



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND
EASTERN SHORE

SCHOOL of PHARMACY AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS
Department of Rehabilitation

Course Syllabus RECN 643: Research Methods and Program Evaluation

General Information

Program : Master of Science Rehabilitation Counseling
 Academic Term :
 Course Codification : RECN 643
 Course Title : Research methods and program evaluation
 Credit Hours : 3 (45 contact hours)
 Learning Modality :
 Class Time :
 Class Location :
 Instructor :
 Email :
 Phone :
 Office Location :
 Office Hours :
 Program Assistant :
 Email :
 Phone :

Course Description

This course examines research methods, statistical concepts, and program evaluation as they apply to the rehabilitation counseling professional. Students will learn about research methods basic statistical concepts, and the use of statistical database. Students will develop critical thinking skills and learn to understand an apply rehabilitation and popular research in their professional practice, as well as learn to collect, manage, and analyze data.

Add/Drop

Process	Last day
Add/drop period ends	February 6, 2023 (5:00 pm)
Withdrawal period ends (W)	April 14, 2023 (5:00 pm)
Withdrawal (All classes)	May 12, 2022 (5:00 pm)

See Academic Calendar Spring [2023](#) for further important dates and deadlines.

University Support Services

The University recognizes that students could need some help outside of class and offers academic assistance through several offices. In addition to talking with your instructor and advisor, we recommend you contact the Center for Access and Academic Success (CAAS) for help with your academic studies.

Course Objectives and Key Performance Indicators

KPI-8: Graduates will recognize the importance of research to advance the counseling profession, including critical reasoning of research to inform counseling practice.

Course Objectives	CACREP Standard	Assessment
1. Articulate the importance of research in advancing the counseling profession, including how to critique research to inform counseling practice.	2F-8a	
2. Identify evidence-based counseling practices.	2F-8b	
3. Apply concepts of needs assessments.	2F-8c	
4. Understand the development of outcome measures for counseling programs.	2F-8d	
5. Argue the importance of evaluation of counseling interventions and programs.	2F-8e	
6. List qualitative, quantitative, and mixed research methods (2F-8f).		
7. Identify designs used in research and program evaluation (2F-8g).		
8. List statistical methods used in conducting research and program evaluation (2F-8h).		
9. Incorporate analysis and use of data in counseling (2F-8i).		
10. Integrate ethical and culturally relevant strategies for conducting, interpreting, and reporting the results of research and/or program evaluation (2F-8j).		

Resources

Required textbook	Houser R. (2019). <i>Counseling and educational research: Evaluation and application</i> (4th ed). Sage.
Complimentary texts	Cozby, P. C. (2018). <i>Methods in behavioral research</i> (13th ed.). McGraw-Hill Higher Education.

Recommended References and Resources	American Psychological Association. (2020). <i>Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association</i> . (7th ed.). The Author.
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Evaluation strategies

1. **Research question proposal outline (10 points)**

This outline will be the foundation for your group research project. The outline should include your research question(s), a rationale for the value and importance of your study, and the proposed methodology (how you will answer your question). The methodology should include a description of the participants, data collection procedures, etc.

2. **APA style literature review (100 points)**

A literature review is a survey of scholarly sources (such as books, journal articles, and theses) on a particular topic. It gives an overview of key findings, concepts, and developments in relation to a research problem or question. A good literature review doesn't just summarize sources—it aims to:

- Analyze, interpret, and critically evaluate the literature
- Synthesize sources to highlight patterns, themes, conflicts, and gaps
- Show the state of current knowledge in relation to a central research question or hypothesis

Minimum of 10-15 references required. These may include books and/or professional journal articles, internet sources (correctly cited), etc. Papers should follow the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). The paper will submit to SafeAssign on Blackboard where it will be checked for accuracy and plagiarism. Papers that are more than 20% plagiarized will influence the final grade.

3. **Research project proposal (20 points including literature review)**

Students will complete a 7–10-pages research proposal on a pertinent issue in rehabilitation counseling. Your paper should include an **introduction**, **literature review**, **proposed methodology**, and **proposed analysis**. This project can be a quantitative, qualitative, or mixed methods project. It is strongly encouraged for you to gather data and carry out the project. You will only need to complete the components mentioned earlier. Each group member will individually upload.

4. **Online quizzes (50 points)**

Students will have online assessments administered on each chapter during the semester to assess their acquisition and understanding of course content.

NOTE: Evaluation criteria or due dates might be changed by the professor based on the academic semester or administrative challenges. Any changes will be communicated to students in the Announcement section on CANVAS.

