Fall 2015
Course Title: Research Design
Course Number: HECC 5303
Credits: 3 Hrs.
Days/Hours of Class: Tuesday 5:00pm - 7:45pm and online
Room: HPC 3010 and virtual

Instructor Information
Benjamin Tseng, Ph.D., Assistant Professor and Graduate Research Faculty
Office Room: HPC 2245
Phone: 903.566.7042
Email Address: btseng@uttyler.edu
Emergency Number: 903.566.7031 (Sarah Cowan)
Office Hours: Tuesday 4:00pm-5:00pm Wednesday 10:00am-11:00am

Required Textbooks

Catalog Description:
Study of designs commonly employed in clinical research, exercise sciences, health studies, and nursing.

Course Goal: To explore different research approaches commonly used in the scientific setting, to review research studies with critical thinking skills, and to facilitate self-directed application of research methods.

Course Calendar
This semester begins on Tuesday, August 24 and ends on Friday, December 11, 2015.

Learning Outcomes: At the completion of this course the student will be able to:
1. Describe the strengths and weaknesses of various types of research methods used in the clinical research fields.
2. Discuss and understand the differences between quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods research.
3. Understand research strategy, design a study that best fits the scientific question, collect, analyze, and interpret data.
4. Discuss ethical issues involved in research design.
5. Critically evaluate science in general.
6. Express him/herself clearly via a manuscript.
Course Procedures:  
Offered in a Hybrid i.e. Face-to-Face and Online via Blackboard  
Please read this syllabus carefully and in its entirety. I strongly recommend that you refer to the syllabus frequently throughout the course. Note that we shall be meeting face-to-face only once a week and the other time you are required to do your work via blackboard.

Methods of Instruction:  
Student learning experiences to include but not limited to: a) lectures with related discussion encouraged, b) classroom demonstrations, c) problem solving situations and laboratory experiences individually and in groups, d) observation and analysis of motor learning and performance, e) reading designated textbook and supplementary material upon assignment. f) Online engagement via blackboard through audio lectures, PowerPoint’s, YouTube, blogs, journals, wikis and discussion board.

Participation: Participation and in-class discussion is a vital part of your grade. Therefore, to be a competent, alert participator, means that you are a consumer of reports, articles and assigned chapters. On-line students will need a camera attached to their computer for real-time viewing, as well as a speaker or microphone so that everyone can hear you. If you don’t have these hardware pieces, there is a good chance that you will be counted absent.

A few points of your participation grade will be through a Blackboard Discussion board which accepts posted questions, comments, experiences, attachments, or suggestions that stand outside of time (like blogging).

If you have a question or problem outside of the class, ask it using the Blackboard Discussion board (not by sending the instructor e-mails). Others will benefit if this procedure is followed. And, please chime-in if you have a suggestion to someone else’s problem.

Communication  
• Please feel free to contact me throughout the semester, by email, phone, or in person.  
• Every email you send to me related to the course should have “HECC 5303” in the subject line.  
• When communicating via emails, please do so professionally and formally. I prefer to be addressed by my credential as Dr. Tseng.  
• Please note that I may or may not reply to email on weekends (Friday late afternoon till Monday morning).

Students are required to use their Patriot email accounts for course work. If all is working properly, your Patriot email address will be automatically loaded into Blackboard for this course. Therefore, it is essential that you check your Patriot account on a regular basis.

Learning Philosophy: This is a class that emphasizes independent reading, planning, writing, thinking, and work. Illumination will come from iteration and discussions. Be prepared to discuss and to be challenged. Again, there is a lot of reading to do!!! To have a good discussion, one must read the assigned texts; the texts MUST BE READ in a regular and timely manner.
Course Expectations:
1) Attend class, participate and complete all reading assignments.
2) Professionalism is expected, when communicating via emails, please do so professionally and formally. I prefer to be addressed by my credential as Dr. Tseng.
3) Please don’t send text messages or check social media in class. If you are expecting an important call, please let me know before class and take the call outside of class.

Course Schedule
Follow weekly announcement on Blackboard.

