

SOC 4112: Methods of Sociological Research II
Winter 2018
Monday/Wednesday 4:00p-5:50p
LOCATION: MI 4075
LAB: SC-N104 (35 seats)

Instructor: Dr. Natalie Ingraham

Office: MI 4025

Office Hours: Wednesday 3-4, Monday by appointment

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Course Description: This course is the second in a two-part (Soc 4112) sequence. The first part of SOC 4112 will be spent completing the qualitative paper we started in SOC 4111. We will spend time learning to write research questions for face-to-face interviews and you will collect and analyze your interview data. After you hand in your final, revised research paper we will turn our attention back to quantitative research. We will review survey research, measurement, and writing hypotheses. We will then learn which statistical method is appropriate to use based on the level of measurement of variables. Assignments will include the use of the GSS data set to describe variables and to test hypotheses.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Learn to develop interview questions.
2. Analyze both quantitative and qualitative data.
3. Describe variables in a sample.
4. Identify the appropriate statistical test for variables measured at different levels of measurement.
5. Use SPSS to describe variables and test hypotheses.
6. Effectively communicate what you have learned about sociological research methods in both written and oral form.
7. Use your sociological education outside of the classroom and into your everyday life.

Links to Program Learning Outcomes and Institutional Learning Outcomes:

- SLO – Knowledge Integration and Synthesis – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- SLO – Professional Demeanor and Ethical Behavior – 4, 5
- ILO – Thinking and Reasoning – 2, 4

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Required Text:

Babbie, Earl. 2016. *The Practice of Social Research*. 14th Edition. Cengage Learning. Boston, MA.

Required Supplemental Materials:

6 month subscription to MindTap (via Cengage) – (should have this code from 4111)

Optional materials:

SPSS student rent or buy (<http://www.onthehub.com/spss/>) – not required to purchase.

- SPSS can be accessed in computer labs, the library or via BayCloud (<https://www.csueastbay.edu/its/cls/baycloud/index.html>)

American Sociological Association Publication Manual (I will place an abbreviated copy on BB. You can also download this on your own from the American Sociological Association (ASA) Web page.

Attendance and Participation: Students are responsible for all material covered in lecture, including announcements. You will be expected to integrate materials from lecture and readings on assignments. Please do not enroll in this class if you will not be able to attend the lectures regularly. If you must miss, please make arrangements with another student for notes.

Students with Disabilities: I am committed to providing assistance to help you be successful in this course. Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability. If you have a disability and may need accommodations to fully participate in this class, please visit Accessibility Services. All accommodations **MUST** be approved through Disability Services 510-885-3868 (Hayward Campus) or email us at as@csueastbay.edu. You can also request more information here: https://csueastbay-accommodate.symphlicity.com/public_accommodation/

Email Etiquette: The best way to contact me is through email:

natalie.ingraham@csueastbay.edu ***Make sure to write “Sociology 4112” in the subject line.***

Please do not email me to let me know that you will be absent, unless, of course there is some sort of emergency or illness. Email questions should be short and to the point. If you miss class, please contact a classmate for notes rather than e-mailing me directly.

Academic Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- cheating, which includes possessing unauthorized sources of information during examinations, copying the work of others, permitting others to copy your work, submitting work done by others, completing assignments for others, altering work after grading and subsequently submitting it for re-grading, submitting the same work for two or more classes without the permission of all instructors involved, or retaining materials that you have been instructed to return to your instructor;
- plagiarism, which includes taking the words, ideas, or substance of another and either copying or paraphrasing the work without giving credit to the source through appropriate use of footnotes, quotation marks, or reference citations;

Any plagiarized assignments or cheating will result in zero points (an “F”). You can read the full university policy [here](#).

Laptops: Laptops will be provisionally allowed; I prefer that you take written notes.

Phones: Please put away all phones and refrain from checking them during class. Participation points will be lost for continued cell phone use during class.

Readings: You are expected to read all assigned readings *before* class. This is critical as class is predominately based on activities and discussion *around the readings*. Not reading beforehand will lead to a failure to participate and an inability to understand the material on the exams. I also recommend preparing questions about the readings for class as a method to review the reading.

Policy on Late Assignments and Incompletes:

Assignments are to be turned in **by midnight** on the date that they are due. Late assignments will be penalized one points per day they are late. Note that I do not accept assignments turned in by e-mail attachment. Assignments submitted after the due date will be considered “turned in” on the day that I actually physically receive them.

