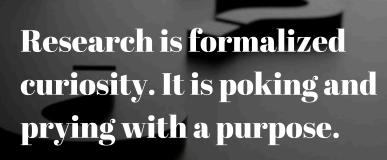
# RESEARCH METHODS

CRIJ 4322 | FALL 2025

Undergraduate Course Syllabus



- Zora Neale Hurston

This syllabus was created to provide you with an overview of the learning expectations for this course. Additional assignment details, student resources, and UT Tyler policies and Information are provided on Canvas.

# This course meets on campus in CAS 210 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30PM - 4:50PM.

#### DR. DANIELLE BAILEY

My office is in the College of Arts & Sciences building, Office 135A. You can reach me at **dbailey@uttyler.edu** or 903.566.7432. My personal Zoom Meeting room ID is my office phone number.

I hold Open Office Hours on Tues/Thurs from 1:30PM to 3:00PM. During these times, I will be available in my office for student walk-in help, questions, and assistance. You can also schedule an appointment with me as needed. Please email appointment requests.



# **Course Description**

This course provides a basic introduction to the principles, methods, and techniques of empirical social research. Topics include the fundamentals of the scientific method and scientific inquiry, ethical considerations in research, basic methods of quantitative and qualitative data collection, and strengths and weaknesses of various data collection methods. The course is designed to make you a more informed consumer of scientific research through discussion, analysis, and hands-on practice.

# Syllabus Contents

Page 2	Learning Objectives & Course
	Materials

Page 3 Course Assignments

Page 5 Grading Scale

Page 6 Dr. Bailey's Information

Page 7 Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policies

Page 8 Course Schedule

Page 9 Student Resources

7



# Course Learning Objectives

By the completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Apply ethical guidelines to research proposals to identify potential risks such as harm to participants, lack of informed consent, and voluntary participation concerns
- Create a real-world measurement by conceptualizing and operationalizing an abstract concept into a specific survey measure
- Explain why research designs often deviate from ideal standards, including use of non-probability sampling, non-random assignment, lack of control groups, etc.
- Evaluate the reliability and validity of a research study based on its research design, sampling methods, data collection instrument, and analysis technique
- Construct a web-based survey to analyze the relationship between two variables
- Analyze variables using univariate and bivariate methods and illustrate your findings with correctly formatted graphs and tables
- Create Al-assisted research products that demonstrate both human judgment and critical evaluation of generative Al output.

# Student Learning Outcomes

This course is a required course for the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice at UT Tyler. Criminal Justice majors will be tested over the contents of this course during CRIJ 4355 (Senior Seminar), with the expectation that you can interpret and evaluate published research data as well as design and implement survey research on your own. For this reason, I recommend keeping all notes, readings, and assignment materials as future study aids.

# Open Educational Resources

# There are no required textbooks for this class!

This class is taught using Open Educational Resources (OER), meaning that you will be able to access all of the assigned readings for this course without paying anything. There are multiple OER resources used during this course. All readings are provided on Canvas as PDF files that you can download, print, and/or read online.

This course uses chapter(s) from the following OER textbooks:

- Principles of Sociological Inquiry: Qualitative and Quantitative Methods (2012), Saylor Academy.
- Research Methods for Criminal Justice Students (2022). Monica Williams
- Research Methods for the Social Sciences: An Introduction (n.d.). Valerie Sheppard

# Dr. Bailey's Website

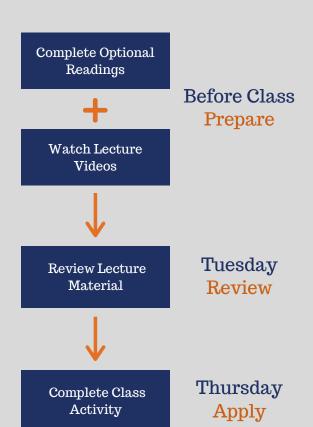
Additional instructional materials are provided for you on the Research Methods section of Dr. Bailey's website (link below). Use of Dr. Bailey's website is not required but is highly recommended for students seeking additional instruction or assistance with the course material.



# **Course Assignments**

# Flipped Classroom

Welcome to our flipped classroom! This means you will review lecture materials before coming to class, allowing us to spend our class time on engaging, hands-on activities that are designed to deepen your understanding of the content. In order to make the most of class activities, it is important to come prepared with study notes and other materials. Regular class attendance is essential. For excused absences and emergencies, please contact me via email as early as possible.



# Lecture Reviews

Lecture Reviews are designed to assess your understanding of core concepts from the material you learned before class. Conceptual questions and small group discussions will be used to help deepen your comprehension and prepare you for future application of core concepts.

# **Class Activities**

Class activities are designed to help you apply the lecture material to real-world problems. A diverse range of activities (writing, hands-on, research, etc.) will be included to appeal to different learning styles and encourage student engagement. All class activities will be graded using a standardized rubric.

