

**SOCIOLOGY 300**  
**Principles of Sociological Inquiry**

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**Instructor:** Jonathan Jarvis  
Office: Saunders 232  
Phone: 956-3725  
Email: jonathan.jarvis@hawaii.edu

**Class Schedule:** T-TH 12:00-12:50 (Location TBA)

**Office Hours:** Tuesday and Thursday 2:00pm to 3:00pm or by appointment

**Text:** Neuman, Lawrence W. 2011. *Basics of Social Research: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches (3rd edition)*

**Supplementary Readings:** By assignment.

**Class Objectives:**

The objective of this class is to help students gain a basic understanding of quantitative and qualitative research methods. This process includes learning how to choose appropriate research topics, designing effective and appropriate research methods, properly conducting and analyzing data and reporting the results accurately and succinctly. While this course includes the theoretical and methodological issues vital to properly conducting survey research, it also provides an opportunity for students to learn from experience. The entire course is geared toward the creation and analysis of (a) an original survey and (b) a handful of semi-structured interviews in an attempt to provide a practical application to the technical elements of social research methods. The assignments build on each other from week to week as the students first choose realistic research topics, then create and conduct a research instrument, and finally analyze the data and report the findings. The lab periods will be used as opportunities for students to work toward their various assignments as the labs focus more on the technical aspects such as literature searches, data entry and analysis, while the lectures focus on the principles of social research.

**Assignments:**

**Readings** You are expected to have readings completed in the week they are assigned in order to follow and participate in class discussion. The text is also a supplementary resource for conducting your research.

**Exams** There will be a mid-term and a final exam. The exams will be drawn primarily from the course text and lecture material. The mid-term will consist of the readings and material covered in class up to the time of the mid-term. The final exam is not a cumulative exam. It will be made up of the material covered in the second half of the class. You will have the class period to complete the exam, which will be taken in class on the assigned day.

- Written Work** Written work for this course is composed of two parts.
- (1) A Quantitative paper describing the research topic, a brief literature summary, the creation of the survey, the sample and the findings (5-7 pages).
  - (2) Drafts and summaries (1-2 pages) of your progress for your qualitative and quantitative projects.

**Presentations** Students will make a brief presentation in the final weeks of classes.

**Grading:**

- (1) Weekly assignments and presentations from labs that contribute to the creation of the quantitative term paper and qualitative presentation – 10%
- (2) Quantitative Project – 20%
- (3) Midterm – 15%
- (4) Qualitative Project – 20%
- (5) Final Exam – 25%
- (6) Participation/Attendance – 10%

**CLASS SCHEDULE**

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**Week 1** – January 10<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>  
Syllabus and Information Cards & Film “Obedience”

**Week 1** – January 17<sup>th</sup> & January 19<sup>th</sup>  
Readings: Chapter 1 Doing Social Research

**Week 2** – January 31<sup>st</sup> & February 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Readings: Chapter 3 Ethics in Social Research

**Week 3** – February 7<sup>th</sup> & February 9<sup>th</sup>  
Readings: Chapter 2 Theory and Social Research

**Week 4** – February 14<sup>th</sup> & February 16<sup>th</sup>  
Readings: Chapter 7 Survey Research

**Week 5** – February 21<sup>st</sup> & February 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Readings: Chapter 5 Qualitative and Quantitative Measurement

**Week 6** – February 28<sup>th</sup> & March 1<sup>st</sup>  
Readings: Chapter 6 Qualitative and Quantitative Sampling

**Week 7** – March 6<sup>th</sup> & March 8<sup>th</sup>  
Readings: Chapter 10 Analysis of Quantitative Data

**Week 8** – March 13<sup>th</sup> & March 15<sup>th</sup> (**Quantitative Paper DUE March 16<sup>th</sup>**)  
Readings: Chapter 4 Reviewing the Scholarly Literature and Planning a Study

\* This schedule is subject to change to accommodate the progress of lectures and projects. Supplementary reading materials may be distributed throughout the course.

**Week 9** – March 20<sup>th</sup> (**Midterm**) & March 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Film: America Beyond the Color Line

**Week 10** – March 27<sup>th</sup> & March 29<sup>th</sup> (**No Classes**)

**Week 11** – April 3<sup>rd</sup> & April 5<sup>th</sup>  
Readings: Chapter 11 Conducting Qualitative Research

**Week 12** – April 5<sup>th</sup> & April 7<sup>th</sup>  
Readings: Chapter 12 Historical-Comparative Research

**Week 13** – April 12<sup>th</sup> & April 14<sup>th</sup>  
Readings: Chapter 13 Analysis of Qualitative Data

**Week 14** – April 19<sup>th</sup> & April 21<sup>st</sup>  
Readings: Chapter 9 Nonreactive Research and Secondary Analysis

**Week 15** – April 26<sup>th</sup> & April 28<sup>th</sup>  
Readings: Chapter 14 Writing a Research Report

**Week 16** – May 1<sup>st</sup>  
Course Review

Final Exam May 10<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday) 12:00pm – 2:00pm

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## **Kokua**

Any student in need of additional help, due to disability, can contact me personally and the KOKUA program officer to discuss ways to accommodate specific needs. KOKUA can be reached at (808) 956-7511 or (808) 956-7612 or by email ([kokua@hawaii.edu](mailto:kokua@hawaii.edu)).

## **Plagiarism**

*“Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, submitting, to satisfy an academic requirement, any document that has been copied in whole or in part from another individual’s work without identifying that individual; neglecting to identify as a quotation a documented idea that has not been assimilated into the student’s language and style; paraphrasing a passage so closely that the reader is misled as to the source; submitting the same written or oral material in more than one course without obtaining authorization from the instructors involved; and “dry-labbing,” which includes obtaining and using experimental data from other students without the express consent of the instructor, utilizing experimental data and laboratory write-ups from other sections of the course or from previous terms, and fabricating data to fit the expected results.”*

- University of Hawai`i at Manoa Student Conduct

< <http://www.catalog.hawaii.edu/about-uh/campus-policies1.htm> >

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