

LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF INDIGENOUS LEARNING

INDI 3100 YA

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Instructor: Prof. D. McPherson

Fall/Winter,
2008/2009

Office: RB-3020

Hours: 1:00 - 3:00 M/W

Phone: 807-343-8984

Email: dennis.mcpherson@lakeheadu.ca

Time: Wednesdays: 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Room: RB 3049

I COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course examines the principles of research design and organization as they apply to Indigenous Learning. In this vein methods used in planning and conducting research will be experienced. Students will be required to analyze and display data using qualitative and quantitative techniques in a final report.

II COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To enable students to become better consumers of others' research and to gain access to more research findings.
2. To give students an understanding of the type of thinking involved in research.
3. To teach students the concepts and terminology researchers use.
4. To provide students with a foundation for further study and work as professional researchers.
5. To prepare students so that they can conduct small-scale research projects on their own.¹

¹. Neuman, W. Lawrence, Social Research Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches, 3rd Ed., (Toronto: Allyn and Bacon, 1997), p. xiv.

III INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:

The course content will be delivered through lectures, guest speakers, films, video tapes, class discussions and participatory observations. Each student is required to have access to an IBM compatible computer meeting the following system requirement. A 486-based PC or better; Windows 95, Windows NT 3.51 or NT 4.0; 12MB of RAM minimum; 16MB strongly recommended for Windows 95, 20MB recommended for Windows NT; 45MB hard drive; VGA monitor; SVGA strongly recommended; Math co-processor.

IV REQUIRED TEXT BOOKS:

Neuman, W. Lawrence, Basics of Social Research: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches, Canadian Edition, (Toronto: Pearson, 2007).

RECOMMENDED TEXT BOOKS:

Smith, Linda Tuhiwai, Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples, (New York, St. Martin's Press, 1999).

Ethics, Procedures & Guidelines for Research on Human Subjects, Ethics Advisory Committee to the Senate Research Committee, Lakehead University.

Ethical Principles for the Conduct of Research in the North, Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies, Ottawa, On..

Statistical Program for the Social Sciences, i.e. SPSS 7.5 for Windows, Student Version, minimum.

V ASSIGNMENTS

The following requirements must be met before any grade for the course will be assigned.

- A. All students are required to complete the Introductory Tutorial for the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (TCPS) at the following URL:
<http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/english/tutorial/>

A certificate of completion of the tutorial must be provided.

- B. All Students are required to submit a written proposal outlining their chosen research topic for ethical review.
 1. Literature Review:

In addition to choosing a particular research topic in

consultation with the professor each student is required to complete a literature review on the chosen topic.

2. Mid-term Test:

An in-class test will be given in the Fall term.

3. Survey Instrument:

Each student will complete the design, pretest and circulation of a survey instrument.

4. Data Analysis:

Each student will code their survey instrument and enter the results of their survey on computer.

5. Final Report:

Each student will complete a Final Report of their research project.

VI COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:

1. Tutorial	5
2. Proposal	5
3. Literature review	10
4. Mid-term test	20
5. Survey instrument design	10
6. Data analysis	20
7. Final report	30
Total:	<u>100%</u>

VII DUE DATES:

Tutorial	October 15, 2008
Proposal	October 29, 2008
Literature Review	November 13, 2008
Class test	November 26, 2008
Survey Instrument Design	February 11, 2009

FINAL DUE DATE:

Final Report **April 14, 2009**
Reports will not be accepted after the due date.