# YOU CAN DO ANYTHING YOU BELIEVE YOU CAN. SO ACT LIKE YOU BELIEVE IT.

Octavia Butler



# Research Project

The Research Project is a cumulative course project that is completed via a series of smaller assignments. There are two pathways through the research project: design a hypothetical study in a research proposal (Pathway A), or design a survey and collect your own data (Pathway B). You choose which pathway is best based on your area of interest, desired time spent out of class on research, and your continuing education goals. Both pathways will include an oral presentation and written assignments.



# Writing in the Course:

This course contains several writing assignments, and I encourage you to use the UT Tyler Writing Center for assistance. They offer on-campus (CAS 202) or online appointments with trained writing tutors that can help you revise and edit your written assignments before you submit them.

Make an appointment TODAY!

<u>Writing Center Website</u>

# **Project Pathways**

There are two pathways through the research project.

#### Pathway A: Hypothetical Study

This pathway requires you to brainstorm and assess three unique methodologies to answer your research question. This pathway has more research and writing requirements than Pathway B.

- Topic Selection (5 points)
- CITI Certificate (25 points)
- Research with Al Bibliography (50 points)
- Meeting with Dr. Bailey (25 points)
- Presentation Work Day (10 points)
- Proposal Presentation (100 points)
- Research Proposal (75 points)

#### **Pathway B: Survey Project**

This pathway requires you to design and disseminate a survey to answer a research question. This pathway requires data analysis and more outside of class time than Pathway A.

- Topic Selection (5 points)
- CITI Certificate (25 points)
- Meeting with Dr. Bailey (25 points)
- Survey Research Proposal (100 points)
- Presentation Work Day (10 points)
- Findings Presentation (100 points)
- Data Analysis Files (25 points)



# Research Project

#### Pathway A

Topic Selection 5 points
CITI Certificate 25 points
Research with AI Bibliography 50 points
Proposal Meeting 25 points
Proposal Word Day 10 points
Proposal Presentation 100 points
Research Proposal 75 points

#### Pathway B

Topic Selection 5 points
CITI Certificate 25 points
Proposal Meeting 25 points
Proposal and Survey 100 points
Proposal Work Day 10 points
Findings Presentation 100 points
Data Analysis Files 25 points

#### Research Project Points:

**290** 

# **Individual Assignments**

Lecture Video Quizzes

Lecture Review (drop lowest)

Class Activities (drop lowest)

Exam #1

100 points

Exam #2

100 points

100 points

100 points

**Individual Assignment Points:** 

710

# **Grading Scale**

900 or more points A 800 - 899 points B 700 - 799 points C 600 - 699 points D Less than 600 points F

Total Points Possible

1,000



# **Assignment Submissions**

All assignments will be submitted during class or Canvas. Due dates for all assignments are provided in the detailed Course Schedule, available in the Welcome Module of the Canvas course. I encourage you to use the Canvas Calendar to keep track of the course assignments and upcoming deadlines.

# My Response Time

I try to respond to all emails and voicemails within one business day. I reserve weekends, holidays, and school breaks for may family, so response time may be longer at these times. I try to grade all assignments, activities, and exams within two weeks of the due date. Much of the time you will be able to see grades sooner that the times listed. However, there are times when it takes longer to grade assignments, so please be patient if you do not see your grades immediately.

# **Open Office Hours**

I hold Open Office Hours each week. During these times, I can go over assignments, discuss quizzes/exams, and answer any questions about course material. When I am holding Open Office Hours, I will be available in my campus office (CAS 135A) unless I have informed you otherwise. If you are unable to visit me during my scheduled office hours and need help, please feel free to contact me via email and set up an appointment. I can set up on-campus or video-conferencing appointments as necessary.

# Late Assignments

I do not accept late written assignments in this course. However, I recognize that life sometimes interferes in your plans, so there are multiple assignments that can be dropped without penalty. Canvas will automatically drop the lowest lecture review and class activity score. This means you can miss up to two class periods (one week of class) without a reduction in points. Additionally, the lecture video quizzes can be completed late without penalty, so even if you miss class you can still receive the class concepts from that module.

If life circumstances arise that will cause substantial disruption to your workload beyond these accommodations, please reach out to me to discuss possible alternatives.

# It always seems impossible until it's done.

- Nelson Mandela

# I'm Here to Help You Succeed



During the course, if you experience any situation that impacts your physical, mental, or emotional health, please reach out to me by email. My goal is to help you be successful in the course, so I am happy to discuss alternative options if it becomes necessary.



# Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policies

# UT Tyler's AI Policy

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

# Dr. Bailey's AI Policy

In this course, I encourage you to use AI programs (ChatGPT, Copilot, etc.) to help you complete your coursework. These programs can be powerful tools for learning and other productive pursuits, including completing assignments in less time, helping you generate new ideas, and serving as a personalized learning tool. However, your ethical responsibilities as a student remain the same. You must follow UT Tyler's Honor Code and uphold the highest standards of academic honesty. This applies to all uncited or improperly cited content, whether created by a human

# Citing AI Sources

You must acknowledge your use of Artificial Intelligence programs in your written work using proper APA format. See below.