Grading
1. Discussion/Participation – 400 pts

2. Research Portfolio, consists of the following components:
   • Literature Review – 200 pts
   • Abstract – 100 pts
   • Final Research/Grant Proposal – 200 pts
   • Presentation – 100 pts
   **Total Possible Points – 1,000 pts**


Course Outline
Very important information is provided in the "Announcements" in Blackboard (link located in the navigation bar on the left side of the screen in the course). The “Announcements, Course Materials, Discussion Board” links on your blackboard page will have most of your learning tasks including information about assigned reading, assignments and other important information pertaining to what you are supposed to contribute. Please familiarize yourself with these links, as well as wikis, tools and checking your grade as you will use them a lot throughout the semester.

Please pay close attention to assignment instructions. Doing exactly what is instructed for a given assignment will greatly improve your chances of getting a good grade on the assignment. Close attention should also be paid to the method of submitting completed assignments. Different assignments will be submitted in different ways, including uploading (copying a file) in the Assignments area of the course, posting in a designated forum on the Discussion Board, and sending as an email attachment. Be sure to submit each completed assignment according to that assignment's instructions.

Library Services UT Tyler’s Muntz Library may be accessed via http://library.uttyler.edu/. A link to the Muntz Library is also available on UT Tyler’s Home Page (www.uttyler.edu).

Technical Support
UT Tyler’s IT Support department provides technical support for this online course. Information about technical support for Blackboard and this online course is available on your Blackboard login page (http://ccs.uttyler.edu/?page=blackboard). You are welcome to inform me if you have technical difficulties, but I will not likely be able to assist with such difficulties.
SEMMESTER KEY DATES:
1. August 24 – Classes Begin
2. September 4 – Census Date
3. October 26 – Last Day to Withdraw
4. November 23-28 – Thanksgiving Holiday
5. December 12 – End of Term

University Policies (http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/syllabuspolicies.pdf)
Handbook of Operating Procedures - The University of Texas at Tyler

Academic Dishonesty Policy

Academic Dishonesty:
At The University of Texas at Tyler, students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an environment that encourages academic integrity. Student and faculty members are required to report an observed or suspected case of academic dishonesty immediately to the faculty member in charge of an examination, classroom or laboratory research project, or other academic exercise.

Since the value of an academic degree depends on the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for the degree, it is imperative that the student maintains a high standard of individual honor in scholastic work. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, and collusion:

“Cheating” includes:
1. Copying from the paper of another student, engaging in written, oral, or any other means of communication with another student, or giving aid to or receiving aid from another student when not permitted by the instructor;
2. Using material during an examination or when completing an assignment that is not authorized by the person giving the examination or making the work assignment;
3. Taking or attempting to take an examination for another student, or allowing another student to take an examination for oneself;
4. Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means, the whole or any part of, an unadministered examination or work assignment.

“Plagiarism” includes the unacknowledged incorporation of the work of another person in work that a student offers for credit.

“Collusion” includes the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work that a student offers for credit.

Grade Appeal Procedure
A student who wishes to contest a grade given by an instructor must initiate the procedure by contacting the instructor who assigned the grade. The instructor and the student should informally review the criteria for assignment of grades and the student's performance. The instructor may affirm the grade or revise the grade. If the student is not satisfied after the informal discussion with the instructor, then the student may initiate a formal grade appeal by completing a Grade Appeal Form that may be obtained from the Office of Student Records. Normal grade appeals should be filed at the earliest date possible, but no later than six months
from the final date of assignment. The instructor and the student should complete the appropriate parts of the form clearly indicating the instructor’s rationale for the grade given and the student’s basis for the grade appeal. At each administrative level of the appeal process, an attempt will be made to resolve the issue. If the instructor holds one of the administrative positions used in the appeal process, then that level is omitted. If no resolution is reached at a particular level, then the appeal is forwarded with the recommendation of the administrator at that level with all documentation. If the appeal is to be considered by the vice president for academic affairs, then a copy of the Grade Appeal Form shall be forwarded by the academic dean of the student. The Office of the President is the final step in the appeal process at The University of Texas at Tyler.

**Students Rights and Responsibilities**
To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: [http://www.uttler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php](http://www.uttler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php)

**Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies**
Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at [http://www.uttler.edu/registrar](http://www.uttler.edu/registrar). Each semester’s Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:
- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

**State-Mandated Course Drop Policy**
Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.
Disability Services
In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, PTSD or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources office and schedule an interview with the Accessibility Case Manager/ADA Coordinator, Cynthia Lowery Staples. If you are unsure if the above criteria applies to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to cstaples@uttyler.edu

Student Absence due to Religious Observance
Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities
If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement:
It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation:
Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor’s directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.