



The University of Texas at El Paso
 College of Health Sciences
 Department of Kinesiology
KIN 3325; Research Methods in Kinesiology
Fall 2025



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Teaching Associate: Jehu Apafllo, PhD; jnapaflo@miners.utep.edu
Class Time: Tuesday 12:00 – 1:20pm MST; Psychology Room 307
Office Hours: By Appointment
 Email jnapaflo@miners.utep.edu to set up a time that works.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides an overview of research methods with a focus on kinesiology, exercise, and nutrition-related fields. By the end, you will be better prepared to read, understand, and evaluate research, as well as develop practical research-related skills that will support your future academic and professional work.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

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

1. Do meaningful literature search.
2. Demonstrate understanding of the concepts and methodological perspectives of conducting research
3. Demonstrate understanding of the basic statistical techniques for evaluation.
4. Effectively read and interpret scientific research articles. Use basic statistical techniques for evaluation.

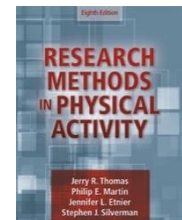
COURSE COMMUNICATION:

Students must use their UTEP email ID for all communication with the teaching associate (Dr. Apafllo) and the professor. For most course-related questions, please reach out to the teaching associate first and copy the professor on the email. This will ensure you receive the quickest response. Always include your full name and course name in your emails, and maintain a professional tone. Emails missing these details may be delayed or may not receive a response.

COURSE MATERIAL:

Required Textbook: Research Methods in Physical Activity-8th Edition
 (ISBN: 9781718201026)

Research Articles, Presentations, and multimedia posted on Blackboard.



EVALUATION OF STUDENTS

%GRADE

GRADING SCALE*

1. Assignments

Quizzes and Assignments	35%
Attendance	5%
Exam – I	20%
Exam – II	20%
Exam – III	20%

A = 90-100%
B = 80-89.99%
C = 70-79.99%
D = 60-69.99%
F = below 60%

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

*Course Instructor reserves the right to change the grading criteria, if necessary. Any changes will be communicated clearly to students in advance.

HOW DO I GET AN “A” IN THIS CLASS?

- Come to all classes. Participate in class discussions.
- Read and review the study materials (Lectures, articles, videos etc.) posted on blackboard. Reach out to the teaching associate or professor if you face challenges **before** the assignment deadlines.
- Complete all reading assignments and complete quizzes and learning activities 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. Different segments of the course are “packaged” as a single module so that all the materials, lecture notes, submission areas etc. are in one area. There are 3 modules (approx. 5 weeks each).

ASSESSMENTS

Quizzes, Learning Activities, and Exams

You will be tested throughout the semester on the materials presented in the form of reading assignments, lectures, journal articles, resources shared with you on Blackboard, and discussions in class sessions. Please see the specific schedule for Quizzes and Exams on Blackboard. Each student **MUST** complete quizzes and exams during the designated time. Students will not be allowed to make up missed Quizzes or Exams without **prior** arrangements made in the case of an emergency. Although a schedule of quizzes is posted, quizzes can be given unannounced throughout the semester to assess your preparedness for class and your engagement in the classroom. If you come late/leave early – you will not be allowed to make up for the quiz. Please see Blackboard for the specific schedule for the exams. Quizzes and exams will either be conducted in classroom in a written format or will be posted in Blackboard and will require using Respondus Lockdown Browser. See Course Calendar posted on blackboard for specific deadlines.

Grading: Please refer to Blackboard for all Quiz and Exam grades, which will be calculated as a percentage.

Classroom Polling

I will be using a cloud-based student response software by iClicker in class this semester. This will help me understand what you know, give everyone a chance to participate in class, and increase how much you learn when we are in class together. This will also provide you with feedback on how well you are comprehending course concepts and help you master challenging concepts. I will be using this software to keep track of attendance; please refer to the Class Attendance and Participation Policy section of this syllabus. The use of iClicker in this course will account for the Attendance and Participation score of your final grade.

While there will be a tutorial to set up iclicker, you are required to bring a laptop to participate in my iClicker sessions during class. You can download the iClicker student mobile app via the App Store or Google Play, or you can use the iClicker web app by signing in as a student at iclicker.com. It is your responsibility to set up your iClicker

Student account in a timely fashion, as well as to make sure your device is working properly. If you do not have an existing iClicker student account, then you will need to create one to be able to participate in class. You will also need to connect to either UTEP's Wi-Fi (UTEPSecure) or to your mobile data plan while using iClicker.

