



**The University of Texas at El Paso**  
 College of Health Sciences  
 Department of Kinesiology  
**KIN 3325; Research Methods in Kinesiology**  
**Fall 2020**



**INSTRUCTOR:** Sudip Bajpeyi, PhD; 915-747-5461;  
[sbajpeyi@utep.edu](mailto:sbajpeyi@utep.edu)

**CLASS TIME:** MW 1:30 – 2:50pm MST; Online

**OFFICE HOURS:** Email to make an appointment  
 Ali Mossayebi, Teaching Assistant  
[amossayebi@miners.utep.edu](mailto:amossayebi@miners.utep.edu)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course provides you with an overview of research methods. Specifically, the course prepares you to read, understand, and evaluate research and develop research related skills. Specifically, the course will address the research relevant to kinesiology, exercise and nutrition related fields.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to

1. do meaningful literature search.
2. able to read and interpret scientific research articles.
3. understand the concepts and methodological perspectives of conducting research
4. use basic statistical techniques for evaluation.

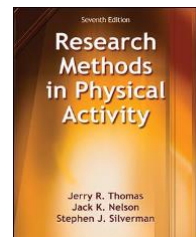
**COURSE COMMUNICATION:**

Student must use their UTEP email ID for all communication with TA and Professor. Please include your full name, course name and be professional over email. Emails without these information will not be acknowledged.

**COURSE MATERIAL:**

Required Textbook: Research Methods in Physical Activity-7th Edition  
 (ISBN: 9781450470445)

Research Articles, Presentations and multimedia posted on blackboard.



| <b>EVALUATION OF STUDENTS</b>                 | <b>%GRADE</b> | <b>GRADING SCALE*</b> |
|---|---------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Assignments (quizzes, learning activities) | 60%           | A = 90-100%           |
| 2. Review of research articles                | 40%           | B = 80-89.99%         |
|   |               | C = 70-79.99%         |
|   |               | D = 60-69.99%         |
|   |               | F = below 60%         |

*(Please see detail description of each section, later in the syllabus)*

*\*Course Instructor reserves the right to change the grading criteria, if needed*

## HOW DO I GET AN “A” IN THIS CLASS?

- Read and review the study materials (Lectures, articles, videos etc.) posted on blackboard. Reach out to the teaching assistant (TA) or Professor if you face challenges **before** the assignment deadlines.
- Complete all reading assignments and complete quizzes and learning activities before deadline
- Read research articles and submit review of research article assignments before deadline.
- Contact the TA and Professor early in the semester if you face any challenges/confusion.

## LEARNING MODULES

This course is designed using a modular format – that is, each different materials are “packaged” as a single module so that all the materials, lecture notes, submission areas etc. are in one area.

### **ASSESSMENTS (Quizzes and Learning Activities) (60% of grade):**

You will be evaluated throughout the semester on the materials presented in the form of reading assignment, lectures, videos and resources shared with you on blackboard. Each student **MUST** complete each assignment before the deadline. All study materials and assignment will be posted ahead of time. Students are strongly recommended to complete the assessment at least a day ahead of deadline to accommodate any unforeseen challenges with internet, technology etc. Students will not be allowed to make-up a missed assessment without **prior** arrangement made in case of emergency.

**How should I prepare to take the assignment posted on blackboard:** The purpose of the assignments are to evaluate students’ learning. Although students will have flexibility to complete assignment at their convenient time and quizzes will be made available ahead of time, each assignment will be allocated a certain time limit. The purpose of setting this time is to ensure students read and learn **prior** to taking a quiz.

**Grading of Quizzes/Assessments:** Scores for each assessment will be posted on blackboard. Final assessment grade will be calculated as a percentage of total assessment score possible throughout the semester.

### **REVIEW OF RESEARCH ARTICLES (40% of grade):**

You are required to read the articles posted on blackboard and prepare a summary reflecting your understanding of study design and main findings of the study in your own word. Please note: copy-paste from the article or any violation of ethical standard is not acceptable. This assignment should reflect your **own work**.

**How should I prepare and submit review of article summaries:** Example of review of article summary and the rubric for evaluation will be posted on blackboard beforehand. Please follow those guidelines for article summary submission. Deadline for each assignment will also be posted on blackboard. **Article summaries should be submitted on blackboard as a word document.**

Articles will be made available for students ahead of time and students are strongly encouraged to submit this assignment ahead of time to avoid any technical challenges. In rare circumstances, if student faces technical challenges to submit the article

summary assignment, that needs to be communicated with the teaching assistant at least a day before the deadline that alternate arrangement can be made.

