

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

CJ 4913 Criminal Justice Research II

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisites: CJ 4903 Criminal Justice Research I.

Effective Catalog: 2018-2019

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Continuation of research skills developed in CJ 4903. With faculty guidance, students will learn how to perform data entry, organize, and manage data. Will learn how to use statistical analysis software to analyze data collected in CJ 4903. The class will jointly compose a research “white paper” or article for presentation in a public forum and for future publication.

B. Additional Information

Specifically designed to provide junior and senior level undergraduate students with a research experience which will prepare them for similar activities in a graduate school or criminal justice environment. This course will build on the skill from CJ 4903 Criminal Justice Research I.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

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

1. Create data collection instruments and collect data.
2. Develop critical thinking skills through analysis of data and literature reviews.
3. Perform data entry, organize, and manage data.
4. Compose a research “white paper” for possible publication.
5. Present research findings in a public forum.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills: Students will identify problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis.

Quantitative Reasoning Skills: Students will assign and use numbers, read and analyze data, create models, draw inferences, and support conclusions based on sound mathematical reasoning.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently. Students will use essay format for written presentation of research projects and discuss particular aspects of various topics in a seminar setting.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes. Students will examine ethical dilemmas within the criminal justice field and develop ethical frameworks to resolve specific ethical issues.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Data entry, organization and management
- B. Data analysis techniques and software
- C. Writing techniques for scholarly publication
- D. Presentation of research findings
- E. How to submit research articles for publication