

University of Bridgeport  
TMPD 702  
Exploration in Research Methodologies

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Office Hours: Mondays 11:00 – 12:00 pm, Tuesdays 11:00 am- 1:00 pm,  
Wednesdays 11:00 am – 12:00 pm, or by appointment.

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**Course Description:**

This course exposes students to a wide variety of research approaches across many disciplines. Explores the processes and problems of designing and conducting various kinds of research. Develops skill in evaluating TM research. Through a series of guest researchers, enables students to discuss research process and publication issues with experts. Explores the non-statistical issues in research planning and execution. Develops understanding and skill in the scientific approach, problem definition, hypothesis development, research design and methodology planning. (3 semester hours)

**Course Topics:** The course will emphasize methods appropriate for empirical investigations relevant to technology management. Some key topics from the primary text (Creswell, see below):

- the relation of theory & method
- relevant aspects of the philosophy of science
- ethical issues
- choosing a research topic and formulating research questions
- performing a literature survey
- evaluating research results reported in the literature
- choosing a method
- reporting research findings.

Some topics not treated in depth in the primary text (e.g., computer simulation, meta-analysis) will also be addressed. In addition to the broad overview of research methodology offered by the primary text, students will consider the perspectives offered by various other authorities on methodology, and will study the methods used in research published in relevant journals as well as in important journals in specialized areas of interest.

**Required Course Material:**

Creswell, J. W. (2014) Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches, 4th edition, Sage. ISBN 978-1452226101 (paperback).

**Supporting texts:**

Miles, Matthew B. and A. Michael Huberman (2014) Qualitative Data Analysis, 3rd edition, Sage. ISBN 978-1452257877 (paperback).

American Psychological Association. (2009). Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.), ISBN 978-1433805615 (paperback),

**Course Requirements:**

**1. Class Attendance, Participation, Punctuality and Cheating:** Attendance at each class session is expected. Class lectures complement, but do not duplicate, textbook information. Together the students and instructor will be creating a learning organization. Students are

expected to be on time for class. A significant portion of your learning will accrue through the constructive and respectful exchange of each other's ideas (including mine) and search for alternative solutions. You must be actively engaged in class discussions to improve your thinking and communication skills.

**Cheating is absolutely unacceptable in any form.** If I catch you cheating, I will warn you once, with a zero for that assignment. The second offense will result in an "F" for the course. Cheating means using the work of others as your own. Copying homework, using papers from the Internet, any talking or looking around during exams and allowing others to look at your exam papers are examples of cheating.

It is the student's responsibility to familiarize himself or herself with and adhere to the standards set forth in the policies on cheating and plagiarism as defined in Chapters 2 and 5 of the Key to UB <http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2623.asp> or the appropriate graduate program handbook.

As a UB policy, it is expected that each student that attends one hour of classroom instruction will require a minimum of two hours of out of class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester.

**2. Preparation, Deadlines and Late Policy:** ; Homework and other assignments are due on the due date, not later. **Late assignments will receive half credit.** No excuses will be accepted. Don't wait until the last minute to print out your assignment.

**3. Homework** will be assigned that each student is expected to complete and turn in. It is the student's responsibility to learn the material and to do the homework. Be prepared to turn in an original version of your homework every week. Homework of this nature should be typed.

**4. Course Grading:**

Midterm Exam	30%
Homework / Project status reports	40%
Final Project	30%

**5. Tentative Schedule**

Session	Date	Topic	Read (before class)	Assignment due
1	Tuesday 8/26	Introduction Library Research Tools		
2	9/2	The Selection of a Research Design Conferences, Journals, Dissertations, and Books	Creswell Chapter 1	Write an abstract for a research study
3	9/9	Project Scope: How broad is your question?	Miles Chapter 2 & 3	Write and define your initial Research Question
4	9/16	The Literature Review	Creswell Chapter 2	Project: Introduction
5	9/23	Use of Theory: Qual/Quan/Mixed	Creswell Chapter 3	Literature map

<b>Session</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Read</b>	<b>Assignment due</b>
6	9/30	Ethics	Miles Chapter 11	Project: Lit. Review
7	10/7	Writing Strategies	Creswell Chapter 4	
8	<b>10/14</b>	<b>Mid-Term exam</b>		
9	10/21	Designing the Research Question	Creswell Chapter 7	
10	10/28	Data Collection Strategies	Handout	Project: Methodology
11	11/4	Quantitative Methods	Creswell Chapter 8	
12	11/11	Qualitative Methods	Creswell Chapter 9	Project: Initial Results
13	11/18	Mixed Methods Getting Published	Creswell Chapter 10	
	11/25	Thanksgiving	No class	
14	12/2	Presentations		Final paper