If you experience an **emergency** that interferes with a deadline, speak to me directly before the assignment is due, and provide sufficient documentation of the reason for your absence. (Note that printer or computer problems do not constitute an emergency!)

Keep track of your grade throughout the quarter. See me early in the quarter if you are having difficulty with the course material. I will do my best to answer your questions, clarify readings, and provide you with tips that could help you improve your study habits. If you have any difficulty with clear, concise writing then I suggest that you take advantage of the free tutoring on campus.

Grading (200 points):

Assignment due dates are also listed in the course outline below.

1. Final Research Project Homework Assignments (40 points):

Interview transcript (10 points)

Code book (10 points)

Emerging themes memo (20 points)

2. Final Qualitative Research Report – Revised from 4111 (100 points)

You will have completed the research paper that you started in Soc 4111 by the middle of the quarter. The paper will include a revision of the literature review and methods section and reference page from 4111. You will write new material that includes an abstract, findings, and discussion section.

3. Quantitative Methods Homework (50 points)

Homework Assignment 1 (20 points): Descriptive Statistics

Homework Assignment 2 (30 points): Hypotheses testing

4. Quizzes – 5 total, drop lowest (40 points)

This quizzes will review chapter content from the assigned readings each week. You will access and complete these quizzes using MindTap (required subscription). You will have 1-2 **quizzes due by 4p the day the chapter is assigned**– 1 quiz for each assigned chapter that week. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped.

5. In-class activities – 20 points

Occasional in-class activities to practices course content will be given throughout the quarter. These will be worth 5 points each for a total of 20 points. Make-up in-class activities will only be allowed with a documented medical or family emergency.

6. Qualitative Research Presentation (5 min presentation, 30 points)

You will prepare a 5-minute PowerPoint (or Google slides) individual presentation on your qualitative research project. You will present on your background/literature, methods, results and conclusions. Part of the class will present the last week of class and the rest will present during finals week (Wed, 3/14). You will sign-up for one of the two presentation slots.

7. Attendance and Participation (30 points)

Attendance and participation in class discussion will be considered for the participation grade.

TOTAL POINTS FOR THE COURSE:

Final Qualitative Research Report=	100
Homework assignments =	90
Quizzes =	40
Qualitative Presentations=	30
Participation =	30
In-class Activities =	<u>20</u>
	310 Points

Final grades will be assigned on a percentile basis as follows:
A = 90-100% B = 80-89% C = 70-79% D = 60-69% F = 59% or less
Plusses and minuses will be assigned as follows: 0,1,2 = minus; 7,8,9 = plus

**Homework Assignments
Instructions**

Note: All assignment should be typed, double-spaced, with one-inch margins and 12 point font.

1. Research Report Assignments

Interview transcript (10 points) – The purpose of this assignment is to provide a chance for both of us to see how the interview guide works and how you are doing with in-depth interviewing. The transcription will also allow you to start thinking about themes and topics to follow up in future interviews. **WARNING:** It usually takes three to five hours to transcribe one hour of audio. For this assignment, you will take one interview (ideally, an early one), which should last for 30-90 minutes. Fully transcribe the *entire* interview. I will post an example of an interview transcript on BB for formatting. You will turn in one interview transcript via BB.

Qualitative Codebook (10 points) – Turn in a list of your codes from analysis and explanations of the codes.

Emerging themes memo (20 points) - This assignment expands on the themes memoing you included at the end of your interview transcript. This memo should be 3-5 pages and include transcript quotes and possibly related literature.

Emerging themes: At the end of each interview transcript, on an extra page, jot down 2-3 short theoretical or methodological memos to yourself. What themes does the interview raise that might you want to pursue? Should you ask different questions in the next interview? Did something unexpected come up? How does the interview confirm or challenge other research on this topic? Use these to create your memos.

