

Sociology 300: Sociological Research Methods Fall 2016

Instructor: Dr. Heather Flynn

Contact Information: heather.flynn@sonoma.edu

Prerequisites: Sociology major/minor or instructor consent

General Education: No

Course Description:

Sociological Research Methods is an introduction to the fundamentals of research design in Sociology. Students will learn how to select a research topic, formulate a research question, utilize library resources, evaluate ethical issues, design data collection instruments, and engage in preliminary analyses of original data. The course will include both qualitative and quantitative approaches to research design and data analysis. Students will gain a foundational understanding of a variety of research methods, including qualitative (1) participant-observation/ethnography techniques, (2) interviewing, and quantitative (3) surveys, (4) content analysis. Students will gain experience in conducting research through participation in a series of applied research assignments. A primary focus of this course will be writing and revising a literature review on a sociological area of interest.

Required Text:

- TBD
- Additional required readings will be available on Moodle.

Course Requirements (subject to change):

Students will be evaluated through the completion of in-class activities (10%), applied research assignments (30%), exams (30%), and a literature review (30%). Participation in activities and discussion is required in this class.

*Note:

A passing grade for the course requires the completion of all requirements.