***Submission after deadline will not be graded – no exceptions.***

**Grading of review of Article summary assignment:** Articles will be randomly graded throughout the semester; Not all submissions will be graded. Scores for each article summary assessment will be posted on blackboard. Final grade for article summary will be calculated as a percentage of total score possible throughout the semester.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENT AND POLICIES:**

- Students are required to **check the Blackboard site and emails for the course on a daily basis** for announcements and assignments.
- Students are required to check their emails daily. Student must use their UTEP email ID, put their full name, course name and be professional over email. Emails without these information will not be acknowledged.
- Take all quizzes at designated times. There will be no make-up quizzes. For the following documented circumstances, please contact your Professor: 1) illness/hospitalization; 2) death of family member; 3) official university business; 4) legal matter.
- Review of grades and any discrepancies/mistakes in grades can be done within a week from the grade posted. After the one-week period, assignments cannot be reviewed.
- **Electronic Devices:** If you are using cell phones, computers, &/or other electronic devices for purposes that are not directly related to meeting the learning objectives of this course, then it will be considered as disruptive behavior. Personal calls, texts, &/or emails should be completed outside of class time.
- The course material posted are subject to the copyright law of the United States (Title 17 U.S. Code) and is for the use of students in KIN 3325 only. Further reproduction or distribution is prohibited.
- There will be reasonable flexibility with online learning environment. However, students are expected to be sitting or standing upright during class – as opposed to lying down. Lying down would not be acceptable in a face-to-face classroom. Additionally, your cameras are expected to be turned on so that we may maximize our engagement with each other; Having your camera on will be considered on to be a component of active participation. Mute your microphone when you are not contributing to the discussion in the virtual classroom to avoid being unnecessarily disruptive.
- Complete and submit all assignments on time. Late assignments will not be accepted, except in unusual circumstances at the discretion of the instructor (to be arranged well in advance).
- Students are expected to be familiar with and adhere to the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures.

***Failure to follow any of these rules may result deduction of points and/or in disciplinary action, including an instructor-initiated drop from the course.***

### **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

Course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system (LMS). Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you

have access to the Web. You may use any of the primary Web browsers—Explorer, Google Chrome, Firefox, Safari, etc. When having technical difficulties, try switching to another browser.

You will need to have or have access to a functional computer/laptop. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course. **If you encounter technical difficulties of any kind, contact the [Help Desk](#).**

## **NETIQUETTE**

- Always consider audience. Remember that members of the class and the instructor will be reading any postings.
- Respect and courtesy must be provided to classmates and to instructor at all times. No harassment or inappropriate postings will be tolerated.
- When reacting to someone else's message, address the ideas, not the person. Post only what anyone would comfortably state in a Face to face situation.
- A course brings together a group of diverse individuals with various backgrounds. Students are influenced and shaped by such factors as ethnicity, gender, sex, physical abilities, religious and political beliefs, national origins, and sexual orientations, among others. We expect to learn from each other in an atmosphere of positive engagement and mutual respect. Students are responsible for treating others with courtesy and respect and should promote group cohesion in an effort to create a safe learning environment.
- Blackboard is not a public internet venue; all postings to it should be considered private and confidential. Whatever is posted on in these online spaces is intended for classmates and professor only. Please do not copy documents and paste them to a publicly accessible website, blog, or other space. If students wish to do so, they have the ethical obligation to first request the permission of the writer(s).

## **ACCOMODATIONS POLICY**

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the [UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#) (CASS). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, or email them at [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or apply for accommodations online via the [CASS portal](#).

## **BLACKBOARD SESSIONS**

This class requires that you are available to meet virtually (with a webcam and microphone) during the scheduled class time. Although most of the course will be delivered online, there will be occasional sessions when students are expected to attend

the sessions. The meeting schedule will be posted on blackboard. The purpose of these sessions are for you to view live demonstrations of the course material, having an opportunity to ask questions, and engage in discussions with your classmates.

Recording of blackboard session by students are not allowed in any format (using phone or screen captures). All sessions will be recorded by the Professor and posted on blackboard when appropriate.

### **TITLE IX STATEMENT**

The University of Texas at El Paso is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any federally funded educational programs or activities. Title IX protects students, employees, applicants for admission and employment, and other persons from all forms of sex discrimination including sexual misconduct, sexual harassment, and acts of sexual violence. Sexual violence may include rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, sexual coercion, stalking, and relationship violence. Title IX prohibits institutions from excluding, separating, denying benefits, or otherwise treating individuals differently on the basis of sex. Sex based discrimination is prohibited at UTEP both by law and by University and UT System policies.

### **DEADLINES, LATE WORK, AND ABSENCE POLICY**

Deadlines for all the assignment will be posted on blackboard. All study materials and assessment will be posted ahead of time. Students are strongly recommended to complete the assessment at least a day ahead of deadline to accommodate any unforeseen challenges with internet, technology etc. Students will not be allowed to make-up a missed assessment without **prior** arrangement made in case of emergency.

### **COVID-19 ACCOMODATIONS**

Students are not permitted on campus when they have a positive COVID-19 test, exposure or symptoms. If you are not permitted on campus, you should contact me as soon as possible so we can arrange necessary and appropriate accommodations.

