

HDE 220: Research Methods in Human Growth and Development

Winter 2019 Syllabus

Course Description

Meeting Time: Monday 2:10-6pm

Meeting Location: Huch 75

Instructor: Patricia Roberson

Email: proberson@ucdavis.edu

Office: 1361 Hart Hall

Office Hours: By appointment

Text: Morling, Beth (2017). Research Methods in Psychology 3rd edition: <https://books.wwnorton.com/books/webad.aspx?id=4294994958>

Course Description and Goals:

This course is an introduction to research methods and a review of basic statistics for the study of human development. Major topics include: the developmental perspective; research design; measurement; descriptive statistics; hypothesis testing; mean differences; analysis of variance; reliability and factor analysis; correlation and regression; effect size and power; and basic statistical models for longitudinal data. An undergraduate background in social sciences (such as psychology, human development and family studies) and some coursework in statistics and research methods are assumed.

After completing this course, students should be able to:

- 1) Demonstrate understanding of major methodological issues related to research design, measurement, and statistical analysis and appropriately apply methods to research questions and hypotheses
- 2) Critically evaluate empirical research articles with respects to their developmental conceptualization, design, measurement, and interpretation of results
- 3) Use statistical software to conduct basic statistical analysis and interpret the results

Grading:

20% Class Participation, 40% Assignments/Presentations, 40% Final Grant Proposal

Class participation: Students are expected to read all assigned readings carefully before class and contribute actively to class discussions.

Assignments: There will be several assignments to be completed outside of class time and presentations in class. Each research team is expected to turn in ONE assignment / give one presentation. IF group members do not share work evenly, please alert me and I will grade accordingly.

Final Grant Proposal: The final proposal is due MARCH 22nd. Each research team will turn in one grant packet in email.