

## SERP 556 Research & Program Evaluation: Counseling Program - DPS

### SERP 556 Research and Program Evaluation in Counseling



Semester/Term: Spring 2021  
Credit Hours: 3  
Meeting Days/Time/Location:

#### Instructor Information

Instructor:  
Office Building & Room Number:  
Email:  
Office Phone  
Office Hours:  
Preferred Method of Communication:

#### Course Description

Basic concepts essential to the comprehension of research in counseling, including methods of measurement, descriptive and inferential statistics, research and program evaluation designs, and principles of ethical research.

#### Course Content

This course provides an introduction to basic concepts essential to understanding and conducting research in counseling. The course will include an analysis of research methods and designs used for examining the behavior of groups and individuals and for evaluating programs. This course will also provide a basis for interpreting and evaluating published research.

#### Course Textbooks

Salkind, N. J. (2017). *Exploring Research* (9<sup>th</sup> ed.). Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson.  
American Psychological Association (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC.

#### Methods of Instruction

This course is delivered entirely online and involves lectures, discussions, videos, and presentations

#### CACREP Standards 2016

- Section 2, 8. Research and Program Evaluation 2.F.8 a-j.
- a. The importance of research in advancing the counseling profession, including how to critique research to inform counseling practice
  - b. Identification of evidence-based counseling practices
  - c. Needs assessments
  - d. Development of outcome measures for counseling programs
  - e. Evaluation of counseling interventions and programs
  - f. Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed research methods
  - g. Designs used in research and program evaluation
  - h. Statistical methods used in conducting research and program evaluation
  - i. Analysis and use of data in counseling

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j. Ethical and culturally relevant strategies for conducting, interpreting, and reporting the results of research and/or program evaluation

### Knowledge & Skills Outcomes - Learning Objectives

1. Students will demonstrate knowledge and skills about basic concepts used in counseling research.
2. Students will be able to identify and use techniques for identifying the strengths and weaknesses of published research.
3. Students will demonstrate basic knowledge and skills related to measurement, design, and analytical tools used for a) conducting research studies and program evaluations and b) interpreting research and program evaluation reports
4. Students will be able to critically review research and rigorously evaluate program reports.

### Key Performance Indicator - KPI

#### KPI #8

Research and Program Evaluation: Students will interpret, utilize, and develop professional research and existing data and demonstrate effective application of such in counseling and program evaluation as described by CACREP's common core.

### Student Performance Evaluation Criteria and Procedure

Counseling Skills	CACREP Standards	Assignments	Evaluation Outcome
KPI # 8	2.F.8.a; 2.F.8.b; 2.F.8.c; 2.F.8.d; 2.F.8.e; 2.F.8.f; 2.F.8.g; 2.F.8.h; 2.F.8.i; 2.F.8.j;	<b>Final Research Proposal</b> Quizzes Discussions	Minimum of 80% or better

### Course Requirements

Listed is the key assignment for this course. While the assignment CAN NOT be removed or modified, you may add any additional assignments you see fit.

### Key Course Assignments

Assignment	Relevant CACREP Standards
Research Proposal #3	2.F.8.a; 2.F.8.b; 2.F.8.c; 2.F.8.d; 2.F.8.e; 2.F.8.f; 2.F.8.g; 2.F.8.h; 2.F.8.i; 2.F.8.j;

### Additional Course Assignments

PowerPoint presentations, weekly assignments, and supplemental reading and video materials will be posted in the "Content" area of the D2L course site for SERP 556.

#### 1. Assignments and Quizzes

- Weekly assignments and quizzes will be posted in D2L by Sunday of each week.
- Each weekly assignment is due by 11:59 pm each Thursday (see course outline for due dates)
  - Weekly assignments will be posted in the D2L "Content" area

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- Weekly assignments should be submitted in their corresponding “Assignments” folders
- Weekly quizzes are due no later than 11:59 pm each Friday (see course outline for due dates)
- Weekly assignments are 20 points each (280 points possible for the semester).
- Weekly quizzes are 10 points each (130 points possible for the semester).
  - *Late assignments and quizzes will not be accepted*

### 2. Discussions

- Weekly discussion topics will be posted in D2L by Sunday of each week.
- Students are expected to contribute to one weekly discussion topic and respond to at least one colleague’s posting (i.e., a total of at least two discussion postings per week):
  - The first discussion posting is due by 11:59 pm each Tuesday (see course outline for due dates)
  - The second posting (response to a colleague) is due by 11:59 pm each Wednesday (see course outline for due dates)
    - *In order to receive full credit, the second posting should contribute substantively to the discussion*
- 2 points each (weekly total = 4; 56 points possible for the semester)
  - **You must address every question for each discussion topic to receive the full 2 points**
    - *Late discussion postings will not be accepted*

### 3. Final Research Proposal Paper – Course Key Assignment

- Students will submit a 6-10 page research proposal (not including title page and references) for the final project. Research proposals will include the following:
  - I. Introduction
    - Problem statement
    - Rationale for conducting your study
  - II. Short review of the literature
    - Include a *minimum* of 5 references
    - The relationship between the literature and the problem statement should be clear
    - Purpose of the study

