

**IND 6639**

**Methods of Research**

**Spring 2023**

**3 credits**



Instructor: Sheila J. Bosch, Ph.D.  
Meeting Time: T | Period 10-E1 (5:10 - 8:10 pm)  
Meeting Place: ARCH 213  
Instructor: Office: 348 ARCH Building  
Telephone: 352-294-1439  
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Office Hours: W: 3:00 - 5:00 pm or by appointment  
Zoom: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/8978667940>, ID: 897 866 7940

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course focuses on initiating the processes involved in planning a research project for your thesis or dissertation. It is a survey, critical analysis and synthesis of research strategies and methods in interior design or allied fields. Emphasis is placed on the identification and refinement of your topic of interest and the formulation of researchable questions with measurable constructs. In addition, you will design a study and specify the appropriate tools for discovery. Ethical concerns are also addressed with respect to the researcher's role and the protection of human subjects, including information on the Institutional Review Board (IRB) protocol for research conducted at the University of Florida. Students will complete readings, give topical presentations and complete a series of exercises, as well as prepare a proposal that may serve as a foundation for a master's thesis or a doctoral dissertation.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course is intended to help students:

- Communicate the ability to critically evaluate other's research.
- Demonstrate the ability to formulate researchable questions and transform those questions into a plan of research using appropriate research methods, considering ethical issues that may arise.
- Describe a variety of research strategies and tools for data collection and analysis.
- Choose appropriate methods for statistical analysis of datasets.
- Produce a coherent research proposal that may serve as a foundation for a thesis or dissertation.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

- Creswell, J. (2022). Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches, 6th edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- Bryman, A. (2021). Social Research Methods 6th edition. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

**Recommended Texts:**

- Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (2020). 7th Edition, Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Concise Rules of APA Style (2020). 7th Edition, Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Gifford, R. (2015). Research Methods for Environmental Psychology. Wiley-Blackwell.
- Zeisel, J. & Eberhard, J. P. (2006). Inquiry by Design: Environment/behavior/neuroscience in architecture, interiors, landscape and planning. (Rev. Ed.) New York: W.W.Norton

**COURSE FORMAT**

Class format will combine lectures, assigned readings, discussions, presentations, peer assessments and proposal writing. The goal of this class is to create an environment for students to write, research and workshop their research topics in class.

In addition, each student will be closely working with a faculty-mentor on their research proposal project as they have developed it from IND5633 *Readings in Design Studies*. All students during the development of their proposal are required to meet or collaborate (email correspondence is acceptable) with their faculty mentor at least once in the semester.

**CANVAS SITE**

The syllabus, course assignments, due dates, additional reading material, grades and other course-related information will be available in Canvas. You are responsible for checking Canvas regularly to track assignments, due dates, etc. You must post your completed assignments to Canvas by the start of class on the due date unless otherwise instructed. Please email the assignments to the instructor, on time, if you experience technical difficulties with Canvas.

**EVALUATION METHODS**

<u>Thesis/ Dissertation Proposal Project</u> (60%)	<u>Grading Scale</u>	
▪ Assignments/ Class Activities	A = 93-100%	4.0
▪ Peer Review	A- = 90-92.9%	3.67
▪ Proposal Presentation	B+ = 87-89.9%	3.33
▪ Final Proposal Draft	B = 83-86.9%	3.0
	B- = 80-82.9%	2.67
	C+ = 77-79.9%	2.33
	C = 73-76.9%	2.0
	C- = 70-72.9%	1.67
	D+ = 67-69.9%	1.33
	D = 63-66.9%	1.0
	D- = 60-62.9%	0.67
	E = 0-59.9%	0.0
<u>Critical Analysis of Research Strategies</u> (30%)		
▪ Article Review/ Analysis Report		
▪ Research Strategy Presentation		
<u>Training/ Attendance/ Participation</u> (10%)		
▪ IRB Training		
▪ Attending UF/DCP Research Activities		
▪ Class Participation		

**Attendance:** Attendance in every class period is expected. Understanding that sickness or other unfortunate circumstances outside of your control may occur, you will be allowed to miss no more than two classes without questions. However, your assignments are still due on the originally scheduled due date, unless you make other arrangements with the instructor PRIOR to the due date. Each missed class after that will result in a 2% reduction of your final grade, unless the absence is excused and the reason for the absence verified (e.g., doctor's note). If you know in advance of a class that you will be missing it, please inform the instructor. Each student is expected to be on time for class to avoid distractions for the instructor and the other students.

