OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE INFORMATION

Students are advised to keep course outlines in personal files for future use.

Shaded headings are subject to change at the discretion of the department – see course syllabus available from instructor

SOC 357
Social, Cultural and Media Studies
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COURSE NAME/NUMBER
FACULTY/DEPARTMENT
UFV CREDITS
Advanced Research Methods

COURSE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course is a special topics course designed as an in-depth exploration of how to collect and analyze sociological data using one or two specific research methodologies. Methods covered will vary from semester to semester and may include, but are not limited to, comparative-historical methods, network analysis, visual sociology, grounded theory, and evaluation research.

PREREQUISITES: SOC 255/MACS 255/ANTH 255. Note: As of January 2015, prerequisites will change to the following: 45 university-level credits to include one of SOC 255/ANTH 255/MACS 255, GEOG 252, CRIM 220, or equivalent.

COREQUISITES:

SYNONYMOUS COURSE(S):
(a) Replaces: 
(b) Cross-listed with:  
(c) Cannot take: for further credit.

TOTAL HOURS PER TERM: 60

TRAINING DAY-BASED INSTRUCTION:
Length of course:
Hours per day:

STRUCTURE OF HOURS:

Lectures: 45 Hrs
Seminar: 15 Hrs
Laboratory: Hrs
Field experience: Hrs
Student directed learning: Hrs
Other (specify): Hrs

OTHER:

Maximum enrolment: 25
Expected frequency of course offerings: Once every 18 months (every semester, annually, every other year, etc.)

WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (lower-level courses only)  
☐ Yes ☐ No

WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (upper-level requested by department)  
☒ Yes ☐ No

TRANSFER CREDIT EXISTS IN BCCAT TRANSFER GUIDE:  
☐ Yes ☐ No

Course designer(s): Chantelle Marlor revised by Gabriela Pechlaner

Department Head: Stephen Piper

Campus-Wide Consultation (CWC)

Curriculum Committee chair: Amanda McCormick

Dean/Associate VP: Jacqueline Nolte

Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval

Date approved: August 23, 2013

Date of meeting: August 30, 2013

Date approved: September 13, 2013

Date approved: September 13, 2013

Date approved: September 27, 2013
LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
- Outline the research method(s) covered
- Design a research project that draws on the methods discussed in class
- Evaluate existing research that employs the methods covered in the course
- Compare and contrast research methods discussed, and identify their strengths and weaknesses
- Analyze the effectiveness of the student’s research methodology for their own research project

METHODS: (Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)
Lectures, discussions, video clips, and possibly field trips and guest lectures.

METHODS OF OBTAINING PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):
☐ Examination(s) ☐ Portfolio assessment ☐ Interview(s)
☐ Other (specify): Methods will be considered on a case-by-case basis
☐ PLAR cannot be awarded for this course for the following reason(s):

TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:
[Textbook selection varies by instructor. An example of texts for this course might be:]

SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:

STUDENT EVALUATION:
[An example of student evaluation for this course might be:]
Book review #1 of book/article using comparative-historical methodology 15%
Book review #2 of book/article using comparative-historical methodology 15%
Research proposal 30%
Final exam 30%
Participation and in-class assignments 10%

COURSE CONTENT:
[Course content varies by instructor. An example of course content might be:]
Weeks 1 - 2: Overview and history of historical-comparative research methods
Week 3: When historical-comparative methods are useful and appropriate
Week 4: Discussion of examples of research using comparative-historical methods
Week 5: Necessary and sufficient causes
Week 6: Concept analysis and „cases”
Week 7: „Big N,” „small N,” single and negative cases
Week 8: Issues related to using qualitative and/or quantitative approaches to comparative-historical methods
Weeks 9 - 10: Specific techniques including typology analysis, process analysis, and contingency (or path-dependency) analysis
Weeks 11 - 12: Reliability and validity issues
Week 13: Discussion: student research projects