**CO699 Research Methods and Design**
Wednesday and Friday 10:45 – 12:15pm
Instructor: Karen Mason, Ph.D.
978-646-4042 kmason@gordonconwell.edu
Office hours: Monday 10am-12pm, 2:30pm-3:30pm
Wednesday 8am-9:30am
Friday 10-10:30am, 12:15pm-1:15pm

**RULES OF RESEARCH**

*If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you have tried.*

*Basic research is like shooting an arrow into the air and, where it lands, painting a target.*

_Homer Burton Adkins (1892-1949, American organic chemist)_

*I have yet to see any problem, however complicated, which, when you looked at it the right way, did not become still more complicated.*

_Paul Alderson (1926-...) in "New Scientist", 25 September 1969, 638_

*Results! Why, man, I have gotten a lot of results. I know several thousand things that won't work. - Thomas Edison (1847-1931)*

*Genius is one per cent inspiration, ninety-nine per cent perspiration.*

_-- Thomas Edison (1847-1931) (said c. 1903, written in Harper's Monthly Magazine, September 1932)_

---

**Course Description:**
This course is designed to provide an introduction to research methodologies, designing research, analyzing data, and presenting results. Quantitative, qualitative and mixed research methods will be presented. Students will develop hands-on experience with quantitative and qualitative methodologies. Students will learn the process of evaluating research.

**Course Objectives**
As a result of this course students will be able to:
1. Write a literature review
2. Design and implement quantitative research
3. Design and implement qualitative research
4. Understand the use of mixed methods
5. Analyze data using descriptive and inferential statistics
6. Present results
7. Evaluate research designs

**Required Texts:**


**In Library Reference Section**
APA Style Manual or at [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/workshops/hypertext/apa/print/wholeworkshop.pdf](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/workshops/hypertext/apa/print/wholeworkshop.pdf)
Supplies
Survey Monkey can be found at http://www.surveymonkey.com/
You will be audio-recording an interview. A tape-recorder or digital-recorder will be needed. Audacity® is free, open source software for recording: http://audacity.sourceforge.net/

Possible Texts for reading requirement
LIST 1
You may find this list of resources helpful.


Merriam, S.B Qualitative Research in Practice: Examples for Discussion and Analysis (The Jossey Bass Higher and Adult Education Series) San Francisco: Jossey Bass


LIST 2
In addition to required readings for each day, read 2 books or 400 pages from this list.


Briski, Z. & Kauffman, R. (2004). Born into Brothels: Photographs by the Children of Calcutta (must also watch documentary) India/USA: ThinkFilm.


Gladwell, M. *Tipping Point* or *Blink* or *Outliers: The Story of Success*


**Requirements**

Students are expected to attend all classes and to participate actively. Students will discuss all absences with the instructor. Students will complete all reading and other assignments ON TIME. Discuss all late assignments with the instructor. One point will be deducted from all late assignments per day late (including the weekend) and will not be accepted more than 1 week late.

**Assignments**

- Devotional……………………………………………………………………………………………………2 pts
Present a brief devotional on research and evaluation found in the Bible such as the spies in Canaan, Nehemiah and the wall, the Parable of the Talents, or God providing formative evaluation of Israel.

- Find 3 articles in library database. 3 pts
  - Instructions will be given in class.

- Read an article on qualitative tradition 5 pts
  - To get any points, you MUST read the article BEFORE CLASS. See below.

- Read an article on a research study. 5 pts
  - To get any points, you MUST read the article BEFORE CLASS. See below.

- Book Presentation 10 pts
  - Presentation on any book from List 2.
  - Presentations will be about 5 minutes.
  - Include (1) the research question(s), (2) the importance of the research, (3) the context for the research (who/what did the author study?), (4) description of qualitative methodology and how data were collected and analyzed (including any use of validity checks), (5) research conclusions.

- Reading Log 5 pts
  - See below.

- Qualitative Research Project 35 pts
  - The components of this project are:
    - Literature Review (10 pts)
      - This “mini” literature review will be of 2 articles.
      - Should be in APA format (including double spacing).
      - Should be 1 to 2 pages
    - Interview
You will be conducting a 30 to 45 minute interview with a person who is studying counseling at a seminary. Your interview will be focused around the question “Why did you choose to study counseling at a seminary?”

- Interview will be audio recorded.
- Must have a consent form.

