POS6757-23Fall 0W60

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POS 6757: Survey Design for Political Science Research

PLEASE TAKE OTHER STUDENTS' SURVEYS. WE ARE THE RESPONDENTS FOR PRACTICE SURVEYS.

You can find links to other students' practice surveys in our online class discussion (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/external_tools/353483?display=borderless). Resources to help you with this class: Start Here Module (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/modules/2535981). If your question isn't answered: please post questions that would apply to all students in the class in our online class discussion (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/external_tools/353483?display=borderless).

Instructor Contact

- Instructor: Barry Edwards, J.D., Ph.D. (About Me (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/pages/about-me))
- Office: Howard Phillips Hall 102C (Where's This? (http://map.ucf.edu/locations/14/howard-phillips-hall-hph/))
- Phone: 407-823-2608 (SPSIA main office)
- E-mail: barry.edwards@ucf.edu (mailto:barry.edwards@ucf.edu)
- Office Hours: Mondays 10-11am, 12:30-2pm; Wednesdays 10-11am; Fridays 10-11am, 12:30-2pm.

Course Information

- Course Name: Survey Design for Political Science Research
- Course ID & Section: POS6757-23Fall 0W60
- Credit Hours: 3
- Semester/Year: Fall 2023
- Web Only Course

Course Description

This course introduces students to process of designing and using surveys for political science research. During the course, students will participate in weekly online discussions, design and implement survey questions using online software, write two short article critique, and write a substantial seminar paper.

Course Objectives

After completing this class, students should be able to:

- Understand basic survey design, including sampling and questionnaire design.
- Engage stakeholders to identify needs for survey data.
- Identify potential issues that may impede successful survey administration.
- Critically evaluate published survey research.
- Create a variety of survey questions using online software.
- Complete a successful proposal for human subject research at a federally-funded research institution.
- Evaluate survey data using descriptive and inferential statistics.
- Effectively communicate the results of survey research to lay and professional audiences.

Required Texts and Supplemental Readings

- **REQUIRED**: Arlene Fink, *How to Conduct Surveys: A Step-by-Step Guide, 6th Edition* (Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2017). ISBN-10: 1483378489, ISBN-13: 978-1483378480. **See Amazon page (https://www.amazon.com/How-Conduct-Surveys-Step-Step/dp/1483378489/ref=sr_1_fkmr0_1?crid=VHPOR0YSAPKG)** .
- **ADDITIONAL REQUIRED READINGS.** Additional readings will be announced and/or distributed online.
- **RECOMMENDED:** Phillip H. Pollock III and Barry C. Edwards, *The Essentials of Political Analysis, 6th Edition (*Thousand Oaks, CA: CQ Press, An Imprint of Sage Publications, Inc., 2020). ISBN-13: 978-1506379616, ISBN-10: 1506379613. **See Amazon page (https://www.amazon.com/Essentials-Political-Analysis-Philip-Pollock/dp/1506379613/ref=sr_1_2?qid=1571932122)**
- **ALSO RECOMMENDED:** Read recent political science articles on survey methodology and articles that use survey research.

Course Requirements

Your final grade is based on the components listed below.

1. **Weekly Online Class Discussions** (25%) - In weekly class discussions you'll discuss the course material, your independent research, and work collaboratively on the class survey research project. **More info about online class discussion (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/assignments/8098271?wrap=1)** .
2. **Critical Essay on Survey Research and Design** (15%) - You will write a critical essay based on the assigned readings for a module. Your critical essay should be submitted prior to the semester's withdrawal deadline. **More info. about critical essay on survey research and design. (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/assignments/8098272?wrap=1)**
3. **Class Survey Research Project** (25%) - The class will practice designing and implementing a survey on UCF campus life, politics, and government. Each student will contribute and analyze their own survey questions, but we will incorporate all the questions into one survey so it can be efficiently administered. Students will need to work both collaboratively and independently. **Additional info on class project**

(https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/assignments/8098270) .

4. **Draft Seminar Paper Submission and Peer Reviews (10%)** - Students will submit an initial draft of their seminar papers before Thanksgiving. Each student will peer-review two papers. **More info. about draft submission and peer reviews. (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/assignments/8098273?wrap=1)**
5. **Final Seminar Paper** (25%) - Students will complete an academic paper that uses original survey research and design. **More details about seminar paper, (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/assignments/8098274)**

Course Policies

Workload Expectations

This is a three credit hour class. The workload expectation per credit hour is set forth in the **UCF Catalog, Registration Policies, Terms and Credit Hours (http://catalog.ucf.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=170#registration-policies)** , which states the amount of work represented by one credit hour is not less than "One hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out of class student work each week [or equivalent work in internship, directed readings, etc.] for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time." In an online class, you make up for hours of class time on your own. This means you are expected to work at least 9 hours per week on this class in a regular Fall or Spring Semester or 18 hours per week on this class in an abbreviated Summer Term.

