

CJA 790: Research Methods & Data Analysis

Instructor: Joe Allen, Ph.D.

Fall 2021

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Individualized Study

Office/Phone: Hale Hoaloha 203E/808-735-4879

Office Hours: By appointment

Catalog Description:

Overview of research methods with a focus on survey research, development and data analysis. Emphasis is placed upon sampling, the development and analysis of questions, and the interpretation and reporting of research findings.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Give examples of contemporary social science research methods used in criminal justice.
2. Critique the application of various social science research methods, given various research questions.
3. Develop a sound research design, including hypotheses, question development, and question construction.
4. Construct a survey for use and interpretation in the social sciences (i.e., criminal justice focused).
5. Identify measurement issues of reliability and validity and operationalization of variables in surveys.
6. Identify sampling techniques and applications for question and survey design.
7. Interpret and relay results from survey research in the specified format (e.g., analytical report).

Reading & Other materials:

- Fowler, Floyd J. (2014). Survey Research Methods, 5th ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc.
- Additional reading materials will be assigned throughout the term.
- ~~SPSS statistical software (at least version 16.0 or higher).~~

Assessment:

Survey Research Proposal Paper: this min. 5 page paper will introduce and describe your proposed survey research project. It will minimally include a/an: (1) introduction, (2) discussion of research design, (3) projected timeline of activities, (4) concluding remarks, and a copy of your survey instrument. The topic for the paper will be chosen by the student and given guidance on by the instructor.

Assignments: Students will complete written research and data assignments that will coincide with given topics and/or survey construction. Some assignments may also be preparation of materials to be used in the student's final paper. Assignments will be graded based on completion, addressing all aspects of the assignment, organization of thoughts/ideas, critical assessment of the material, readability, grammar, etc.

Quizzes: Students will take 3 quizzes on the book. These quizzes will be short and more like reading homework than a quiz per se. The quizzes will be between 3-10 questions. Objective format (e.g., multiple choice). Quizzes will be based on the textbook.

TERMS OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- ~~1. Late assignments/projects will be assessed a 30% reduction in score if late, and an additional 10% per day after that. All late assignments must be turned in within 1 week, otherwise loss of all credit will occur.~~
2. *I have an open-door approach when it comes to helping students understand the material and do well in the course. Let me know if you would like to meet with me, video chat online, or call/email me to set up an appointment.*
3. Any instances of academic dishonesty will result in an "FD" (failure for dishonesty) grade for the course and will be subject to the policies and procedures for the college. If you are at all unclear about what constitutes academic dishonesty, refer to cataloged materials.
4. The instructor reserves the right to change the schedule of the syllabus when deemed necessary.

University Statement on Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is an essential aspect of all learning, scholarship, and research. It is one of the values regarded most highly by academic communities throughout the world. Violations of the principle of academic honesty are extremely serious and will not be tolerated.

Students are responsible for promoting academic honesty at Chaminade by not participating in any act of dishonesty and by reporting any incidence of academic dishonesty to an instructor or to a University official. Academic dishonesty may include theft of records or examinations, alteration of grades, and plagiarism.

Questions of academic dishonesty in a particular class are first reviewed by the instructor, who must make a report with recommendations to the Dean of the Academic Division. Punishment for academic dishonesty will be determined by the instructor and the Dean of the Academic Division and may range from an 'F' grade for the work in question to an 'F' for the course to suspension or dismissal from the University.

University Title IX Statement

Chaminade University of Honolulu (CUH) recognizes the inherent dignity of all individuals and promotes respect for all people. Sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse will NOT be tolerated at CUH. If you have been the victim of sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, we encourage you to report this matter promptly. As a faculty member, I am interested in promoting a safe and healthy environment, and should I learn of any sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, I must report the matter to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you want to speak to a confidential source you may contact the following:

- Chaminade Counseling Center – 808-735-4845
- Any priest serving as a sacramental confessor or any ordained religious leader serving in the sacred confidence role.

ADA Policy:

Chaminade University of Honolulu is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Any student who believes that they may need accommodations must first register with the Counseling Center. Registration with the Counseling Center begins the process of determining whether the student meets the requirements for a documented disability in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), even if accommodations may not be needed for this particular class. The contact information for the Counseling Center is (808) 735-4845, 739-4603, or by email at counselingcenter@chaminade.edu. It is important for students to contact the Counseling

Center as soon as possible so that accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion and to allow your instructor(s) to plan accordingly. Students will be required to provide written documentation to the Counseling Center in order for a determination to be made as to whether the requirements for a documented disability under the ADA are met.

