

## **DRAFT SYLLABUS**

### **Sociology 300: Principles of Sociological Inquiry (4 credits)**

#### **Section 601; CRN: 92250**

**Summer Session I: May 26, 2015-July 2, 2015**

**Lecture Meeting:** M-F 9:00-10:15 AM, BUSAD E203

**Lab Meeting:** T and Th 10:30-11:45 AM, SAUND 342

**Instructor:** Katharine Hannah, M.A.

**Office Hours:** TBD

**Email:** khannah@hawaii.edu

#### **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 focused on 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 of 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 an opportunity for students to work toward their various assignments as the labs focus more on the technical aspects such as literature searches, and data entry and analysis, while the lectures focus on the principles of social research.

The assignments in this course are included to help students develop clear and effective verbal and written communication skills. Therefore I expect that students' written work to be clear and the meaning of ideas effectively conveyed. Students must display a wide vocabulary and proper choice of words and exhibit proper sentence structure, some sentence variety, and cohesion between sentences. Papers and presentation must be carefully edited and include few errors in grammar and the conventions of standard written English must be observed.

**Text (Required):** Neuman, W. Lawrence. 2011. *Basics of Social Research: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches (The 3rd edition)*. ISBN: 9780205762613

- The text is available through the bookstore and also online.

### General Matters

- Please make every effort to get to class on time. If you need to arrive late or leave early please do so without disturbing other students.
- Cell phone use, including texting, is distracting to everyone's learning. Please refrain from texting/taking calls during class time.

### Grading

Attendance (lecture) – **15%**

Lab assignments for quantitative/qualitative projects (8) – **20%**

Quantitative Paper – **20%**

Qualitative Presentation – **20%**

Midterm Exam – **10%**

Final Exam – **15%**

### Grading Scale

A = 95 – 100%	B- = 80 – 82%	D+ = 67 – 69%
A- = 90 – 94%	C+ = 76 – 79%	D = 64 – 66%
B+ = 86 – 89%	C = 73 – 75%	D- = 60 – 63%
B = 83 – 85%	C- = 70 – 72%	F = 59% and lower

### Attendance

Attendance in every class and lab session is mandatory. To do well in this class you need to attend regularly and keep up with assignments. Excused absences will only be given if you present me with a note from a professional (ie. doctor, coach).

### Lab Assignments

Lab work will build upon what has been covered in previous weeks. To do well in this course you must keep up with assignments. Lab assignments will be submitted through turnitin.com. I will give feedback on all lab assignments promptly. These

assignments give me an idea of whether or not you have grasped the material and are moving forward with the projects appropriately.

## **Exams**

There will be one midterm exam and one final exam. The exams will be drawn from the lecture and reading material. The exams consist of multiple-choice and short answer questions and you will have the entire class session to complete them. The midterm covers material from the first half of the course and the final exam covers material after the midterm through the end of the course.

## **Written Work**

Written work for this course is composed of two parts. (1) A quantitative research paper, including: Introduction, Literature Review, Data & Methods, Findings, Discussion/Analysis, and Bibliography. (2) Drafts and summaries of your progress for your qualitative and quantitative projects (to be completed in the labs and as homework). Students will receive clear criteria on how written work will be graded.

## **Presentation**

Students will make a 10-15 minute presentation in the final week of the course on the qualitative project. A presentation rubric will be given for guidance.

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

**Furthermore, it is ultimately each student's responsibility to learn about plagiarism and how to avoid it. Ignorance of the rules, saying "I forgot about that" or "I made a mistake," are not considered valid excuses when it comes to plagiarism.**

A brief summary of the American Sociological Association's Style Guide, which explains the rules clearly, can be found at: [www.buffalostate.edu/library/docs/asa.pdf](http://www.buffalostate.edu/library/docs/asa.pdf)

This course will utilize Turnitin.com to identify instances of plagiarism. Written assignments will be submitted online via turnitin. Written work that is severely plagiarized will receive a 0.