Spring Semesters: This class does not take a week off for Spring Break in order to fit the final exam schedule. If you have a trip planned, I strongly encourage you to work ahead so this class won't interfere with your plans.

Missed Assignments/Make-Ups

Make-ups for in-class writing, quizzes, the midterm, or the final exam will only be allowed for official University activities or personal emergencies. Written documentation is required. Make-up assessments may be different. See **UCF Policy 4.401. (http://policies.ucf.edu/)** and **UCF Regulation 5.020 (https://regulations.ucf.edu/chapter5.asp)** .

Late Work

Completing all your work by the specified dues dates is important to your success in this class. Late work will be penalized. You will lose 10% of the possible total points on an assignment per day late. For example, if you receive a score of 9 out of 10 on a quiz two days after it was due (i.e. you took a quiz due Sunday on Tuesday instead), your score will be reduced by 2 points (20% of 10 points), so you will receive a 7 out of 10 on that quiz. You will receive no credit for work complete ten or more days after its due date. However, because modules unlock only after your have completed prior modules, so you will still need to finish your work (for no credit) to complete this class.

Grading Scale

Name:	Range:	
A	100 %	to 92.5%
A-	< 92.5 %	to 89.5%
B+	< 89.5 %	to 86.5%
B	< 86.5 %	to 82.5%
B-	< 82.5 %	to 79.5%

C+	< 79.5 %	to 76.5%
C	< 76.5 %	to 72.5%
C-	< 72.5 %	to 69.5%
D+	< 69.5 %	to 66.5%
D	< 66.5 %	to 62.5%
D-	< 62.5 %	to 59.5%
F	< 59.5 %	to 0.0%

Any missing assignments are treated as 0 scores for the purposes of calculating final course grades.

Grades of "Incomplete"

Incomplete grades are given only in situations where unexpected emergencies prevent a student from completing the course and the remaining work can be completed the next semester. Your instructor is the final authority on whether you qualify for an incomplete.

Group Work

There are no group projects in this class. You are welcome to discuss course material with other students, but you are responsible for your own work.

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, or assignment will result at least in an "F" for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" for the entire course) and may be subject to appropriate referral to the **Office of Student Conduct (https://scai.sdes.ucf.edu/)** for further action. See the **UCF Golden Rule (http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/)** for further information. I will assume for this course that you will adhere to the academic creed of this University and will maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. In other words, don't cheat by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else. I will also adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, so please do not ask me to change (or expect me to change) your grade illegitimately or to bend or break rules for one person that will not apply to everyone.

Professionalism Policy

Follow university policy and basic rules of etiquette. You must behave appropriately in all your class interactions.

University Writing Center

The University Writing Center (UWC) is a free resource for UCF undergraduates and graduates. At the UWC, a trained writing consultant will work individually with you on anything you're writing (in or out of class), at any point in the writing process from brainstorming to editing. Appointments are recommended, but not required. For more information or to make an appointment, **visit the UWC website (http://uwc.cah.ucf.edu/)**, stop by MOD 608, or call 407.823.2197.

You do not need to come to the UCF campus to receive help from a trained writing tutor. As a UCF student, you have access to writing tutors at the UCF Online Writing Center. You can **schedule an online consultation (http://uwc.cah.ucf.edu/schedule-a-consultation/)** with a writing tutor. You can get the help you need to complete the Final Report of your Civic Engagement Project online at a time convenient to you! This service is free to

you.

Disability Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with **Student Accessibility Services (https://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/)** , Ferrell Commons, 7F, Room 185, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Emergency Procedures and Campus Safety

Students are encouraged to be aware of their surroundings and familiar with actions to take in various types of emergencies. Though most emergency situations are primarily relevant to courses that meet in person, such incidents can also impact online students, either when they are on or near campus to participate in other courses or activities or when their course work is affected by off-campus emergencies. The following policies apply to courses in online modalities.

- To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to <**https://my.ucf.edu (https://my.ucf.edu)** > and logging in. Click on “Student Self Service” located on the left side of the screen in the toolbar, scroll down to the blue “Personal Information” heading on the Student Center screen, click on “UCF Alert”, fill out the information, including e-mail address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider, click “Apply” to save the changes, and then click “OK.”
- Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructors outside of class.

Accommodations for Active Duty Military Students

If you are a deployed active duty military student and feel that you may need a special accommodation due to that unique status, please contact the instructor to discuss your circumstances.

Religious Observances

Students are expected to notify their instructor in advance if they intend to miss class to observe a holy day of their religious faith (not already reflected in the normal class schedule). For more information, see the **UCF Policy (http://regulations.ucf.edu/chapter5/documents/5.020ReligiousObservancesFINALJan19.pdf)** and/or contact the **Office of Diversity Initiatives (https://diversity.ucf.edu/)** at 407-823-6479.