2. Final Draft of the research paper

Make any revisions on the literature review and methods section from your final proposal in Soc 4111. Write a findings section (your qualitative data analysis section) and a discussion section. Don't forget to include a brief abstract, reference page, and appendix that includes a copy of your final interview guide, at least one analysis memo, and one field note. You may include interview transcripts for extra credit consideration. The final research paper should include the following sections in the order that I have laid them out:

Outline:

1. Abstract
2. Introduction/Literature review (start on a new page after the abstract)
3. Methods Section (This section does not start on a separate page (it follows directly after the end of the literature review and is identified by a sub-heading "Methods").
4. Findings Section (This section follows directly after the methods section—not on a separate page—and is identified with a subheading "Findings").
5. Discussion (This follows directly after you report your findings and is identified with a sub-heading "Discussion").
6. Reference page (this follows the discussion section but it is on a separate page)
7. Appendix: interview guide, 1 memo, 1 field note, Bonus: 1 interview transcript

Quant Homework #1: Descriptive Statistics

Selecting, running, and reporting the appropriate descriptive statistics for variables measured at different levels of measurement. Use the homework sheet provided on BB and complete by running the appropriate descriptive statistics in SPSS and pasting tables into the Word document.

Quant Homework #2: Hypotheses testing:

Instructions:

- Write 2 research and null hypotheses that can be tested using variables available in the GSS data set (GSS14a.sav file in BB).
- Identify the IV & DV in each Hr
- Identify which variables in the GSS data set measure your IV & DV in each Hr.
- Identify the level of measurement for each IV & DV (each variable from the GSS data set)
- Select the appropriate statistical test to test each HR.
- Write up a short paragraph describing your findings and telling the reader if each HR was significant and identify the level of significance.
- State how often you would make a Type I error if you rejected your null hypothesis.

Course Schedule (tentative)

Assigned readings should be read in advance of the class date next to which they are listed. Other readings may be added throughout on the quarter on BB.

	<i>Class Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Readings</i>	<i>Assignments Due</i>
Week 1	1/3	Intro to Class	Course Syllabus Review	
Week 2	1/8	Qualitative Data Analysis	Babbie Ch. 13 Bring in field notes and/or memos from interviews done so far. Bring laptops for transcript work.	Quiz Ch. 13 **Bring laptops to class or some other material to work on.
	1/10	Qualitative Data Analysis	Bring in field notes and/or memos from interviews done so far. Practice coding qualitative data + memo	Transcript Due In-Class Activity 1: Coding Practice
Week 3	1/15	MLK Day	No class	
	1/17	Qualitative Data Analysis	Coding matrix reading + memo writing	Code Book Due
Week 4	1/22	Qualitative Writing	Babbie Ch. 17 pp.500-506	Emerging themes memo due
	1/24	Qualitative Writing Workshop	Review the structure of a completed research paper	
Week 5	1/29	Peer Review Workshop & Presentation Outline	Bring laptops to class for paper editing.	In-Class Activity 2: Peer Review Worksheets
	1/31	Misc. Qual Research & Evaluation Research	Babbie Ch. 11 & Ch. 12	Quiz Ch. 11 & 12
Week 6	2/5	Quant Analysis Review	Babbie Ch. 14	Quiz Ch. 14, In-class activity 3: Quant Review
	2/7	Quant Analysis: Descriptive Statistics	Babbie Ch. 16 pp. 450-468	Quiz Ch. 16, Full Research Paper Due Friday 2/10 by midnight.
Week 7	2/12	Quant Analysis: Descriptive Stats Homework LAB SC N104	Review SPSS Guide Ch. 1 & 2, Ch. 5 (Cross-tabs & Chi square)	

	2/14	Quant Analysis: Research Questions & Hypotheses	Review Ch. 5 of the SPSS Guide on BB (Cross-tabs & Chi-square)	Quant HW #1 Due
Week 8	2/19	Quant Analysis: Type I & Type II errors	Babbie Ch. 16 (review pp. 468-469) Read Ch. 6 of SPSS Guide on BB (Means testing – t-tests, ANOVA)	In-Class Activity 4: Lab hypothesis test planning
	2/21	Quant Analysis: Hypothesis Testing continued LAB SC-N104	Review Ch. 9 of SPSS Guide on BB for chart type information (to include in HW #2)	
Week 9	2/26	Quant Analysis: Looking Ahead: Correlation & regression	Read Ch. 7 of SPSS Guide on BB (Correlation & Regression)	Presentation sign up sheet.
	2/28	Wrap Up LAB SC-N104	Complete work on HW #2 or work on bonus assignment in lab.	Homework #2 Due (Friday 3/2 by midnight)
Week 10	3/5	No Class – Finalize Presentations		
	3/7	Wrapping Up & Presentations		
Finals Week	3/14	Final Set of Presentations (4p-6p)		