Course Title: Research Methods in Health Science
Course Prefix/Number: HSA 3702
Credit Hours: 3
Instructor: Dr. Mary Haumschild, RDH, RN, BA-HCA, BASDH, MHSc, DHSc
Email: Please email me from within MyCourses using the "Email Instructor" tool on the left-hand side under Course Content/Table of Contents
Phone: Please email within MyCourses for phone appointment (I do not want to miss you)
Office/Virtual Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30
Instructor Web Page: http://www.spcollege.edu/instructors/id/haumschild.mary

Program Administration
Dean, College of Health Sciences: Deanna Stentiford, Ed.S., RDH
Administrative Services Specialist: Sandy Malkin
Administrative Services Specialist Phone: 727-341-3771
Office Location: HEC OP 218

Important Course Dates:
- Last day to drop with a full refund: May 24, 2019
- Last day to withdraw with a “W”: June 20, 2019

Students are responsible for all information in the course syllabus. Please print and save this syllabus for reference for this course and the final Capstone Experience.

Required Textbooks:

Required Materials (Required for all Students in This Course)

Attendance: Participation/attendance is determined by actively participating in graded discussion forums and completing course assignments each week. Simply logging in does not constitute attendance. Attendance is recorded after Week 1 and Week 2; failure to actively participate and submit graded assignments for Module 1 and/or Module 2 may result in an administrative drop (“W”) for lack of attendance. Attendance is also recorded at the 60% mark (immediately after the last date to withdraw with a “W”); minimal or inconsistent participation and submission of assignments prior to 60% mark of any course may result in an administrative withdrawal (“WF”). Note that self-withdrawal prior to the 60% mark results in a “W”. Students should monitor their grades in the course weekly (please see important course dates above).

September 25, 2018
**Holidays:** Holidays that occur during the course do not impact assignment due dates (See Course Snapshot); please plan ahead.

**Course Time Commitment:** This course is organized into 8 weekly Modules. Expect to spend **8-12 hours** of time per week for each course. This course is not self-paced, the course snapshot details important dates for each module/week, including the shortened Module 8 time frame.

**Assignments/Discussion Postings:** A variety of assignments, activities and/or discussion postings are due each week. All first original discussion postings are due before 11:59 p.m. Thursday, EST. All discussion replies and assignments are due before 11:59 p.m. Sunday, EST (unless otherwise specified on the course snapshot).

Starting your discussion replies on Sunday is not sufficient engagement in class discussions and will be graded accordingly.

**Contacting the Instructor:** The best way to contact me is via email within this course. If MyCourses is unavailable, please contact me using your @live.spcollege.edu. You may expect a response from me within 24-48 hours. Please do not send emails from your personal email accounts (Yahoo, Gmail, etc.) as they will be filtered to SPAM.

**Course Description:** Prerequisite: HSA 3104 with a minimum grade of C or HSA 4184 with a minimum grade of C and admission to the Health Services Administration BAS Program. This course is an overview of the role and scope of research as it relates to the support of decision making. This course develops the basic skill of critically analyzing research findings. Research methods are introduced with emphasis placed on analyzing key elements of research reports as a basis for determining the appropriateness of the research results for evidence-based health service’s practice. 47 contact hours or equivalent.

**Major Learning Outcomes:**

1. **At the end of this course students will be able to describe elements of the research process by:**
   a. distinguishing between qualitative and quantitative approaches to research
   b. distinguishing between experimental and non-experimental research
   c. explaining key elements of a research study
   d. identifying data collection methods used in health care and human services settings
   e. differentiating between types of sampling techniques and populations and samples

2. **At the end of this course students will be able to explain major elements of Evidence Based Decision Making by:**
   a. explaining the importance of Evidence Based Decision Making (EBDM)
   b. articulating the shared responsibility for Evidence Based Decision Making (EBDM)
   c. describing the role that research plays in the development of evidence
   d. differentiating between Systematic Review and Literature Review
   e. differentiating between primary and secondary research sources
f. locating evidence based practice literature and citing and referencing the sources appropriately.

3. At the end of this course, students will be able to evaluate the quality of research/research literature in supporting evidence based decision making in the health and human services fields by:
   a. explaining the criteria used to review literature for credibility, validity and reliability
   b. identifying the major elements of a research study article
   c. explaining the importance of operationalization of variables in a research study
   d. describing the differences between descriptive and inferential statistics
   e. critically evaluating specific aspects of a published research study

4. At the end of this course the student will be able to explain the basis for the protection of human subjects in the research process by:
   a. describing the historical development of practice codes for the protection of human subjects
   b. explaining the purpose of Institutional Review Boards (IRB)
   c. articulating the importance of protecting human subjects in the performance of research
   d. identifying the components of appropriate methods for informed consent
   e. describing historical cases where the rights of human subjects were not protected
   f. applying practice codes to historical examples of unethical research with human subjects

Criteria Performance Standard:
Upon successful completion of this course the student will, with a minimum of 70% accuracy, demonstrate mastery of each of the above stated objectives through classroom measures developed by the individual course instructor.

