FACULTY MEMBER:                      TERM: Fall 2010 Block 1

COURSE TITLE:                       COURSE NUMBER: SOC 340
Applied Research Design

III. MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

GOAL A:
The student will demonstrate an understanding of the role of research in the development and application of knowledge.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

A-1 Explain the purposes of research.
A-2 Describe the relationship between behavioral science theories and research.

GOAL B:
The student will explain the steps of the research process.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

B-1 Explain the model of scientific inquiry.
B-2 Specify a study’s goals or objectives.
B-3 Define a study’s parameters such as population, sample and variables.
B-4 Specify techniques and procedures to be used to achieve the study’s objectives and goals.
B-5 Describe the process of collecting relevant data.

GOAL C:
The student will contrast major types of research designs, including when and why each is used.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

C-1 Identify and describe historical research.
C-2 Identify and describe descriptive research.
C-3 Identify and describe analytical/correlation research.
C-4 Identify and describe experimental research.
C-6 Describe the differences between quantitative and qualitative research.

GOAL D:
The student will demonstrate understanding of data collection and manipulation.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:
- D-1 Define random assignment.
- D-2 Describe independent and dependent variables.
- D-3 Discuss potential researcher bias.
- D-4 Explain different types of sampling (i.e. probability and non-probability sampling).
- D-5 Describe reliability and validity.
- D-6 Discuss issues to consider when generalizing research to the population.

GOAL E:
The student will read research critically.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:
- E-1 Identify the type of research used.
- E-2 Specify the purpose of the research.
- E-3 Identify the research methods used.
- E-4 Identify possible fallacies/limitations to research.
- E-5 Suggest future research.
- E-6 Analyze scholarly articles.

GOAL F:
The student will gain “hands-on” practical experience in research methods common to social science research.

Learning Outcomes: Students will:
- F-1 Conduct a mini-study
- F-6 Reflect on the process of the mini-study

GOAL G:
Students will analyze ethical considerations in the research process

Learning Outcomes: Students will:
- G-1 Discuss the 3 ethical principles outlined in the Belmont Report: beneficence, autonomy, and justice.
- G-2 Discuss potential problems in obtaining informed consent.
GOAL H:
Students will demonstrate appropriate written and oral communication skills

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

H-1 Write clearly, concisely, and appropriately using correct English grammar, punctuation, usage, mechanics, sentence structure, and vocabulary.
H-2 Use appropriate APA format for scholarly writings.
H-3 Speak with confidence, clarity, and conciseness.
H-4 Research, prepare, and deliver professional presentations

III. METHODOLOGY:

A. Teaching Methods: Lecture, tests, discussion, group work, and mini-studies

B. Assessments include but are not limited to:
   - Class discussions/ participation
   - Quizzes/ Tests
   - Outcomes Assessment assignment
   - Final Exam
   - Mini-studies