A. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Associate Professor Thatchai Pitaneelaboot
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B. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PRIMARY OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to expose students to a fundamental basis of research method and quantitative analysis. The goal is to enable students to conduct their own research. The specific course objectives include:

1. Providing a more complete knowledge of different research methods.
2. Being familiar with statistical tools involved in the social science.
3. Being able to appreciate research presented in articles, newspapers, journals, and reports.
4. Understanding the effort involved in planning and participating in social science research.

C. INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL

This course involves extensive reading, individual assignments, and completion of a directed research project. Each week students must complete a critical paper on the assigned readings. Students are also required to complete a research project before the end of the class.

D. RESEARCH PAPER

Students are required to complete a research project due by October 27. The research paper must be in a standard format. The research topics will be discussed on the first day of the class.
E. CRITICAL PAPERS

A critical paper not to exceed five typewritten double spaced pages will be due each week (every Thursday) covering the readings for the prior week. Critical papers should provide a synopsis and brief analysis of the reading assignments.

F. GRADING

Final grades will be compiled based on the following scale:

- Critical Papers: 20%
- Extra Assignments: 20%
- Research Project: 40%
- Final Examination: 20%

G. REQUIRED TEXT AND READING ASSIGNMENTS


H. COURSE SYLLABUS

Week # 1 (September 15)

- Bachman and Schutt: Chapter 1-2
- McKean and Byers: Chapter 1

Week # 2 (September 22)

- Bachman and Schutt: Chapter 3-4
- McKean and Byers: Chapter 2
- Pope et al.: Chapter 11, 13

Assignment: Critical Paper I due
Week # 3 (September 29)

- Bachman and Schutt: Chapter 5-6
- McKean and Byers: Chapter 3-4
- Pope et al.: Chapter 2, 5

Assignment:  **Critical Paper II due**  
**Literature Review due**

Week # 4 (October 6)

- Bachman and Schutt: Chapter 7-8
- McKean and Byers: Chapter 5
- Pope et al.: Chapter 7, 15

Assignment:  **Critical Paper III due**  
**Methodology due**

Week #5 (October 13)

- Bachman and Schutt: Chapter 9-10
- McKean and Byers: Chapter 6-7
- Pope et al.: Chapter 1, 15

Assignment:  **Critical Paper IV due**

Week #6 (October 20)

- Bachman and Schutt: Chapter 11-12
- McKean and Byers: Chapter 8-9
- Pope et al.: Chapter 8, 10

Assignment:  **Critical Paper V due**  
**Research Draft due**

Week # 7 (October 27)

- Final Examination

Assignment:  **Final Research Paper due**
Academic Honesty:
http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty

Disabled Student Policy:
http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/811006.html

Services for Disabled Students:
http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html

Student Absences on Religious Holy Day Policy:
http://www.shsu.edu/catalog/scholasticrequirements.html#holyday