yourself. Detailed instructions will be provided at the time.

1. GROUP WRITTEN PAPER:

Use format of a journal of your choice – find instructions for authors on the journal website for citation style and specifics.

Every journal will follow the same structure: INTRODUCTION, METHODS, RESULTS, DISCUSSION/CONCLUSION, and REFERENCES.

For journals and citation styles please go to the study guide:

<http://libguides.uta.edu/kine3325>

Resources:

Librarian: Andy Herzog (Contact: 817-272-7517/ amherzog@uta.edu)

Writing Center: (Contact: 817-272-2601/ <http://www.uta.edu/owl/services.htm>)