Academic Integrity: All course work is expected to be the student’s OWN work. We expect students to demonstrate the ability to integrate critical thought with a synthesis of the required readings for the weekly assignments. Use your own words to communicate facts as well as your knowledge, thoughts, reactions, and reflections. Students are expected to demonstrate appropriate paraphrasing, in-text citations, and references. Use of quoted material, or work that has not been properly paraphrased, cited, or referenced is not permitted in the program. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Please remember that plagiarism also includes paraphrasing another’s work without proper credit (citations). This includes “cutting and pasting” from Internet sources - Simply adding a citation to cut and pasted or copied work does not suffice. This also includes the use of photos, figures, tables or clip art not classified as free ware. Please see SPC’s Academic Honesty page, to learn more about how to avoid plagiarism: http://www.spcollege.edu/academicichonesty

Resubmission of Work: Previously submitted course work may not be resubmitted for another class (self-plagiarism). Turning in any work that has been previously created and submitted (graded or not) in any course
is self-plagiarism which is a violation of the SPC Academic Honesty Policy. All plagiarism is reported to the Associate Provost and may result in academic discipline.

**HSA Policy Regarding Quoted Material**: Rather than using quoted material, students are expected to paraphrase information in their own words to communicate facts as well as knowledge, thoughts, reactions, and reflections. Students will not receive a grade for quoted and/or cut and pasted material.

**HSA Late Policy:**
- **Late Assignments** (Modules 1-6) (i.e.: Papers, PowerPoints, Projects, Worksheets, etc.). Assignments submitted within 24 hours of due date - worth 50% of their graded value (grade achieved, minus 50%). No credit is given beyond 24 hours of due date.
- **Late policy for Quizzes and Discussion Forums**: Quizzes may not be made up. Discussion postings may not be made up; posts made after the 11:59 p.m. EST Sunday deadline will not receive credit.
- **Late course work from Module 7 and Module 8 will NOT be accepted.**

**Course Grading:**
- Instructors make every effort to post assignment grades within 72 hours after the assignment closing date

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Points Range</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>176 - 195</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>156 - 175</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>117 - 136</td>
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<td>F</td>
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**Expectations of Professionalism**: In order to prepare you for a leadership role in a professional environment we maintain high expectations on all student work *and* course interactions. Faculty and students are responsible for maintaining a positive learning environment. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. Professional expectations include: following all assignment instructions and writing guidelines, submitting completed assignments in a timely manner, respectful communication with instructor and peers, maintaining Academic Integrity and Honesty, taking responsibility for your learning, and applying instructor feedback.

**Student Survey of Instruction (SSI)**: The survey is administered each semester, and is designed to improve the quality of instruction. All student responses are confidential and anonymous.

**Internet Caution**: HSA courses require use of the Internet. Please note that other Internet users may be able to access students’ works whether the access is secured or unsecured. The College cannot protect against this or assure privacy.

**Learning Resources**: Learning Resources are available to all students either in person or online, at no additional cost (http://www.spccollege.edu/current-students/learning-resources). When reaching out to the people providing learning resources, please provide the name of your instructor, the course and specific assignment instructions. Also, note that it is **NOT** the responsibility of the learning resource specialists to correct the student’s work or to help write the student’s paper/discussion line by line, but rather, to help improve the
students’ writing skills, critical thinking abilities, and proofreading/editing skills. Instructors may refer students to Learning Resources by providing the HEC Library/Writing Help Referral Form to the student. The student needs to provide the written assignment, assignment instructions and the Library/Writing Help Referral Form to Learning Resources. Once the student has received assistance, the student should have the tutor email the instructor.

The current learning resource specialist for the HSA program is:

- Lindsay Curry: Currry.Lindsay@spcollege.edu

**Computer Issues:** If you experience problems accessing the course or course materials online, posting assignments or any other hardware or software issues, please contact the Technical Support Desk at 727-341-4357 or email onlinehelp@spcollege.edu available daily from 7:00 a.m. to midnight. It is your responsibility to contact your instructor immediately should a problem arise. Computer issues will not extend the due date for course work.

**Online Library:** To logon to the Online Library through the SPC homepage (https://go.spcollege.edu/Libraries/), use your Student ID number and the last 4 numbers of your Social Security Number.

- For library help you may contact the Health Education Center library for assistance.
  - Joshua Brown, brown.josh@spcollege.edu. (727) 341-3657
  - Shilo Smith, Smith.Shilo@spcollege.edu. (727) 341-3673

**Accommodations:** This course is designed to be accessible and usable by everyone. Be sure to let the instructor know immediately if you encounter a required element or resource in the course that is not accessible to you.