### **SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY**

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution \(OSCCR\)](#) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit [HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

## **CLASS RECORDINGS**

The use of recordings will enable you to have access to class lectures, group discussions, and so on in the event you miss a synchronous or in-person class meeting due to illness or other extenuating circumstance. Our use of such technology is governed by the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and UTEP's acceptable-use policy. A recording of class sessions will be kept and stored by UTEP, in accordance with FERPA and UTEP policies. Your instructor will not share the recordings of your class activities outside of course participants, which include your fellow students, teaching assistants, or graduate assistants, and any guest faculty or community-based learning partners with whom we may engage during a class session. **You may not share recordings outside of this course.** Doing so may result in disciplinary action.

## **TEST PROCTORING SOFTWARE**

Some assessments may make use of Respondus Lock Down Browser and Respondus Monitor inside of Blackboard to promote academic integrity. It will be communicated with students ahead of time which assessment may use these test protecting software. You are encouraged to learn more about how to use these programs prior to the first test.

## **COPYRIGHT STATEMENT FOR COURSE MATERIALS**

All materials used in this course are protected by copyright law. The course materials are only for the use of students currently enrolled in this course and only for the purpose of this course. They may not be further disseminated.

## **COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS**

You must STAY AT HOME and REPORT if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test. Reports should be made at [screening.utep.edu](https://screening.utep.edu). If you know of anyone who should report any of these three criteria, you should encourage them to report. If the individual cannot report, you can report on their behalf by sending an email to [COVIDaction@utep.edu](mailto:COVIDaction@utep.edu).

For each day that you attend campus—for any reason—you must complete the questions on the UTEP screening website ([screening.utep.edu](https://screening.utep.edu)) prior to arriving on campus. The website will verify if you are permitted to come to campus. Under no circumstances should anyone come to class when feeling ill or exhibiting any of the known COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, and alternative instruction will be provided. Students are advised to minimize the number of encounters with others to avoid infection.

Wear face coverings when in common areas of campus or when others are present. You must wear a face covering over your nose and mouth at all times in this class. If you choose not to wear a face covering, you may not enter the classroom. If you remove your face covering, you will be asked to put it on or leave the classroom. Students who refuse to wear a face covering and follow preventive COVID-19 guidelines will be dismissed from the class and will be subject to disciplinary action according to Section 1.2.3 *Health and Safety* and Section 1.2.2.5 *Disruptions* in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures.

## **COURSE RESOURCES: Where you can go for assistance**

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support:

### Technology Resources

- [Help Desk](#): Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus.

### Academic Resources

- [UTEP Library](#): Access a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.
- [University Writing Center \(UWC\)](#): Submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help and explore other writing resources.
- [RefWorks](#): A bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial and Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide

### Individual Resources

- [Military Student Success Center](#): Assists personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.
- [Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#): Assists students with ADA-related accommodations for coursework, housing, and internships.
- [Counseling and Psychological Services](#): Provides a variety of counseling services including individual, couples, and group sessions as well as career and disability assessments.



**KIN 3325 – TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (subject to change)**

| Date   | Tentative Schedule   |
|--|--|
| <p align="center"><b>Module 1</b></p> <p align="center">Tentatively<br/>Week 1- 5</p>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Introduction</li> <li>➤ Syllabus</li> <li>➤ Goals and objectives</li> <li>➤ <b>Reading Assignment – Overview of the research Process</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Introduction to research (chapter 1)</li> <li>○ Presenting the problems (chapter 3)</li> <li>○ Formulating the method (chapter 4)</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>Research Related Activities and Assignment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How to do literature search</li> <li>○ Familiarization with research articles</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>Assessment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Students’ learning will be assessed throughout the module</li> <li>○ Schedule for each assessment posted on blackboard</li> </ul> </li> </ul>   |
| <p align="center"><b>Module 2</b></p> <p align="center">Tentatively<br/>Week 6 – 10</p>  | <p>iarization with research articles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Reading Assignment – Statistical and measurement concepts in research</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Becoming acquainted with statistical concepts (chapter 6)</li> <li>○ Planning research using power analysis (chapter 7)</li> <li>○ Relationships among variables (chapter 8)</li> <li>○ Measuring research variables (chapter 11)</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>Research Related Activities and Assignment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Effective interpretation of figures and tables from research articles</li> <li>○ Review of Research Articles</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>Assessment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Students’ learning will be assessed throughout the module</li> <li>○ Schedule for each assessment posted on blackboard</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| <p align="center"><b>Module 3</b></p> <p align="center">Tentatively<br/>Week 11 - 15</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Reading Assignment – Types of research</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Research synthesis (chapter 14)</li> <li>○ Physical Activity epidemiology research (chapter 17)</li> <li>○ Experimental and quasi - experimental research (chapter 18)</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>Research Related Activities and Assignment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Review of research articles</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>Assessment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Students’ learning will be assessed throughout the module</li> <li>○ Schedule for each assessment posted on blackboard</li> </ul> </li> </ul>   |