## Course Outline EDKP-443 Research Methods Winter 2021

### **General Information**

Course # EDKP-443

Section # 002
Term Winter
Year 2021

Course schedule Sect 002: Monday and Wednesday: 11:35a.m.-12:55p.m.

(day and time of class)

**Number of credits** 3 credits

### **Instructor Information**

Name and Title William Harvey

E-mail william.harvey@mcgill.ca

**Virtual office hours** Wednesday: 1:30p.m.-2:30p.m.

**Communication plan** An office hour will be provided for general course questions on

Wednesday afternoons (1:30p.m.-2:30p.m.). A waiting room will be provided for students to ask questions individually during this time. For any other requests to consult with me, please send an email to set up individual virtual or phone meetings. Please expect a 24-48 hour

anticipated response time.

**TA Information** 

Name & E-mail Mathieu Michaud

E-mail mathieu.michaud@mail.mcgill.ca

#### **Course Description**

This course provides an introduction on how to understand and conduct research in physical activity. It includes a comprehensive overview of the research process used in physical and health education (PHE) and kinesiology research. This course will highlight instruction and discussions about ethical principles, research philosophies, various types of research designs (including quantitative, qualitative, & mixed methods), statistical and measurement concepts and a variety of ways that research may be presented.

# Course Objectives (This course will ...)

- 1. Teach students to read, evaluate, and discuss research in PHE and kinesiology. They will also learn to summarize and synthesize research findings and critically evaluate scientific articles and media reports of research studies.
- 2. Teach students to develop and practice independent learning and critical-thinking skills, particularly as they relate to research in the field of PHE and kinesiology.
- 3. 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 be able to:

- 1. Identify the role and the value of research in the area of PHE and kinesiology.
- 2. Identify the basic principles and processes underlying research in PHE and kinesiology.
- 3. Analyze a variety of research problems in the fields of PHE and kinesiology and identify appropriate research methods.
- 4. Appraise quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods research systematically.
- 5. Link research and theory to instructional practices in PHE and physical activity.
- 6. Demonstrate the ability to think creatively, critically, and analytically.

### **Instructional Method**

This course will be conducted primarily through the use of lectures, small individual and group class-based activities as well as class presentations. All classes will be taught through the Zoom meeting function on our myCourses platform.

## **Expectations for Student Participation**

All students are expected to attend each live class if possible. We will address the following issues in our first class so we can develop our supportive learning environment:

- appropriate behaviors in each class
- the issues of how video, audio and chat will be used in class
- checking emails and myCourses on a regular basis for course updates

# **Instructor Message Regarding Remote Delivery**

Internet bandwidth, family responsibilities, etc.).

All classes will be taught through the Zoom meeting function on our MyCourses platform. All classes will be recorded through Zoom (fixed) and placed on our course platform for each student's viewing (flexible - when and if needed). We have all been experiencing challenges due to the current pandemic and our teaching team will do our best to provide a supportive learning environment to facilitate your academic success and specific needs. Please consult the McGill University's Teaching and Learning Services (TLS) links to assist you in your online learning needs. Please see <a href="https://www.mcgill.ca/tls/students/remote-learning-resources">https://www.mcgill.ca/tls/students/remote-learning-resources</a> for helpful TLS tips on remote learning and student success.

All lectures will be recorded to try to ensure that all students will be able to see and/or hear each lecture in this course. You will be notified through a 'pop-up' box in Zoom if a lecture or portion of a class is being recorded. By remaining in sessions that are recorded, you agree to the recording, and you understand that your image, voice, and name may be disclosed to classmates. You also understand that recordings will be made available in myCourses to students registered in the course. Further, please discuss any remote course delivery issues with the course instructor and teaching assistant in order to facilitate their understanding of your learning needs (e.g., differing time zones,

## **Required Course Materials**

# **Required course text:**

Thomas, J.R., Nelson, J.K., & Silverman, S.J. (2015). *Research methods in physical activity*. (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). Champaign: IL: Human Kinetics.

Please note that the text is now available for purchase from the <u>McGill Bookstore Web site</u>.
 Digital books will be available immediately after purchase and print materials can be shipped to your address.