Accessibility Services: St. Petersburg College recognizes the importance of equal access for all students. Accessibility Services is the campus office that works with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations. Instructors may not grant accommodations without proper notification from this Office. Due to the nature of all health programs, including the Veterinary Technology Program, accommodations requested for labs and/or a clinical will be determined by a committee that includes the HEC Accessibility Coordinator, Academic Chair, Dean, and other professionals deemed appropriate and on a case-by-case bases. These requests must be made prior to the semester starting or the in the first few weeks. Students registered with Accessibility Services are encouraged to contact their instructors early in the semester. Students who have, or think they may have, a disability (e.g. learning disability, ADD/ADHD, psychiatric, medical/orthopedic, vision, and/or hearing), are invited to contact Accessibility Services for a confidential discussion at 727-341-3721 (V/TTY) or at silvers.stefanie@spcollege.edu. Additional information is available at the college-wide Accessibility Services website: http://www.spcollege.edu/accessibility/

**Please note:** Materials provided via MyCourses are copyrighted and for personal and educational use only during the course.

**Instructional Continuity Plan:** In the event of a natural disaster that affects the function of the college, this online course will continue as normal.

**Important Links:** Please see your MyCourses homepage (http://mycourses.spcollege.edu) to access important college resources/links.
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<tr>
<th>Module Topic</th>
<th>Discussion Posting Forums (points)</th>
<th>Assignments (points)/Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Module 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction to Research</td>
<td>Problem Statements (5)</td>
<td>1. Review Syllabus, Snapshot, and Course Materials&lt;br&gt;2. See Assignment Readings in MyCourses (Course Content Link).&lt;br&gt;3. Begin Here Quiz (10)&lt;br&gt;4. Turn It In Quiz (1)&lt;br&gt;5. Quiz 1 (8)&lt;br&gt;6. APA Challenge Quiz (20)</td>
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<td><strong>Module 2</strong></td>
<td>My EBDM (5)&lt;br&gt;Systematic Review (5)</td>
<td>1. See Assignment Readings in MyCourses (Course Content Link).&lt;br&gt;2. Module 2 Quiz (8)&lt;br&gt;3. Select a Study Assignment (10)</td>
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<td>Evidence and Literature Review</td>
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<td><strong>Module 3</strong></td>
<td>IV, DV, EV (5)&lt;br&gt;Collecting Reliable Data in my Professional Setting (5)</td>
<td>1. See Assignment Readings in MyCourses (Course Content Link).&lt;br&gt;2. Research Analysis #1 (announcement)&lt;br&gt;3. Quiz 3 (9)</td>
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<td>Variables, Hypotheses &amp; Designs</td>
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<td><strong>Module 4</strong></td>
<td>Statistics in the Media (5)</td>
<td>1. See Assignment Readings in MyCourses (Course Content Link).&lt;br&gt;2. Quiz 4 (8)&lt;br&gt;3. Research Analysis #1 Assignment (20)</td>
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<td>Populations, Sampling and Data</td>
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<td>Collection</td>
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<td><strong>Module 5</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Data</td>
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<td>1. See Assignment Readings in MyCourses (Course Content Link).&lt;br&gt;2. Research Analysis #2 (announcement)&lt;br&gt;3. Quiz 5 (8) (Calculator)</td>
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Module 6
Hypothesis testing, conclusions, reporting finding
June 24, 2019 – June 30, 2019

Applying Research Findings (5)
1. See Assignment Readings in MyCourses (Course Content Link).
2. Access instructions and research article for Final Quiz
3. Quiz 6 (8)
4. Research Analysis #2 Assignment (20)

Module 7
Ethical considerations
July 1, 2019 – July 7, 2019
*Check Week 8 Closing Dates – Week 8 is Short*

Protection of Human Subjects (5)
1. See Assignment Readings in MyCourses (Course Content Link).
2. Final Quiz (20)

Module 8
Moving Forward
July 1, 2019 – July 10, 2019
*Short Week – Check Closing Dates*

Applying My Knowledge Forum (5)
1. Assigned Readings
   a. None

Total Points 195
Discussion Forum 45
Written Assignment 50
Begin Here & Turn It In Quiz 11 Weekly Quizzes 49 APA Challenge Quiz 20 Final Quiz on Application of Content 20

Important Course Dates:
• Last day to drop with a full refund: May 24, 2019
• Last day to withdraw with a “W”: June 20, 2019

Important Course Information:
• Assignments and discussion replies are due before 11:59 p.m. Sunday, EST (or as stated on Snapshot).
• All first original discussion postings are due before 11:59 p.m. Thursday, EST.