RESEARCH ON RELATIONSHIPS AND HEALTH IN LATINO POPULATIONS
Chicano/Latino Studies 179
Winter 2019
Mondays 9:00–11:50AM
Social Science Tower 318

PROFESSOR
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SEMINAR OBJECTIVES AND OVERVIEW OF REQUIREMENTS

This course is designed with two primary goals: 1) to provide hands-on experience in research methodology, and 2) to provide a background in and review the literature on culture, relationships, and health that is relevant to the ongoing projects in the lab.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Fulfillment of Research Hours (65% of grade)
Much of this course is hands-on – meaning you’ll be working in the lab on ongoing research projects related to culture, relationships, and health. You will be scheduled to come into the lab for 8-10 hours per week. As part of your lab work, you may be required to prepare for study sessions, run sessions, work on data entry/cleaning, recruit participants, or otherwise assist with the research projects.

Participation in Research Seminar (20% of grade)
We will be reading one article each week and/or listening to a research presentation. These papers and presentations are designed to give you additional background and a theoretical understanding of CRH areas of research – in other words, to help you understand why we are conducting the research we are conducting. You should come to the seminar prepared to discuss the readings; bring any questions or comments you might have! To encourage critical thinking and engagement with the material (not just passive absorption of it), you will be submitting via e-mail 2-3 questions you wish to discuss that arise from the weekly reading assignment by 8:30am each Monday (earlier, like end of day Friday, is fine too). No late submissions. Each question should provide some background about how the readings prompted the question. Bring the questions to class (via computer or print out) and be prepared to amend/reflect afterward based on class discussion (e.g., did it change your question or make you think about a topic differently?). The amended version can be turned in any time before the next scheduled class meeting.
Final Paper (15% of grade)
At the end of the quarter, you will be writing a short paper (approx. 5 double-spaced pages), that either (1) critiques a paper on your topic of interest or (2) describes a research study you would like to carry out. Your choice. The only requirement is that you pick a topic related to the ongoing research in the lab. For example, your study could focus on culture, emotion, family, friend or romantic relationships, mental or physical health – basically anything that interests you and is related in some way to our research projects. You should cite at least 3 empirical articles in your paper. We’ll talk about this assignment in more detail toward the middle of the quarter, but don’t hesitate to talk to me about your ideas – I’d be happy to share references and help you get started! These papers are due by 5:00 PM on March 22.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1: January 7th
Organizational Meeting
Sapolsky talk on video

Week 2: January 14th
Overview of culture, relationships, health

Readings:


Week 3: January 21st

No Class. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday – Go do some service!

Week 4: January 28th
Conducting Laboratory Studies of Culture, Relationships, and Health

Readings:


**Week 5: February 4th**

Data: Cleaning, Prepping, Analyzing, etc.

- Basic Data Cleaning: online studies, behavior, physiology
- Basic Data Analysis: online studies, behavior, physiology

Discuss how to plan your analysis!

**Sample Readings That Use These Methods:** *(Skim for methods and data analysis)*


**Week 6: February 11th**

Substantive topics in culture, relationship, and health


**Week 7: February 18**

No Class. President’s Day Holiday

**Week 8: February 25**

Finding your research topic/research question


**Week 9: March 4**

Special Presentation: Karina Corona, current study at the intersection of culture, relationships and health and journey to her research program

**Week 10: March 11**

Special Presentation: Amanda Acevedo, current study at the intersection of culture, relationships and health and journey to her research program

*PAPERS DUE on March 22