Grading scale: The academic achievement of a student for this course is rated as follows:

Letter Grade	Points	Average	Performance Level
A	450-500	90-100	Exceed expectations
B	400-449	80-89	Meet expectations
C	350-399	70-79	Need a remediation plan
D	349-300	60-69	Does not meet the
F	0-299	below 60	expectations

Late submissions: Students must submit all assignments, quizzes, exams, and evaluation criteria on the designated date. If for any reason the student submits his/her work late, **15 points (15%) will be discounted during the first week.** From two to four late weeks, **20 points (20%) will be discounted.** **Thirty (30) points (30%)** will be discounted for works turned late for five weeks or above. Late submissions will be allowed until two weeks before final exams.

Policies and Norms

- A. Instructional methods:** The University reserves the right to provide instruction through alternative delivery methods, including remote delivery. It also reserves the right to change the delivery method before or during an academic term in the event of a health or safety emergency or other circumstance when it determines that such change is necessary or in the best interests of the campus community. Tuition will not be reduced or refunded if the University changes the instruction method for any or all academic sessions.
- B. Course communication and instructor response time:** Student and instructor will utilize UMES email as the primary source of communication for this course. Faculty will generally respond to all student communication within 48 hours unless a weekend; any email messages received on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday will be addressed on the next business day.

Additionally, students are expected to:

- Log on at least three times a week – on different days to complete weekly assignments, assessments, discussions and/or other weekly deliverables as directed by the instructor and outlined in the syllabus
- Participate in threaded discussions as requested, this means that, in addition to posting a response to the thread topic presented, students are expected to respond to each other and address questions from the instructor and/or other

students. Please, see Discussion Board Guidelines.

If you find that you cannot meet the class minimum discussion requirements due to such a circumstance, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. Be aware of the late submission policy

Students will not be marked present for the course in a particular week if they have not posted on the discussion forum and/or submit an assignment/essay or complete assessment (exam or quiz) if administered in that week.

University policy excuses the absence of students for illness (self or dependent), participation in university activities at the request of university authorities, and compelling circumstances beyond the student's control. Students must submit any request to be absent (preferable in advance) or any explanation for an absence in writing and supply appropriate documentation, i.e., medical documentation. Students with written, excused absences are entitled to a makeup exam at a time mutually convenient for the instructor and student. All students will follow the rules as stated in the UMES Graduate Catalog which involves class attendance. Due to the sensitive nature of the material covered in class, students should be in class at the designated time.

- C. Statement for Accessibility for On-Campus Courses:** If you have a disability for which you may require academic accommodations for this class, please register with the Office of Student Accessibility Services (SAS), located in the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (<https://wwwcp.umes.edu/oie/>), as soon as possible. Students who have an accommodation letter from SAS are encouraged to meet privately with course faculty to discuss the provisions of those accommodations as early in the semester as possible. Faculty receive digital copies of accommodation approval letters.

To qualify for accommodation assistance, students must first register to use accessibility resources in SAS located in the Early Childhood Research Center Suite 1129 (<https://wwwcp.umes.edu/oie/about-the-office/>). Contact via phone at 410-651-6135 or through email at ADA@umes.edu. *Students are encouraged to meet with course faculty at least 7 days prior to the actual need for the accommodation* to help ensure accommodations will be available when needed. However, if you will be in an internship, field clinical, student teaching, or another off-campus setting this semester, please note that approved academic accommodations may not apply. Due to the nature of the online learning environment, be mindful that some accommodations approved for on-campus may not necessarily apply. Please contact the Office of Student Accessibility Services as soon as possible to discuss accommodations needed for access while in this setting (in-class or online).

- D. Religious Observances:** UMES respects the right of its students to observe religious holidays that may necessitate their absence from class or other required university-sponsored activities. Students who wish to observe such holidays should not be

penalized for their absence. However, in academic courses, they are responsible for making up missed work. Please visit

<http://catalog.umes.edu/content.php?catoid=15&navoid=464#class-attendance>

- E. UMES Sexual Misconduct Policy:** UMES faculty are committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students and for the University as a whole. If you have experienced any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. UMES has staff members trained to support survivors in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, and more. The University strongly encourages all students to report any such incidents to the University. Please be aware that all UMES employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as advocates, counselors, clergy, and healthcare providers as listed in the Policy) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the University. Visit <https://www.umes.edu/Student/Pages/Sexual-Misconduct-Policy---Procedures/>

This means that if you tell a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment or sexual violence or other related misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the University's Title IX Coordinator. If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can find a list of resources on the website. For more information about your options at UMES, please visit www.umes.edu/OIE or call us at 410-651-6135 or through email at titleIX@umes.edu.