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- Research question(s)
- Identify and operationally define all variables
- Research hypothesis(es)

### III. Method

- Participants
    - Method of recruitment
    - General description of participants (i.e., demographics)
    - Number of individuals who are expected to participate in the study
    - Identify potential risks/harm that could result from participating in the study
      - How will the potential for risk/harm be minimized?
  - Research design
  - Method of data collection
    - Provide reliability and validity data for the instruments, or
    - Identify how reliability and validity will be assessed
  - Describe how the data will be analyzed
- IV. Discuss the significance of the proposed study
- V. Identify any limitations you can foresee and possible areas for future research

### 50 points possible

- **Final projects are due no later 11:59 pm. on 5/06/2020. No final papers will be accepted after this date and time.**

## Course Grading

Grades	Percentage	Points
A	90-100%	464-516
B	80-89%	412-463
C	70-79%	361-411
D	60-69%	310-360
E	Below 60%	Below 309

Because no +/- are earned, grades will not be rounded. For example, 89.5% is a B.

## University Policies

Please go to the following link to become familiar with University of Arizona policies pertaining to on-going courses: <https://academicaffairs.arizona.edu/syllabus-policies>

The link covers policies in the areas of:

- Class Attendance
- Participation
- Administrative Drops

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- Absences
- Threatening Behavior
- Accessibility and Accommodations
- Code of Academic Integrity
- Nondiscrimination and Anti-Harassment
- Subject to Change Notice

### Subject to Change Notice

Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grade and absence policies, may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor of this course.

### Tentative Course Schedule

Topics and schedule subject to change with appropriate notice.

Dates	Topics	Readings	Assignments
Week 1 1/15/20  and Week 2 1/20/20	The Role and Importance of Research  The Research Process: Coming to Terms  APA Style	Chapter 1  Chapter 2  See "APA Resources" (D2L Content section)	Discussion 1 (by 1/21) Respond to a colleague's posting (by 1/22) Assignment (by 1/23) Quiz (by 1/24)
Week 3 1/27/20	Selecting a Problem and Reviewing the Research  Practicing Ethics in Research	Chapter 3A  Chapter 3B	Discussion 1 (by 1/28) Respond to a colleague's posting (by 1/29) Assignment (by 1/30) Quiz by 1/31
Week 4 2/3/20	Sampling and Generalizability	Chapter 4	Discussion 1 (by 2/4) Respond to a colleague's posting (by 2/5) Assignment (by 2/6) Quiz by 2/7
Dates	Topics	Readings	Assignments
Week 5 2/10/20	Measurement, Reliability, and Validity	Chapter 5	Discussion 1 (by 2/11) Respond to a colleague's posting (by 2/12) Assignment (by 2/13) Quiz by 2/14
Week 6 2/17/20	Methods of Measuring Behavior	Chapter 6	Discussion 1 (by 2/18) Respond to a colleague's posting

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			(by 2/19) Assignment (by 2/20) Quiz by 2/21
Week 7 2/24/20	Data Collection and Descriptive Statistics	Chapter 7	Discussion 1 (by 2/25) Respond to a colleague's posting (by 2/26) Assignment (by 2/27) Quiz by 2/28
Week 8 3/2/20	Introducing Inferential Statistics	Chapter 8	Discussion 1 (by 3/3) Respond to a colleague's posting (by 3/4) Assignment (by 3/5) Quiz by 3/6
<b>3/9/20 – 3/13/20</b>	<b>Spring Recess –No Class</b>		
<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
Week 9 3/16/20	Nonexperimental Research: Descriptive and Correlational Methods	Chapter 9	Discussion 1 (by 3/17) Respond to a colleague's posting (by 3/18) Assignment (by 3/19) Quiz by 3/20
Week 10 3/23/20	Nonexperimental Research: Qualitative Methods	Chapter 10	Discussion 1 (by 3/24) Respond to a colleague's posting (by 3/25) Assignment (by 3/26) Quiz by 3/27
Week 11 3/30/20	Pre- and True Experimental Research Methods	Chapter 11	Discussion 1 (by 3/31) Respond to a colleague's posting (by 4/1) Assignment (by 4/2) Quiz by 4/3
Week 12 4/6/20	Quasi-Experimental Research	Chapter 12	Discussion 1 (by 4/7) Respond to a colleague's posting (by 4/8) Assignment (by 4/9) Quiz by 4/10
<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
Week 13 4/13/20	Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment	Supplemental Readings and PowerPoint	Discussion 1 (by 4/14) Respond to a colleague's posting (by 4/15) Assignment (by 4/16) Quiz by 4/17
Week 14 4/20/20	Mixed Methods	Supplemental Readings and PowerPoint	Discussion 1 (by 4/21) Respond to a colleague's posting (by 4/22) Assignment (by 4/23) Quiz by 4/24
Week 15 4/27/20	Writing a Research Proposal	Chapter 13	Discussion 1 (by 4/28) Respond to a colleague's posting (by 4/29)

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	Writing a Research Manuscript	Chapter 14	Assignment (by 4/30) No quiz this week!!
Week 16 5/4/20			<b>Final Project due by Wednesday, 5/6/</b>