Title IX

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination, including sexual misconduct, sexual violence, sexual harassment, and retaliation. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find resources available to support the victim, including confidential resources and information concerning reporting options at **https://letsbeclear.ucf.edu (https://letsbeclear.ucf.edu)** and **http://cares.sdes.ucf.edu/ (http://cares.sdes.ucf.edu/)** .

For more information on diversity and inclusion, Title IX, accessibility, or UCF's complaint processes contact:

- Title IX – OIE – **http://oie.ucf.edu/ (http://oie.ucf.edu/)** & askanadvocate@ucf.edu
- Disability Accommodation – **Student Accessibility Services (https://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/)**
- **Diversity and Inclusion Training and Events (https://diversity.ucf.edu/)**
- **UCF Compliance and Ethics Office (https://compliance.ucf.edu/)** & complianceandethics@ucf.edu
- **Ombuds Office (https://www.ombuds.ucf.edu/)**

Copyright

This course may contain copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

Third-Party Software and FERPA

During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these could be required assignments, you need **not** make any personally identifying information on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname. Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identity-sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor.

Financial Aid Requirement

As of Fall, 2014, all faculty are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please ***complete the Evidence of Academic Engagement Quiz by the end of the first week of classes or as soon as possible after adding the course***. Failure to do so may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

START HERE MODULE (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/modules/2535981)

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Mon Aug 21, 2023	**Begin Module/Week 1: Aims and Objectives of Survey Research (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2874044&include_contexts=course_1435535)**	12am
Wed Aug 23, 2023	**Evidence of Academic Engagement Quiz (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/assignments/8098269)**	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	Due
Mon Aug 28, 2023	Begin Module/ Week 2: History of Survey Research in Political Science (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2874045&include_contexts=course_1435535)	12am
Mon Sep 4, 2023	Begin Week/Module 3: Modern Political Science Research Based on Surveys (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2874056&include_contexts=course_1435535)	12am
Mon Sep 11, 2023	Begin Week/Module 4: Survey Question Types, Wording, and Order (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2874057&include_contexts=course_1435535)	12am
Mon Sep 18, 2023	Begin Week/Module 5: Scales and Multiple Measures (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2874046&include_contexts=course_1435535)	12am
Mon Sep 25, 2023	Begin Week/Module 6: Consent Documents and Institutional Review (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2874047&include_contexts=course_1435535)	12am
Mon Oct 2, 2023	Begin Week/Module 7: Survey Flow and Randomization (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2874043&include_contexts=course_1435535)	12am
Mon Oct 9, 2023	Begin Week/Module 8: Asking Difficult Questions with Ranges, Lists, and Anchors (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2874049&include_contexts=course_1435535)	12am
Mon Oct 16, 2023	Begin Week/Module 9: Getting Survey Responses - Sample Selection, Non-Participation, and Recruitment (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2874048&include_contexts=course_1435535)	12am
Mon Oct 23, 2023	Begin Week/Module 10: Weighting Observations in Sample (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2874050&include_contexts=course_1435535)	12am
Fri Oct 27, 2023	Submit Critical Essay on Survey Research and Design (by Withdrawal Deadline) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/assignments/8098272)	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	Due
Mon Oct 30, 2023	Begin Week/Module 11 (Describing Survey Results with Tables and Figures) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2874051&include_contexts=course_1435535)	12am
Mon Nov 6, 2023	Begin Week/Module 12 (Communicating Confidence and Uncertainty) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2874052&include_contexts=course_1435535)	12am
Sun Nov 12, 2023	Class Research Project (Submit Sumary of Your Work by 11/12) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/assignments/8098270)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Nov 13, 2023	Begin Week/Module 13 (Making Comparisons and Testing Hypotheses) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2874053&include_contexts=course_1435535)	12am
Mon Nov 20, 2023	Begin Week/Module 14: Generalizing from Online and Student Samples (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2874054&include_contexts=course_1435535)	12am
Wed Nov 22, 2023	Submit Draft Seminar Paper (before Thanksgiving) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/assignments/8098273)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Nov 27, 2023	Begin Week/Module 15: Student Research Presentations (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2874055&include_contexts=course_1435535)	12am
Wed Nov 29, 2023	Two Peer Reviews Due by Nov. 29th (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/assignments/8165018)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Dec 3, 2023	Submit Seminar Paper (due by Dec. 3rd) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/assignments/8098274)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Dec 4, 2023	Online Class Discussion (gradebook entry) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1435535/assignments/8098271)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Dec 13, 2023	Grades due to UCF by noon (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2895312&include_contexts=course_1435535)	12am