**Laptops, cell phones, tablets:** Please bring your mobile devices to class and use them during the period for course-related purposes only. Having access to relevant information sources is important in creating an active learning environment. You may need these devices for in-class assignments.

**Late Assignments:** All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the due date unless otherwise posted. Students who seek an alternative to this rule must obtain permission from the instructor PRIOR to the due date. Late work will receive a 20% GRADE REDUCTION if it is 1-3 days (or partial days) late and 50% GRADE REDUCTION if it is 4-7 days (or partial days) late.

**Disputed Grading:** Any objection regarding grading of any project/paper/exam etc. must be submitted in writing within 2 weeks of receiving the grade. You must include an explanation of why you think your answer was correct or why you should have received a higher grade.

**Classroom Climate:** Equitable participation in this class requires the use of inclusive language, methods, and materials. Students are expected to use inclusive language in written and oral work, and to respect diversity in viewpoints expressed by others. Students are also encouraged to identify language, methods, and materials used in this course that do not contribute to an inclusive classroom climate.

**Course Evaluations:** Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

**UNIVERSITY POLICIES University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities**

“Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352)-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.”

### **University Policy on Academic Conduct**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students 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." The Honor Code <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/> specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

### **Class Demeanor or Netiquette**

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. Students must be respectful to one another, even when there are differing opinions. UF netiquette guidelines can be found at: [Netiquette Guide for Online Courses](#). Consequences might negatively affect an assignment grade, or for very severe cases, a report to the university administration.

## **CAMPUS RESOURCES**

### **Health and Wellness**

U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the Student Health Care Center website.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS): Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department: 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call

352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS/ ASSIGNMENTS

### 1. Thesis/Dissertation Proposal Project (60%)

- a. **Assignments/Class Activities/Participation:** To facilitate the development of your proposal for a master's thesis or a doctoral dissertation, you will be required to submit multiple assignments, and will present the proposal idea(s) and draft to the class for direction and critique. Also, class participation by all students is expected. This means that students will read all assigned materials, participate in-class discussions, and complete all in-class activities.
- b. **Peer Reviews:** You are required to review and critique each other's proposal draft. and provide feedback throughout the semester.
- c. **Final Proposal Presentation:** You will present your proposal focusing on research strategy at the end of the semester.
- d. **Final Proposal Draft:** Your written research proposal should demonstrate the ability to formulate a researchable question based on precedent that supports the significance of the topic. The format of the typical Thesis/Dissertation proposal will include the following sections. Chapter 3 differs for MID students developing a Design Exploration thesis.

COVER PAGE: Working title, Your Name, Table of Contents, Abstract

CHAPTER 1 - Introduction

CHAPTER 2 - Literature Review

CHAPTER 3 - Research Methods OR Project Framing (MID Design Exploration)

REFERENCE LIST

**2. Critical Analysis of Research Strategies/Methods (30%)**

- a. Article Review/Analysis Report:** This course is designed to help you communicate the ability to critically evaluate other’s research from peer-reviewed journal articles focusing on research strategies/methods. You will be required to review substantial published articles related to the course topics (the different types of research design), and expected to come to class prepared to discuss the material.
- b. Research Strategy Presentation:** Each student is required to facilitate class discussion. This will involve each student taking “ownership” of preparing and delivering information regarding a specific research strategy (e.g., operationalizing constructs, survey design, interviews, focus groups, etc.) and developing an in-class activity for students to complete. The student will identify relevant readings if needed, prepare and deliver a PowerPoint presentation to the class, and lead the class through completion of the in-class activity.

