

Kinesiology & Physical Education (EDKP 443) Research Methods (3 credits)

Winter 2020

Instructor

Lindsay Duncan, Ph.D.
Office: Currie Gym, A213
Phone: 514-398-4184, ext. 00919
E-mail: lindsay.duncan@mcgill.ca
Office hours: By appointment

Teaching Assistant

Laura Hallward
Email: laura.hallward@mail.mcgill.ca
Office: Currie Gym, 235
Office hours: By appointment

Course Format

This course consists primarily of lectures and will be supplemented by interactive group discussions and in-class learning activities. There are no labs or tutorials for this course.

Times and Location

- Lectures: Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:35 am – 9:55 am.
- Location: Currie Gym, 408/9
- **After March 30th, 2020, due to the extraordinary circumstances of COVID-19, the course will be delivered in an online format (via Zoom, pre-recorded lectures, and MyCourses).**

Prerequisite

This is a mandatory upper-level undergraduate course for second year kinesiology and physical and health education students.

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to research methods and designs used in kinesiology and physical education research. This course will provide an overview of the research process, ethical principles, statistical and measurement concepts, various types of research (including both quantitative and qualitative), and various ways that research is presented.

Course Objectives

1. To help students read, evaluate, and discuss research in kinesiology and physical education. Students will learn to summarize and synthesize research findings and critically evaluate scientific articles and media reports of research studies.
2. To help students develop and practice independent learning and critical-thinking skills, particularly as they relate to research in the field of kinesiology and physical/health education.
3. To provide students with the basic skills needed to design and interpret analytical, descriptive, epidemiologic, experimental, qualitative, and mixed-methods research.

Learner Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will:

1. Be able to identify the role and the value of research in the area of kinesiology and physical education.
2. Be able to identify the basic principles and processes underlying the research in kinesiology and physical education.
3. Be able to analyze a variety of research problems in the fields of kinesiology and physical education and identify appropriate research methods.
4. Be able to appraise quantitative and qualitative research systematically.
5. Demonstrate the ability to think creatively, critically, and analytically.

Required and Recommended Course Readings

Required readings and supplemental materials will be posted on My Courses. Students are expected to regularly check MyCourses for course updates and information.

For formatting of assignments, students should refer to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.) (2010). Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association.

Evaluation

Method	Description	Due Date	Grade
Assignment 1	Ethics online workshop	Monday, January 20 th	8%
Assignment 2	Presenting the problem	Wednesday, February 5 th	20%
Assignment 3	Quantitative methods	Wednesday, February 26 th	20%
Assignment 4	Knowledge translation	Wednesday, March 18th Wednesday, April 1st	10%
Assignment 5	Research in the media	Monday, March 30th Monday, April 6th	12%
Assignment 6	Evaluating quantitative research	***Wednesday, April 8 th	25%
Note. An additional lecture regarding how to critique quantitative research will be available to students via a zoom, pre-recorded lecture (details to follow by email).			
***For Assignment 6, papers will be accepted with no late penalty until Wednesday, April 22nd			
Participation			5%

Note. Specific instructions related to each assignment will be provided in class and posted in MyCourses. Students are expected to regularly check MyCourses for course updates and information. Each assignment will be introduced in class and common questions and tips for each assignment will be discussed as needed; thus, there is a distinct advantage to attending class sessions.

Participation. You can earn participation marks with in-class assignments and your general preparedness and willingness to participate in class activities. ~~You will have at least 5 opportunities to earn participation marks through in-class assignments. Each assignment will be worth 1% up to a maximum of 4%. Therefore, you need to complete 4 of 5 assignments to receive the full 4%.~~ **You have had 2 opportunities to earn participation marks through in-class assignments. Each of these assignments has been worth 1% to a maximum of 2%. Due to extraordinary circumstances, every student will receive an additional 2% as if they had been present for 2 additional in-class activities.** The extra 1% will reflect your class preparedness and respectful participation in class activities.

Mutual Expectations

In order to promote a collegial and stimulating learning environment, it is important that we all abide by a mutual code of *courtesy and respect*. I will come prepared and on time for class and will expect the same from you. In service of your learning experience, please **do not** use cell phones and other electronic devices/social media during class, and refrain from activities which may impede your ability, or the ability of those around you, to learn effectively. Questions, discussions, and constructive comments pertaining to class material are encouraged and always welcome. I am approachable; if you are having problems with any aspect of the course, please make an appointment to speak with me.

McGill University Policy on Academic Conduct [approved by Senate on 29 January 2003]:

McGill University values academic integrity. Honesty and integrity are expected of every student in class participation, examinations, assignments, patient care, and other academic work. Every student must perform his or her own work unless specifically instructed otherwise. Students are encouraged to review the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures at: (www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/) to understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism, and other academic offences.

L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/).

Right to submit in English or French written work that is to be graded [approved by Senate on 21 January 2009]:

In accordance with McGill University's Charter of Students' Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.

Conformément à la Charte des droits de l'étudiant de l'Université McGill, chaque étudiant a le droit de soumettre en français ou en anglais tout travail écrit devant être noté (sauf dans le cas des cours dont l'un des objets est la maîtrise d'une langue).