Creating Your iClicker Student Account

Please refer to the document named "Creating Your iClicker Account" on Blackboard (Week 1) for the instructions.

Academic Integrity Information

iClicker activities fall under the provisions of our campus academic honesty policy. Students must not engage in academic dishonesty while participating in iClicker activities. This includes but is not limited to:

- Answering polling questions while not physically in class
- Looking at other students' devices while answering live questions
- Submitting votes for a fellow student

Any student found to be in violation of these rules will lose polling points for the entire term and may be reported to the Dean of Student Discipline.

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 the teaching associate and Professor: 1) illness/ hospitalization; 2) death of a 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 date. 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.
- Artificial Intelligence: Use of AI technologies or automated tools, particularly generative AI such as ChatGPT or DALL-E, is **not allowed** for assignments in this class. Each student is expected to use critical and creative thinking skills to complete tasks and not rely on computer-generated ideas. AI may be used only during the early brainstorming stages of an activity, and you are welcome to explore them for that purpose. However, you are not allowed to submit any AI-generated work in this course. Any direct use of AI-generated materials submitted as your own work will be treated as plagiarism and reported to the [Office of Community Standards](#).
- The course materials posted are subject to the copyright law of the United States (Title 17 U.S. Code) and are for the use of students in KIN 3325 only. Further reproduction or distribution is prohibited.
- 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](#).**

EXCUSED ABSENCES AND/OR COURSE DROP POLICY

According to UTEP Curriculum and Classroom Policies, “When, in the judgment of the instructor, a student has been absent to such a degree as to impair his or her status relative to credit for the course, the instructor may drop the student from the class with a grade of “W” before the course drop deadline and with a grade of “F” after the course drop deadline.” See academic regulations in the UTEP Undergraduate Catalog for a list of excused absences. Therefore, if I find that, due to non-performance in the course, you are at risk of failing, I may decide to drop you from the course. I will provide 24 hours advance notice via email.

ACCOMMODATIONS 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, or apply for accommodations online via the [CASS portal](#).

DEADLINES, LATE WORK, AND ABSENCE POLICY

Deadlines for all the assignments will be posted on Blackboard. All study materials and assessments will be posted ahead of time. Students are strongly recommended to complete the assessment at least a day ahead of the 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 an emergency.

Make-up work will be given *only* in the case of a *documented* emergency. Note that make-up work may be in a different format than the original work, may require more intensive preparation, and may be graded with penalty points. If you miss an assignment and the reason is not considered excusable, you will receive a zero. It is therefore important to reach out to me—in advance if at all possible—and explain with proper documentation why you missed a given course requirement. Once a deadline has been established for make-up work, no further extensions or exceptions will be granted.

CLASS ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Students are required to attend classes on time, check in via iClicker, participate in class activities, and stay until class is dismissed by the instructor. Attendance and participation will be assessed at the beginning, during, or end of each class.

Please check in on time; check-in will be available 15 minutes before class start time. If you do not check in within **5 minutes** after class time, you will be marked as late, and you will receive only **80%** of the attendance score for that day.

Your participation in the course is important not only for your learning and success but also to create a community of learners. Participation is determined by the completion of the following activities:

- Reading/Viewing all course materials to ensure understanding of assignment requirements
- Participating in engaging discussions with your peers
- Other activities as indicated in the weekly modules

Because these activities are designed to contribute to your learning each week, they cannot be made up after their due date has passed.

ILLNESS PRECAUTIONS

Please stay home if you have symptoms of a communicable illness. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations.

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.

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 one's 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

To protect the privacy of both students and the instructor, recording of class lectures, discussions, or activities in any form (audio, video, or other digital means) is not permitted without prior written approval from the instructor. This includes the use of phones, laptops, or other devices.

Exceptions may be made only in cases where accommodations are required and have been formally approved through the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). In such cases, recordings are for personal academic use only and may not be shared, published, or distributed in any form.

Unauthorized recording or distribution of class content will be considered a violation of course policy and may result in disciplinary action in accordance with university guidelines.

TEST PROCTORING SOFTWARE

Some assessments may make use of Respondus LockDown Browser and Respondus Monitor inside of Blackboard to promote academic integrity. It will be communicated with students ahead of time which assessment may use this test-protection 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.

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 Help Desk 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.