It is expected that all other required and recommended course materials (to be announced – TBA) will be available in an online format. Our course readings list will be continually updated throughout the semester. Dr. Harvey will provide these updates in class as well as through the course announcements and course content options via MyCourses. We are currently working with the Faculty of Education to place all of our additional course readings on an e-Course Reserve within the Education library system. It is important to link these readings to the course schedule where applicable. Direct links are available to readings. If there is no current link to a reading, one will be made available shortly. Links for readings will be provided at least one week before the associated content will be presented in class.

### **Tentative Course Schedule**

Date	<u>Content</u>	Reading
Jan 11	Introduction to the course	EDKP-396 course outline
Jan 13	Introduction to research in physical activity Assignment 1 provided	Thomas et al. (2015) Chapter 1
Jan 18	Developing the problem  Research term paper information provided	Thomas et al. (2015) Chapter 2
Jan 20	Searching the literature	Thomas et al. (2015) Chapter 2
Jan 25	Ethical conduct in research and scholarship	Thomas et al. (2015) Chapter 5
Jan 27	Presenting the problem Assignment 1 due	Thomas et al. (2015) Chapter 3
Feb 1	Formulating the method	Thomas et al. (2015) Chapter 4
Feb 3	Measuring research variables	To Be Announced (TBA)

Feb 8	Research in the media Assignment 2 provided	ТВА
Feb 10	Quantitative and experimental research	ТВА
Feb 15	Types of experimental designs – Part 1  Research term paper – Part 1 due	ТВА
Feb 17	Types of experimental designs – Part 2	ТВА
Feb 22	Internal and external validity Assignment 2 due	ТВА
Feb 24	Statistics – Part 1	ТВА
Mar 1	No Classes – Study Break	None
Mar 3	No Classes – Study Break	None
Mar 8	Statistics – Part 2	ТВА
Mar 10	Statistical tests Assignment 3 provided	ТВА
Mar 15	Introduction to qualitative research	TBA
Mar 17	Qualitative data collection – Part 1	ТВА
Mar 22	Qualitative data collection – Part 2	ТВА
Mar 24	Qualitative data collection and analyses  Research term paper – Part 2 due	ТВА
Mar 29	Thematic analysis	ТВА
Mar 29	Thematic analysis	ТВА

Quality indicators of qualitative research <b>Assignment 3 due</b>	ТВА
No Classes – Easter Monday	None
Class presentations	None
	Assignment 3 due  No Classes – Easter Monday  Class presentations  Class presentations  Class presentations

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

## **Evaluation**

There will be three forms of evaluation in this course. The assignments, term paper and class presentation will be described in class by Dr. Harvey and associated guidelines will be posted in the MyCourses content tabs. There will be a NO final exam conducted for this course.

Assignments  Assignment 1: (10%) – Ethics Online workshop – due date: January 27, 2021  Assignment 2: (15%) – Research in the media – due date: February 22, 2021  Assignment 3: (20%) – Evaluating research – due date: March 31, 2021	45%
<b>Term Paper</b> .  Term paper: (20%) – Part 1 – due date: February 15, 2021  Term paper: (20%) – Part 2 – due date: March 24, 2021	40%
Class Presentation	15%

## **University Grading Scale**

Letter Grades	<u>Percentages</u>	
A	85-100	
A-	80-84	
B+	75-79	
В	70-74	
B-	65-69	
C+	60-64	
C	55-59	
D	50-54	
F (fail)	0-49	

- Please note that In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.
- Furthermore, as the instructor of this course, I endeavor 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."

# **McGill Policy Statements**

## 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 <a href="McGill's guide to academic honesty">McGill's guide to academic honesty</a> for more information). (Approved by Senate on 29 January 2003)

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). »

Please note that to support academic integrity, your assignments may be submitted to text-matching or other appropriate software (e.g., formula-, equation-, and graph-matching).

### **Additional Statements**

Please note that this format for the delivery of this course is unusual. It is explained by our current extraordinary circumstances, and aims to allow you, as students, to complete this term with the requisite knowledge for this course, and to succeed in your assessments. I ask for everyone's collaboration and cooperation in ensuring that that videos and associated materials are not reproduced or placed in the public domain. This means that each of you can use them for your own personal purposes, but you cannot allow others to use them, by putting them up on the internet or by giving them or selling them to others who will copy them and make them available. Thank you very much for your help with this.

© Instructor-generated course materials (e.g., handouts, notes, summaries, exam questions) are protected by law and may not be copied or distributed in any form or in any medium without explicit permission of the instructor. Note that infringements of copyright can be subject to follow up by the University under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.

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.