**Transcription (10 pts)**
- You will be transcribing 15 minutes of the interview.
- Do not use real names in the transcription (use pseudonyms)

**Field Notes (5 pts)**
- You will write notes about the interview
  - These notes are your thoughts, possible conclusions you might draw, what was the experience like for you, what went wrong, what went right, and any other reflections.
  - These notes are similar to a journal or diary entry.

**Data Analysis (10 pts)**
- You will identify themes, categories and trends from the transcription

**Course Outline with Assignments**

Assignments are due on day listed by 4pm.

January 27
Review syllabus. Daniel 1 as a research question. Generate research questions.

January 29
Difference between research and program evaluation. Evaluation as either formative or summative. Devotional example: Genesis 1 as summative evaluation

Assignments:
1. Read Creswell chapter 1

February 3
Ethical considerations. Literature review—how to use databases to search the literature.

Assignment:
1. Read Creswell chapter 2

February 5
Literature review

Assignment:
1. Read Creswell chapter 3
2. **Turn in 3 abstracts**

February 10
Quantitative design (experimental and quasi-experimental designs), sampling and external validity

Assignment:
1. Read Creswell chapter 8

February 12
Operationalizing variables, writing items

Assignments:
1. Read Creswell chapter 4
2. **Turn in mini literature review of 5 articles for quantitative research proposal.**
3. **Complete Attitudes toward Statistics survey on Survey Monkey**

   February 15-19 Reading Week

   February 24
   Survey development, pilot testing, how to add up the scores
   Assignment:
   4. Read Creswell chapter 5

February 26
Descriptive statistics
Assignments:
1. **Finalize your 10-item survey and put it up on Survey Monkey. Send the link to the class. Enter results into Excel.**
2. Read Swanson chapters 1-5 (You don’t need to complete the exercises.)

March 3
Inferential statistics; guest speaker: Monica Geist
Assignments:
1. Read Swanson chapter 6
2. Read Creswell chapter 6

March 5
T-tests
Assignments:
   1. Read Creswell chapter 7

March 10
Qualitative Research Design: Observations
Assignments:
1. Read Creswell chapter 9

March 12
Qualitative Research Design: Interviews and Documents

March 17
Qualitative Research Design: five methodologies; validating the accuracy of the findings
Assignment:
1. 6 p.m. light supper and 7 p.m.: Watch Kitchen Stories at Masons (11 Lanes End, Ipswich) or view it on your own: *Kitchen stories* (2003) DVD Salmer fra kjøkkenet

2. **To get any points, you must read the article on CAMS that corresponds to the first letter of your last name BEFORE CLASS.**

   A-B Narrative – On the bus with Vonnie Lee: Explorations in life history and metaphor, by Micahel V. Angrosino

   C-D Phenomenological – Cognitive representation of AIDS, by Elizabeth H. Anderson and Margaret Hull Spencer

   E-H Grounded Theory – Constructions of survival and coping by women who have survived childhood sexual abuse, by Susan Morrow and Mary Lee Smith
K-M Ethnography – Rethinking subcultural resistance: Core values of the straight edge movement, by Ross Haenfler

N-Z Case Study – Campus response to a student gunman, by Kelly J. Asmussen & John W. Creswell

March 19
Qualitative research Design: data analysis

Reading Week March 22 - 26

March 31
Quantitative versus qualitative research debates
Assignment:

1. Turn in Qualitative Research Project

(April 2 No class: Good Friday)

April 7
Mixed methods—what are mixed methods and when to use mixed methods
Assignment:

1. Read Creswell chapter 10

April 9
Evaluating research studies
Assignments:

1. To get any points, you must read the article in PsychARTICLES that corresponds to the first letter of your last name BEFORE CLASS.

A-C

D-H

I-M

N-Z

April 14
Book presentations

April 16
Book presentations

April 21
Poster presentations
May 3 4pm
Last day to submit written assignments or apply to Registrar (not to instructor) for extension if needed. Let the instructor know if you are applying for an extension.

1. Turn in reading log

Reading Statement

NAME: _____________________________  Box #: ____________

I have read all the required reading.
   - Creswell
   - Swanson (5 chapters)
   - Article on Viennese Social Competence Training
   - An article on qualitative tradition
   - An article on a research study
   - At least 7 articles for 2 literature reviews
   - 2 books from List 2 or 400 pages from List 2
   - Kitchen Stories

________________ ____________  __________________
Signature  Date

OR

Of the required reading, I have read _____ % of the reading.

________________ ____________  __________________
Signature  Date