## Schedule

**\*Note: Reading schedule is subject to change**

### Week 1 –

- 5/26:** Introductions, Syllabus Review, Chapter 1: Doing Social Research  
**Lab:** Research Topic & Literature Review (Assignment 1 - Due 5/27 by 11:59 PM)
- 5/27:** More on Chapter 1, Chapter 4: Literature Review & Study Planning
- 5/28:** More on Chapter 4, Chapter 7: Survey Research  
**Lab:** Create Questions & Sampling. Upload survey questions to turnitin by end of lab session (Assignment 2). 20 completed surveys due next lab (6/2)
- 5/29:** Chapter 7: Survey Research

### Week 2 –

- 6/1:** Chapter 3: Ethics; Also read Brandt, "Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study" (PDF in Lailima Resources folder)
- 6/2:** Chapter 5: Qualitative and Quantitative Measurement  
**Lab:** Introduction to SPSS, Building Data Sets (Should be completed in lab). Data & Methods section (Assignment 3 - due 6/3 by 11:59 PM)
- 6/3:** More on Chapter 5, Chapter 6: Qualitative and Quantitative Sampling
- 6/4:** More on Chapter 6  
**Lab:** SPSS Analysis. Findings & Discussion section (Assignment 4 - due 6/8 by 11:59 PM)
- 6/5:** Chapter 10: Analysis of Quantitative Data

### Week 3 –

- 6/8:** Chapter 10: Analysis of Quantitative Data  
**6/9:** Midterm Review  
**Lab:** Writing a Paper. No lab assignment - Quantitative Paper due 6/15  
**6/10:** *Midterm (Ch. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10)*  
**6/11: NO CLASS (Kamehameha Day)**  
**Lab: NO LAB**  
**6/12:** Ch. 2: Theory and Research

**Week 4 –**

- 6/15:** Film: TBA – *Quantitative Papers Due via Turnitin by 11:59 PM*  
**6/16:** More on Chapter 2  
**Lab:** Draft of Interview Guide & Demographic Questionnaire (Assignment 5 due by end of lab session). Consent Form (Assignment 6 - due 6/17 by 11:59 PM)  
**6/17:** Chapter 11: Conducting Qualitative Research  
**6/18:** Chapter 11: Conducting Qualitative Research  
**Lab:** Conducting Interviews. 3 Interview Transcriptions (Assignment 7 - due 6/22 by 11:59 PM)  
**6/19:** More on Chapter 11

**Week 5 –**

- 6/22:** Ch. 13: Analysis of Qualitative Data  
**6/23:** More on Chapter 13  
**Lab:** Findings. Discussion and Analysis slides (Assignment 8 – due 6/24 by 11:59 PM)  
**6/24:** Ch. 12: Historical-Comparative Research  
**6/25:** More on Chapter 12  
**Lab:** Preparing to Present. No lab assignment – Qualitative Presentations on 6/30  
**6/26:** Ch. 9: Nonreactive Research & Secondary Analysis

**Week 6 –**

- 6/29:** More on Chapter 9  
**6/30:** *Qualitative Project Presentations*  
**Lab: Qualitative Project Presentations**  
**7/1:** Final Exam Review  
**No Lab**  
**7/2:** *Final Exam (Ch. 2, 9, 11, 12, 13)*

**Important Dates:**

- Midterm Exam: 6/10 (in class)  
 Quantitative Paper: 6/15 by 11:59 PM  
 Qualitative Presentation: 6/30 (in lecture and lab)  
 Final Exam: 7/2 (in class)

**Lab Assignments - submit via turnitin:**

1. Research Topic and Literature Review - due 5/27 by 11:59 PM
2. Survey Questions - due 5/28 by 11:45 AM
3. Data and Methods section - due 6/3 by 11:59 PM
4. Findings and Discussion section - due 6/8 by 11:59 PM
5. Draft of Interview Guide (including demographic questionnaire) - due 6/16 by 11:45 AM
6. Consent Form - due 6/17 by 11:59 PM
7. 3 Interview Transcriptions - due 6/22 by 11:59 PM
8. Discussion and Analysis slides - due 6/24 by 11:59 PM