- F. Attendance:** The University expects all students to take full individual responsibility for their academic work and progress. All students must meet the qualitative and quantitative requirements of each course in their curricula to progress satisfactorily. They are expected to attend classes regularly because consistent attendance offers the most effective opportunity for students to gain command of the concepts and materials of their courses of study. If you are sick, please be certain to let your instructor know so that learning accommodations can be made for you to continue work off campus, if possible. For further information, please visit <http://catalog.umes.edu/content.php?catoid=15&navoid=464#class-attendance>
- G. Incomplete grades:** The grade of "I" (incomplete) is to be given only to students whose work in a course has been qualitatively satisfactory, when because of illness, or other circumstances beyond their control, they have been unable to complete the requirements for the course. In no case will the grade of "I" be recorded for a student who has not completed satisfactorily the major portion of the course work (**for this class will be at least 70% of the work**). In cases in which this grade is given, the student may not re-register for the course until the "I" is removed by completing work assigned by the instructor. Work must be completed by the date indicated on the Incomplete Grade Contract and the terminal grade must be submitted no later than end of the next term

in which the student is registered. Otherwise, the “I” defaults to the Default Grade on the Incomplete Grade Contract.

<http://catalog.umes.edu/content.php?catoid=15&navoid=464#incomplete-grades>

- H. Electronic Distractions:** Exams and quizzes will be completed via Canvas and the professor may use any available lockdown software. All cell phones and other electronic media must be turned off before assessments, quizzes, or online/in-person meetings begin. It is not permissible to answer a call or page during an online assessment, quiz, or online/in-person meeting. If you have an emergency, please feel free to talk to the professor. Please, see the Disruptive behavior policy at <http://catalog.umes.edu/content.php?catoid=15&navoid=464#disruptive-behavior-in-academic-and-social-settings>
- I. Inclement Weather:** If weather conditions preclude meeting with students for a normally scheduled class, official closures and delays are announced on the campus e-mail as well as local radio and TV stations (WESM, WBOC, and WMDT).
- J. Academic Honesty:** Acts of falsification, cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty are grounds for failure of a course. The University reserves the right to impose more severe penalties for any of these forms of academic dishonesty. The penalties may include but are not limited to suspension from the University, probation, community service, expulsion from the University, or other disciplinary action the University believes to be appropriate. **It is your responsibility to be aware of this policy.** You can access the policy at <http://catalog.umes.edu/content.php?catoid=15&navoid=464#academic-honesty-policy-for-graduate-and-undergraduate-studies>

For this course, assignments will be evaluated with similarity check software. Students with 5% to 8% in the similarity check will receive a penalty of 10% less on the assigned work. Similarities above 8% will require the student to resubmit the work/assignment.

Technical Disclaimer

This course component and contents (e.g., quizzes, papers, syllabus, and articles) will be available online and should be accessed, completed, and submitted via Canvas. To be successful in this course, it is necessary that you fully participate in course. **The professor will not accept any classwork through email.**

Thus, you will be required to access electronic files. This will require that you have access to a computer with the capability of accessing Microsoft Word, and Adobe Acrobat files. You should also have a basic working knowledge of each of the mentioned programs and be able to successfully navigate Microsoft Internet Explorer (or an alternative browser, such as Firefox or Safari). You will also need access to a web browser capable of accessing Canvas including all the available ads for the UMES system, and sites such as YouTube.

If you run into technical difficulties while using Canvas and are not able to resolve them on your own, please contact the IT Student Help Desk immediately. They are available Monday-Friday from 8 am- 4:30 pm, by calling 410-651-8488 or <https://help.umes.edu/helpdesk/WebObjects/Helpdesk.woa>

COURSE CALENDAR

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS DUE	Alignment with course objectives and CACREP
Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ∉ Introduction to Course and Syllabus ∉ Science and the research process 	Chapter 1		
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ethics and research 	Chapter 2 CRCC Code of ethics		
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quantitative research designs ● Basics of statistical methods 	Chapters 3 and 7		
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Qualitative research designs ● Basics of qualitative research data analysis 	Chapters 4 and 8		
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mixed methods research ● Single-case or single-subject research 	Chapters 5 and 6		
Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Evaluating the literature review 	Chapter 9		
Week 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 			
Week 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Evaluating the purpose statement, hypothesis, and sampling 	Chapters 10 and 11		
Week 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Evaluating the methods section – instruments and procedures 	Chapters 12 and 13		
Week 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Evaluating results and discussion section 	Chapters 14 and 15		
Week 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Evidence-based research and evaluation 	Chapter 16		
Week 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conducting research: Cultural issues 	Chapter 17		
Week 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Developing a research proposal and conducting research in practice 	Chapter 18		

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS DUE	Alignment with course objectives and CACREP
Week 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Development and application of program evaluation research	Chapter 19		
Week 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Advances in technology and research; current and future issues in counseling and educational research	Chapters 20 and 21		

NOTE: Professor can add a class day to makeup class material, if needed. The specific date will be announced in CANVAS, at least 2 weeks prior to the date.