

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

**Winter 2021**

### **Instructor**

Lindsay Duncan, Ph.D.

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Communication plan: I will be available to meet (virtually) with students or respond to questions on Zoom during any of our scheduled class sessions in which we do not have live (synchronous) class. I will use these sessions as virtual, open office hours during which students can drop into the Zoom session. I will also be available via email, phone, or Zoom, during regular business hours. Please email me with your questions or requests to schedule a meeting.

### **Teaching Assistant**

Laura Hallward

Email: [laura.hallward@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:laura.hallward@mail.mcgill.ca)

Communication plan: Laura will be available via email during regular business hours. Laura may also be available to meet with students via Zoom during regular business hours. Please email Laura with your questions or requests to schedule a meeting.

### **Grader**

Daniela Solomon

Communication plan: Graders are not available to meet with students. Please direct your questions to the instructor or teaching assistant.

### **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.

### **Instructional Method**

The course will be delivered remotely via MyCourses and Zoom. Some course content will be delivered synchronously (e.g., live on Zoom) and the remaining course content will be delivered asynchronously (e.g., pre-recorded videos, supplemental readings, and other materials posted on MyCourses). Synchronous content will often include student engagement through breakout rooms, group discussions, and/or question-and-answer periods. Students are highly encouraged to attend all sessions delivered synchronously. All synchronous sessions will occur during our scheduled class time on Tuesdays or Thursdays between 10:05am and 11:35am. A schedule of when synchronous content will be offered will be posted on MyCourses. Synchronous sessions will be recorded and subsequently posted on MyCourses. Students are expected to regularly check MyCourses for updates and information pertaining to all aspects of the course.

### **Instructor Message Regarding Remote Delivery**

The remote learning context presents new challenges for all involved, and I am particularly concerned about providing meaningful learning opportunities for students. When live (synchronous) sessions are scheduled, students will benefit most from attending and participating live (synchronously). I recognize that live (synchronous) Zoom lectures present some technological challenges for students; however, I hope that if students are able they will participate in these sessions to the fullest extent possible (e.g., via video, audio, chat, polling, as appropriate). For resources to support your academic success please reach out to me or access resources available through Teaching and Learning Services: <https://www.mcgill.ca/tls/students>.

### **The Learning Environment**

As the instructor of this course I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me and the *Office for Students with Disabilities*, 514-398-6009.

### **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* (7th ed.) (2020). Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association.

## Evaluation

Method	Description	Due Date	Grade
Assignment 1	Ethics online workshop	Tuesday, January 26 <sup>th</sup>	8%
Assignment 2	Study introduction	Thursday, February 11 <sup>th</sup>	20%
Assignment 3	Quantitative methods	Tuesday, March 9 <sup>th</sup>	20%
Assignment 4	Knowledge translation	Thursday, March 25 <sup>th</sup>	10%
Assignment 5	Research in the media	Thursday, April 8 <sup>th</sup>	12%
Test	Final take-home exam	TBD	25%
Participation			5%

**Note.** Specific instructions related to the purpose, expectations, and grading of each assignment will be posted on MyCourses. Students are expected to regularly check MyCourses for course updates and information. Common questions and tips for each assignment will be communicated by email as needed.

**Participation.** You can earn participation marks with in-class assignments during live class sessions, contributions to discussion boards on MyCourses, and your general preparedness and willingness to participate in class activities. You will have at least 6 opportunities to earn participation marks through in-class assignments or discussion boards. Each assignment or discussion post will be worth 1%. Therefore, you need to complete 5 of 6 assignments or discussion activities to receive the full 5%.

The [University Student Assessment Policy](#) exists to ensure fair and equitable academic assessment for all students and to protect students from excessive workloads. All students and instructors are encouraged to review this Policy, which addresses multiple aspects and methods of student assessment, e.g. the timing of evaluation due dates and weighting of final examinations.

In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.

## Language of Submission

In accord 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. This does not apply to courses in which acquiring proficiency in a language is one of the objectives.

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).

### **Academic Integrity**

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see [McGill's guide to academic honesty](#) for more information).

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 [guide pour l'honnêteté académique de McGill](#)).

### **Land Acknowledgement**

McGill University is on land which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Indigenous peoples, including the Haudenosaunee and Anishinabeg nations. We acknowledge and thank the diverse Indigenous people whose footsteps have marked this territory on which peoples of the world now gather.

L'Université McGill est sur un emplacement qui a longtemps servi de lieu de rencontre et d'échange entre les peuples autochtones, y compris les nations Haudenosaunee et Anishinabeg. Nous reconnaissons et remercions les divers peuples autochtones dont les pas ont marqué ce territoire sur lequel les peuples du monde entier se réunissent maintenant.