Failure to provide written documentation through the Counseling Center will prevent your instructor from making the necessary accommodations, instructors cannot provide accommodations unless they have been prescribed by the Counseling Center. Once you have received an official notice of accommodations from the Counseling Center, it is also very important to discuss these accommodations directly with your instructor so that they can better support your needs. If you have specific questions regarding your individualized accommodations you may speak directly with your instructor and/or you may contact the Counseling Center.

GRADING SYSTEM:

The class will be graded on a curve. For this curve, a standardized grading system will be used:

A = 90-100%

B = <90-80%

C = <80-70%

F = <70%

Point Distribution & Scoring System

Assignment	% of Final Grade
Final Paper	30%
Assignments	60%
Quizzes	10%

About the Instructor:

Dr. Allen is a full-time faculty member, Associate Professor, in the C&CJ Department. He is an advisor to CJ majors and oversees the CJ Club. His usual repertoire of courses includes criminology, juvenile delinquency, behavioral sciences statistics, survey research methods & statistics, seminar in criminal justice agencies, and sex crimes. He has been a full-time faculty member in the Department since 2004 and began teaching at Chaminade in a part-time capacity in 1994. He has also taught courses in Sociology at the University of Hawaii and Hawaii Pacific University. Prior to Chaminade, he worked with the Corrections Population Management Commission (thru the Department of Public Safety), the Department of the Attorney General, and the Social Science Research Institute (University of Hawaii). Throughout the years, he has been involved in various research and evaluation projects, including the topics of: victim compensation/restitution, probation and parole recidivism, sentencing simulation modeling and policy analysis, juvenile delinquency and youth gangs, community crime prevention, restorative justice, domestic violence and anger management, substance abuse treatment, ecstasy, prostitution, runaway and missing children, uniform crime reporting, victimization surveys, and crime trends and law enforcement/correctional policy analysis. Dr. Allen received his Ph.D. from the Sociology Department at the University of Hawaii with an emphasis in Criminology. Before transferring to the University of Hawaii he attended the University of Minnesota (he was born in Minnesota and spent his formative years there).

Details	Due
 Quiz #1: Fowler Ch. 1, 5-7	due by 11:59pm
 Quiz #2: Fowler Ch. 2-4, 8-9	due by 11:59pm
 Quiz #3: Fowler Ch. 10-13	due by 11:59pm
 Assignment #1: Research/Survey Topic	
 Assignment #2: Human Subjects Research Training	
 Assignment #3: Levels of Measurement & Operationalization	
 Assignment #4: Conceptualization & Operationalization	
 Assignment #5: Question Development	
 Assignment #6: Question Revision/Modification	
 Assignment #7: Transferring Questions to Online Platform	
 Assignment #8: Survey Pilot & Feedback	
 Assignment #9: Hypothetical Statements	
 Research Proposal	

Student Expectations Disability Access

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accommodations from the Counseling Center, it is also very important to discuss these accommodations directly with your instructor so that they can better support your needs. If you have specific questions regarding your individualized accommodations you may speak directly with your instructor and/or you may contact the Counseling Center.

Academic Conduct Policy

Any community must have a set of rules and standards of conduct by which it operates. At Chaminade, these standards are outlined so as to reflect both the Catholic, Marianist values of the institution and to honor and respect students as responsible adults. All alleged violations of the community standards are handled through an established student conduct process, outlined in the Student Handbook, and operated within the guidelines set to honor both students' rights and campus values.

Students should conduct themselves in a manner that reflects the ideals of the University. This includes knowing and respecting the intent of rules, regulations, and/or policies presented in the Student Handbook, and realizing that students are subject to the University's jurisdiction from the time of their admission until their enrollment has been formally terminated. Please refer to the Student Handbook for more details. A copy of the Student Handbook is available on the Chaminade website.

For further information, please refer to the Student Handbook.

Incomplete Grades:

The current university policy concerning incomplete grades will be followed in this course. Incomplete grades are given only in situations where unexpected emergencies prevent a student from completing the course and the remaining work can be completed the next semester. Your instructor is the final authority on whether you qualify for an incomplete. Incomplete work must be finished by the end of the subsequent semester or the "I" will automatically be recorded as an "F" on your transcript.

Religious Observances: Students are expected to notify their instructor one week in advance if they intend to miss class to observe a holy day of their religious faith.