**3. IRB Training/Research Events/Class Participation (10%)**

- a. IRB Training:** To conduct thesis/dissertation research with human subjects at UF, you are required to take the following online courses:

	IRB 803 (renewal required every 3 years)
IRB-01	
IRB-02	

Completing this training is a course requirement. You will not receive a grade in IND6639 until you complete this training. Information: <https://irb.ufl.edu/index/requiredtraining.html>. **Due April 19th.**

- b. Attending DCP Research Activities:** For this course, you are required to attend min. 3 presentations of the following UF/DCP/IND Research Events during the semester:
  - DCP Weekly Research Presentation (email will be received from the college)
  - IND/DCP Thesis/Dissertation Defense
  - Other UF/DCP Research Presentations

The confirmation of attending these research activities is due on **April 19th at 11:59pm.**

## IND 6639 - Tentative Course Outline

Week (Date)	Topics/ Activities	Readings	Assignments/ Dues
Week 1	<b>Course Introduction</b> Syllabus & Course Overview MID/PhD Requirements	Creswell Ch 1, 2 Bryman Ch 1, 5	<a href="http://graduateschool.ufl.edu/about-us/">http://graduateschool.ufl.edu/about-us/</a> <a href="https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/dates-deadlines/2022-2023/">https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/dates-deadlines/2022-2023/</a>
Week 2	<b>Writing a Proposal</b> <b>Research Ethics:</b> UF IRB <b>Scientific Investigation</b> UF Thesis Requirements	Creswell Ch 4 Bryman Ch 2, 6	Submit 2 examples of Thesis or Dissertation related your topic <a href="http://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/InteriorDesign">http://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/InteriorDesign</a> <a href="https://irb.ufl.edu/index/requiredtraining.html">https://irb.ufl.edu/index/requiredtraining.html</a>
Week 3	<b>Research Designs Chapter 1: Introduction</b> Writing introduction, Formulating research questions  In-class exercise: Peer review for purpose statement & RQs	Creswell Ch 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 Bryman Ch 3, 4, 28	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Submit 5 examples of the purpose statement &amp; research questions from 5 research articles which are in the reference list of your literature review paper</li> <li>2. Submit a draft of the purpose statement &amp; research question(s) for your proposal &amp; bring 3 copies of your purpose statement &amp; RQs to the class</li> </ol>
Week 4	<b>Research &amp; Theory Basic Considerations in Planning Research:</b> Variables, Measurement, Sampling, Reliability & Validity	Creswell Ch 4, 8 Bryman Ch 7, 8	
Week 5	<b>Quantitative Strategies</b> Survey Method  <i>1. Research Strategy Presentation</i>	Creswell Ch 8 Bryman Ch 8, 10, 11	<i>Submit your Research Strategy Presentation Material</i>
Week 6	<b>Quantitative Strategies</b> Experimental Method  <i>2. Research Strategy Presentation</i>	Creswell Ch 8 Bryman Ch 11	<i>Submit your Research Strategy Presentation Material</i>  <b>Due:</b> Submit a draft of Chapter 1 - INTRODUCTION for your proposal

Week 7	<b>Using Existing Data</b> <b>Quantitative Data analysis</b> Writing Research Methods	Creswell Ch 8 Bryman Ch 14, 15	<b>Due:</b> Standard Questionnaires for your research topic
Week 8	<b>Qualitative Strategies</b> Interview, Focus Groups  3. <i>Research Strategy Presentation</i>	Creswell Ch 9 Bryman Ch 17, 18, 20, 21	<i>Submit your Research Strategy Presentation Material</i>
Week 9	<b>Qualitative Strategies</b> Observations, Audio-Visual Materials  4. <i>Research Strategy Presentation</i>	Bryman Ch 12, 19 Gifford (2016) Ch 2 & 3 (full text available online at UF library. See <a href="http://lib.myilibrary.com/Open.aspx?id=841829">http://lib.myilibrary.com/Open.aspx?id=841829</a> )	<i>Submit your Research Strategy Presentation Material</i>
Week 10	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>		
Week 11	<b>Mixed Method Strategies</b> Case Study Content Analysis	Creswell Ch 10 Bryman Ch 13, 26, 27	Submit a draft of <b>Chapter 3</b>
Week 12	Peer review meeting/Work day		<b>Due:</b> Submit review comments of your classmate's proposal by Wednesday
Week 13	Individual meeting with the instructor		<b>Due:</b> Complete Thesis/ Dissertation Proposal Draft
Week 14	<b>Proposal Presentation</b> (invite your committee Chair)		<b>Due:</b> Submit presentation materials on Canvas
Week 15	1. The confirmation document for <b>IRB training &amp; attending DCP Research Activities</b> is due on Tuesday, April 19 at 11:59pm 2. <b>Final Proposal Due on Friday, April 21 at 11:59 pm</b>		
Week 16	TBD		