

**IDEV 6300 – Research and Analysis in a Development Context
Guelph Institute for Development Studies, University of Guelph
Winter 2023**

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Lectures: Every other Thurs, 11:30-2:20pm MCKN 313

Office Hours: Thurs, 10:30pm-11:30pm or by appointment via Zoom

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This two semester course prepares students to conduct research in a development context. It emphasizes power relations and supports students as they reflect on their own positionality and the development context of their research. Through reading, discussion and practice, students develop skills in areas such as: scoping research questions, data collection, data analysis, navigating ethical complexities and knowledge mobilization. There will be an emphasis on reflective writing and on communicating development research and analysis to diverse audiences.

This course outline is for the Winter 2023 portion of the course.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, successful students will be able to:

1. Critically reflect on their position as researchers in a development context
2. Formulate research questions
3. Practice and reflect on data collection techniques
4. Practice and reflect on data analysis techniques
5. Consider ethical and other research dilemmas specific to development contexts by analyzing 'real-world' examples
6. Understand best practices for knowledge mobilization
7. Clearly communicate research results visually to relevant audiences
8. Practice descriptive and reflective writing in relation to their own Masters research

FORMAT

Weekly readings must be completed before lectures and seminars. Lectures are led by the instructor and will include lectures and films. Seminars are led by teaching assistants (TAs). They are discussion-based and will cover readings, lectures, and films. Attendance of lectures and seminars is mandatory.

GRADING SCHEME

Semester	Assignment	Description	Due Date	Percentage
Full Year	Participation	Class attendance, speaking, listening, engagement, participating in activities	Ongoing	20% (10% each Semester)

Fall Semester	Preliminary Research Question, Methods, and Bibliography		Nov 2	10%
	Research Problem, Justification and Scholarly Relevance		Dec 2	20%
Winter Semester	Research Presentation	Presentation of Final Research Proposal (10 minute presentation)	March 2	15%
	Ethics Discussion	A discussion of the ethical issues in your research proposal.	March 26	15%
	Final Research Proposal	A final research proposal that will include a reworking (in some cases provide more detail) of previous assignments into one final document: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research question • Research problem statement and extended research problem discussion • Justification • Scholarly Relevance • Methods • Lit review (which is an extended bibliography) 	April 2	20%

Presentations

This assignment will be an in-class presentation of your research proposal. You will have a maximum of 15-20 minutes to present the various facets of your research. You should cover all of the main aspects of your research (question, problem, justification, scholarly relevance, methods, and ethics) during your presentation. A PowerPoint presentation will be required.

Ethics Discussion

The assignment requires you to exercise what you have learned ethical problems are, and to consider every aspect of where these might emerge in your research. Simply, what are the ethical concerns raised by your research, and how will you address each? This will be evaluated for your insight into two things: what risks does your research pose to your subjects? What are the power imbalances built into your research, and how are you going to reduce those? The assignment will be a 4-6 page discussion about the ethical issues of your research.

Final Research Proposal

This assignment is the re-working of previous assignments into one final research proposal document (see above chart for what is required for the proposal). You may need to add more information or move sections around to improve the previous assignments into one final

document. Time in class will be dedicated to discuss the assignment in detail. You can also review the section descriptions in the previous course outline (F22) to understand what is required for each section.

READINGS

Readings must be completed before attending lectures and your seminar. The readings for this course can all be found as digital copies through the University of Guelph Library.

LECTURES

Lecture slides will not be posted. You will have to be in touch with a classmate to get notes for the classes that you miss.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

You are welcome to use your laptop to access your readings and type up notes in the lecture. Please use your laptop for these purposes only. The lecture will proceed at a quick pace and it will be difficult to follow if you are checking emails or surfing the web. If laptops become a distraction or hinder learning, the use of electronic devices may be banned during lectures. All cellphones must be on silent mode.

TAPING/RECORDING LECTURES

Taping and/or recording lectures and seminars is **not** permitted.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is using others' work but pretending that it is your own. This is an academic offence with serious consequences. You can avoid plagiarism by identifying and attributing all of your sources in your text, whether you are quoting them directly or paraphrasing them. If you need guidance on how to properly reference and footnote your work, please consult the university's Writing Services (see below). There is also information on plagiarism here:

<https://academicintegrity.uoguelph.ca/plagiarism>

LATE SUBMISSIONS

The penalty for the late submission is 5% per day. This includes weekends and holidays. Late submissions will be accepted for seven days after the deadline. After this, a grade of 0% will be assigned.

