

Southeast Missouri State University  
 Course Syllabus  
 CJ 601  
 Research Methodology in Criminal Justice  
 Department of Criminal Justice

- I. Catalog description and credit hours of course: Study of the design and execution of criminal justice research; critical examination of current research in criminal justice (3).
- II. Prerequisites: Undergraduate courses in statistics and research methods, or permission of the instructor; graduate standing.
- III. Purposes and objectives of the course:
  - A. To develop an understanding of the procedures of research as they relate to criminal justice agencies and to the study of criminal behavior.
  - B. To be able to critically interpret and evaluate research conducted in the field of criminal justice and criminology.
  - C. To be able to design studies and write grant proposals as a criminal justice administrator.
  - D. To develop an overview of current research and research issues in criminal justice.
- IV. Expectations of students:
  - A. Read assigned material and participate in lecture-discussion format.
  - B. Participation in bulletin board discussions online, class presentations.
  - C. Development of a research proposal.
- V. Course Outline

<b>Week</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>
1	3	Theory and research	Babbie, Ch. 1-3
2	3	Design, ethics	Babbie, 4-6, 8, 18
3	3	Experiments	Babbie Ch. 9; Pope et al Part II
4	3	Qualitative research	Babbie Ch. 11; Pope Part IV
5	3	Archival research	Babbie Ch. 12; Pope Part V & VI
6	3	Questionnaire Construction; Surveys	Babbie Ch. 10; Pope Part III
7	3	Surveys	
8	3	Midterm	
9	3	Evaluation Research	Babbie Ch. 13; Wholey Ch 1-6

10	3	"	"	Wholey Ch. 7-12
11	3	"	"	WholeyCh. 13-18
12	3	"	"	Wholey Ch. 19-25
13	3	Critically analyzing research		Babbie Ch. 19
14	3	Research and policy		Babbie Ch. 18
15	3	Presentation of proposals		
16		Final		
	Total:	45 Hours		

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VI. Textbooks:

- A. Babbie, E. *The Practice of Social Research* (1995). Seventh Edition, New York: Wadsworth Publishing Co.
- B. Pope, C., Lovell, R. and Brandl, S. (2000). *Readings in Criminal Justice Research*, New York: Wadsworth Publishing Co.
- C. Wholey, J, Hatry, H., and Newcomer, K. (1994). *Handbook of Practical Program Evaluation*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

- VII. Basis for student evaluation: There will be a midterm and final examination, each counting 20% of the grade. Each student will develop a research proposal, consisting of an introductory chapter, a literature review, and a methodology section, with an accompanying schedule and budget. This proposal will count 45% of the grade. Each student will also present three research studies during the course of the semester, and participate in bulletin board discussions on the internet. These activities will count 15% of the grade.