



AEC 6905 Mixed-Method Frameworks in Research
Fall 2018 (August 22 – December 5) section 1861; 3 Credits
Tuesday 8-10 periods (3:00-6:00)

Instructor:

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-Office hours: Tuesdays 10 am – 12 pm, or by appointment

Class Meets:

The class meets in 306 Rolfs Hall. However, three class sessions will be delivered via Canvas, the University of Florida's e-learning platform; these sessions are clearly identified in the syllabus. The e-learning system can be accessed by login on to elearning.ufl.edu and clicking on "Log in to e-Learning". When prompted, enter your Gatorlink ID and password.

Course Description:

This course is designed to cover concepts relevant to designing and conducting mixed methods and participatory research. This course will give the student an appreciation of the basic skills needed to effectively integrate diverse methodologies and participatory methods.

Objectives:

Upon completing the course, students will be able to conceptualize and carry out participatory mixed method research. Specifically, students will be able to...

- explain the characteristics and fundamental concepts of mixed methods research (MMR).
- compare and contrast different MMR designs.
- set up and conduct rigorous MMR studies.
- value the contributions of MMR to the understanding of the social world.

Required Textbook and Readings:

Students are expected to purchase the text (Available at the University of Florida Bookstores or at online providers):

- Plowright, D. (2011). *Using mixed methods; frameworks for an integrated methodology*.

Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. [**Paperback edition is acceptable**]

- Creswell, J. W. & Plano Clark, V. L. (2017). Designing and conducting mixed methods research. (3rd Ed) Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Supplementary readings will be assigned.

Class Dynamics:

Class participation is a key component of this course. Knowledge will be socially constructed by all participants (i.e., students and instructors) through transformative dialogue in the form of group discussion. All students are expected to actively participate in the discussion of the assigned readings and in other planned learning activities for the week. Each week, students will have to contribute to the Weekly Discussion Board; the contribution must be posted online the Friday before each session. All students must read the posted discussion materials before attending class on Tuesday. The online postings will be graded and, combined with the in-class discussion, represent the student's Class Participation (i.e., 40% of the final grade). In addition to the group discussion activity, class sessions may combine other teaching/learning activities such as, lectures, lecture forums, buzz groups, demonstrations, and reflection.

Assignments, Dates, and Grades:

(Full descriptions of each assignment will be distributed by the instructor)

Activity/Assignment	Due Date	Total Point Value
Class participation (Posting & Discussion)	Weekly	400
Methodological Arsenal	Variable	100
IRB	09/18/18	100
MMR proposal	10/16/18	100
Methodological Reflection/Critique	11/20/18	100
Final project	12/04/18	200
Total Points		1000

Course Grading Scale

A	950-1000	A-	900-949	B+	860-899
B	830-859	B-	800-829	C+	760-799
C	730-759	C-	700-729	D+	660-699
D	630-659	D-	600-629	E	599 or less

Course Schedule

Date	Delivery	Topics	Readings	Due
08/28/18	Classroom	Course Introduction	Additional readings	
09/04/18	Classroom	Philosophy and MMR	P: Ch. 14; Additional readings	<i>M.A. Participatory Mapping</i>
09/11/18	Classroom	Foundations of MMR	C&PC: Ch. 1 & 2	<i>M.A. Transects</i>
09/18/18	Canvas	The FRAIM	P: Ch. 1 & 2 Additional readings	IRB proposal
09/25/18	Classroom	MMR Designs I	C&PC: Ch. 3; Additional readings	<i>M.A. Mobility Maps</i>
10/02/18	Classroom	MMR Designs II	C&PC: Ch. 4 & 5	<i>M.A. Flow Diagrams</i>
10/09/18	Classroom	Sources & Sampling	P: Ch.3 & 4; Additional readings	<i>M.A. Interviewing and Dialogue</i>
10/16/18	Canvas	<i>Participatory MMR</i>	Additional readings	MMR proposal
10/23/18	Classroom	Data Collection I	P: Ch. 5 & 6; C&PC: Ch.6; Additional readings	<i>M.A. Pair-wise ranking</i>
10/30/18	Canvas	Data Collection II	P: Ch. 7, 8, & 9; Additional readings	
11/06/18	Classroom	Integrating and Analyzing Data I	P: Ch. 10; C&PC: Ch.7; Additional Readings	<i>M.A. Matrix ranking & scoring</i>
11/13/18	Classroom	Integrating and Analyzing Data II	Additional Readings	<i>M.A. SWOT Analysis</i>
11/20/18	Classroom	Quality and Ethics in MMR	P: Ch. 11, 12, & 13	Methodological Reflection / Critique
11/27/18	Classroom	Reporting MMR	C&PC: Ch. 8 & 9; Additional readings	<i>M.A. Force Field Analysis</i>
12/04/18	Classroom	Student Presentations		Final Project

A note about written reports:

Cite all references using APA style format. APA (American Psychological Association) has a reference manual available at the University of Florida Library and they have information about writing and references on their website, which is <http://www.apa.org/>. The format to be used for papers is double-spacing; one-inch margins, and typed in 12-point font, unless otherwise noted. A consistent style is used for grading written papers. Primarily, show that you have learned and are able to apply the course material through your writing. In grading, the instructor looks for student's cognitive understanding and application of theories, principles, concepts, ideas, approaches that have been covered in readings and the course.

Attendance:

Given the importance of class discussion and participation in class demonstrations and exercises, it is not possible for a student to perform satisfactorily in the course without regular attendance. Students are required to attend class and to be in class on time.

Lateness Policy:

A *10% per day* deduction will be assessed for assignments turned in late. Work more than a week late will *not* be accepted. This policy will be strictly enforced. All assignment and online discussion deadlines are *critical* for your individual success in this course and the success of the course overall. If you feel that you will be unable to meet these deadlines, you *must* communicate this to the course instructor *at least one day before the assignment or discussion posting is due*.

Grades and Grade Points

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Absences and Make-Up Work

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Academic Honesty

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: *“We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.”* You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for

credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."*

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/SCCR/honorcodes/honorcode.php>.

Software Use:

All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Campus Helping Resources

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

- *University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/*
 - Counseling Services
 - Groups and Workshops
 - Outreach and Consultation
 - Self-Help Library
 - Training Programs
 - Community Provider Database
- *Career Resource Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, www.crc.ufl.edu/*

Services for Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation --- 0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/

Disclaimer about syllabus:

Serious effort and consideration were used in formulating the syllabus presented by the instructor. While viewed as an educational contract between the instructor and student, unforeseen events may cause changes to the scheduling of assignments, readings, etc. The instructor reserves the right to make any changes deemed necessary to best fulfill the course objectives. Students registered for this course will be made aware of any changes in a timely fashion using reasonable means. This disclaimer does not abrogate any student rights as described by University rules and regulations.