EXTENSIONS

Extensions may be granted by the instructor for unforeseeable reasons (eg medical situations) or exceptional circumstances (eg religious events) IF documentation is provided by the student. The instructor will decide on a case by case basis. No extensions will be provided without documentation. No extensions will be provided after a deadline has passed.

GRADING APPEALS

There is a one week "cooling off" period before you can appeal a grade. If, after one week, you would like to make an appeal, you must do this in person. The appeal must be accompanied by a typed statement that outlines why you believe the grade is inappropriate. Re-grading may result in an increase or decrease to your mark.

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH SERVICES

- *Writing Services* - Students are encouraged to make use of the university's writing services. You can book an appointment: <https://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/get-assistance/writing/book-appointments>
- *Counseling Services* – Our university also has individual and group counseling to support you: <https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/counselling/>

CLASS SCHEDULE

Class 1 – January 19 – Ethics and Research

Introduction and Chapters 1 and 10 (“Ethics Framework” and “Qualitative Research”) in Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. 2018. Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans. https://ethics.gc.ca/eng/policy-politique_tcps2-eptc2_2018.html

Banks, G., & Scheyvens, R. 2014. “Chapter 9: Ethical Issues”. In *Development Field Work: A Practical Guide*, SAGE Publications, Ltd

Class 2 – February 2 – Research Communication and Knowledge Mobilization

Read through some of these resources on best practices in grant writing:

- <https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/for-researchers/funding/apply/tips/grant-writing-resources>
- <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/rs/bid>
- <https://writing.wisc.edu/handbook/assignments/grants-2/>
- https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/subject_specific_writing/professional_technical_writing/grant_writing/grant_writing_in_the_sciences_writing.html

Banks, G., & Scheyvens, R. 2014. “Chapter 12: Returning to University and Writing the Field”. In *Development Field Work: A Practical Guide*, SAGE Publications, Ltd

Bannister, J. & Hardill, I. 2013. “Knowledge mobilisation and the social sciences: dancing with new partners in an age of austerity”. *Contemporary Social Science*, 8(3): 167-175.

Skim read through these two documents

<https://www.oecd.org/g20/summits/cannes/Scaling-Up-Knowledge-sharing-for-Development.pdf>

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/17540>

Class 3 – February 16 – Decolonizing Research Methods

For those conducting field research in the developing world context, or with marginalized people groups, I recommend reading the entire book. However, I will assign specific chapters for this week's reading for those who can't/don't want to read the entire book.

Tuhiwai Smith, L. 2021. *Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples*. London: Zed Books

Watch this video before coming to class

Smith, Tuhiwai Linda. 2019. *Decolonising Methodologies, 20 Years On. Annual Lecture*, The Sociological Review.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YSX_4FnqXwQ

Class 4 – March 2 – Presentations

Class 5 – March 16 – Final Reflections and Assignment Workshop

Class 6 – March 30 – Guest Speaker

Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the Undergraduate Calendar for information on regulations and procedures for [Academic Consideration](#).

Drop Date

Courses that are one semester long must be dropped by the end of the last day of classes; two-semester courses must be dropped by the last day of classes in the second semester. The regulations and procedures for [Dropping Courses](#) are available in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Copies of Out-Of-Class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required, however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least 14 days in advance, and no later than November 1 (fall), March 1 (winter) or July 1 (summer). Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time.

More information: www.uoguelph.ca/sas

Academic Misconduct

The [Academic Misconduct Policy](#) is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar.

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and **it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct** and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Instructors **shall not** determine if academic misconduct has occurred. This is up to the Associate Dean Academic's office. Instructors shall not assign a grade of zero even if they believe that the student has committed some form of academic misconduct (e.g., copied material from a website like CourseHero) on an assignment or exam.

Instructors **can** determine if a student has poorly paraphrased and/or improperly cited material and can provide a grade accordingly as long as this is clearly identified as part of the assessment criteria via a rubric or other assessment tools.

For more information about Academic Integrity resources and how to prevent Academic Misconduct see: <https://csahs.uoguelph.ca/faculty-research/hub-teaching-learning-excellence/academic-integrity>

Recording of Materials

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Resources

The [Academic Calendars](#) are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs.

Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via Courselink and/or class email.

This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms and final examination schedules. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

Illness

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or major assignment).

COVID-19 Safety Protocols

For information on current safety protocols, follow these links:

- <https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/how-u-of-g-is-preparing-for-your-safe-return/>
- <https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/spaces/#ClassroomSpaces>

Please note, that these guidelines may be updated as required in response to evolving University, Public Health or government directives.