# In-text citation

(Copilot, 2024)

#### Reference citation

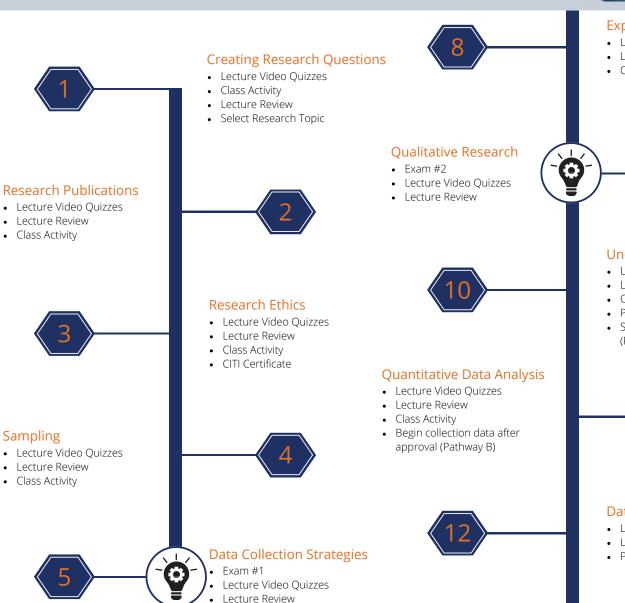
Copilot. (2024). Microsoft Copilot (Sep 1 version) [Large language model]. https://copilot.microsoft.com/

Learn more about APA format and AI sources: <u>How to cite ChatGPT</u>

or in collaboration with an AI tool. If you use an AI tool to develop content for an assignment, you must cite the tool's contribution to your work. Because AI-generate content is not necessarily accurate or appropriate, you must assess the validity and applicability of any submitted AI output. You will not earn full credit if inaccurate, invalid, or inappropriate information is found in your work.

Written assignments in this course will require the completion of an AI Use Reflection Handout, even if you did not use AI for the assignment. This handout will guide you through a brief reflection on how, if at all, generative AI tools (like ChatGPT, Copilot, etc.) supported your work. The completed handout may be submitted as a separate page at the end of your assignment, uploaded as an additional document, or pasted into the Canvas submission comments.

# CLASSIE ELECTRICATION OF THE SCIENCE OF THE SCIENCE



#### **Experimental Designs**

- Lecture Video Quizzes
- Lecture Review
- Class Activity



#### Unobtrusive Research

- Lecture Video Quizzes
- Lecture Review
- Class Activity
- Proposal Meeting (Pathway A)
- Survey Research Proposal (Pathway B)



#### Data Visualization

- Lecture Video Quizzes
- Lecture Review
- Presentation Work Day

#### Measurement

- Lecture Video Quizzes
- Class Activity



- Survey ResearchLecture Video Quizzes
- Lecture Review
- Class Activity
- Research with Al Bibliography (Pathway A)
- Proposal Meeting (Pathway B)

• Proposal Presentations (Pathway A)

Presentations
• Exam #3

 Findings Presentation (Pathway B)



# 14

#### Presentations

- Proposal Presentations (Pathway A)
- Findings Presentation (Pathway B)



#### Finals Week

- Hypothetical Research Proposal (Pathway A)
- Data Analysis Files (Pathway B)





#### College of Arts & Sciences Advising

College of Arts & Sciences (CAS) 215 903.565.7389 advising@uttyler.edu

#### **Bookstore**

University Center (UC) 903.566.7070 bookstore@uttyler.edu

## **Technology Support Center**

University Service Center (USC) 118 help.uttyler.edu itsupport@uttyler.edu

## **Muntz Library**

Robert R. Muntz Library (LIB) 903.566.7343 library@uttyler.edu

## Military & Veterans Success Center

University Center (UC) 3440 903.565.5972 mvsc@uttyler.edu

# **Patriot Pantry**

Muntz Library (LIB) 223 patriotspantry@uttyler.edu

## Student Accessibility and Resources

Rober T. Muntz Library (LIB) 460 903.565.7079 saroffice@uttyler.edu

# **Student Counseling Center**

University Center (UC) 3170 903.565.5746 (online appointments available) counselingandwellness@uttyler.edu

## University Health Clinic

University Health Clinic (UHC) 903.939.7870 wellness@uttyler.edu

#### **UT** Tyler Police Department

University Service Center (USC) 125 903.566.7300 police@uttyler.edu

# **Writing Center**

College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) 212 uttyler.mywconline.com (online scheduling) writingcenter@uttyler.edu

# One Stop Service Center

Stewart Hall (STE) 230 903.566.7180 enroll@uttyler.edu or cashiers@uttyler.edu One Stop Service Center includes:

- Cashier's Office
- Enrollment Services
- Financial Aid
- Student Business
   Services



Crisis Help Line Available 24/7 903.566.7254