Clinical Research Methods
PSYC211 – Spring 2013
Tuesday and Thursday 10:30-11:50

Instructor: Lisa Dierker
Office Hours: Tuesday 12:00 to 1:30
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Phone: 685-2137
Email: (Ldierker@wesleyan.edu)

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course provides experience in the research process in support of a project of your choosing.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Research Plan and Component Assignments: You will be developing your own research plan/syllabus for the course based on opportunities that I will make available or based on a project of your own choosing. A preliminary research plan should be submitted on Thursday, January 31. Component assignments will be planned each week which build to the completion of your research project. The plan should include tasks, deadlines, proposed resources and dissemination plan.

Research Project and Paper: The goal is to provide you with an abundance of hands-on experience in the research process. Based on your choice of project, you will develop additional skills in several of the following: data visualization, data management, basic and advanced statistical analyses, building a data set, reviewing the literature, writing about empirical research, etc. The result of each project will be a comprehensive paper.

Class Involvement: This will primarily include the amount and quality of involvement in your chosen research topic and your engagement in the course. Students are expected to make marked progress each week and to come to class prepared with questions and planned next steps. Each Thursday, you will provide a brief oral update of your progress and plans. Additionally, you will provide a training and/or overview for a skill that you develop during the semester.

Scientific Integrity: The rules of science should be carefully upheld in everything that you do. The following behavior is absolutely unacceptable: Data fabrication, selective reporting, omission, suppression or distortion. Please be mindful that there is no such thing as a “little scientific misdemeanor”.

Grades: Course grades will be based on
a. Research Plan and Component Assignments (40%)
b. Research Project and Paper (35%)
c. Class Involvement (25%)

Important Dates:
January 31: Preliminary research plan/syllabus due
April 2: Paper draft due
April 16 and 18: Meetings with consultants
May 14: Final paper due by 5:00 pm

Table of projects.

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<th>Sexual concurrencey and HIV risk</th>
<th>Special Education Treatment and Progress</th>
<th>Quality of Research in Psychology Programs</th>
<th>Hardening Hypothesis for Smoking</th>
<th>Event Momentary Sampling Depression and Smoking</th>
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Tableau, Fusion Charts, Gap Minder, Many Eyes and GE.