

Course Information, Research Methods, Fall 2009

BIO 337, CH 368, PHY 341

Lectures: M 9–11, M 3–5

Lab: W 9-11, F 3-5

Web page: <http://uteach.utexas.edu/ResearchMethods>

Instructors

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Course Requirements and Grading Policy:

You must purchase the book *Surely You are Joking, Mr. Feynman*. Other materials will be provided. The course grade will be based upon 13 elements. These are:

- 10 pts Class and laboratory attendance, as determined by checks of active participation and submission of in-class assignments.
- 25 pts Homework assignments
 - 5 pts Inquiry 1
 - 2 pts Inquiry 2 proposal
 - 3 pts Inquiry 2 draft. The draft need not be accepted if the proposal was not turned in on time.
 - 3 pts Inquiry 2 oral presentation
 - 10 pts Inquiry 2 final writeup. The final writeup need not be accepted unless the first draft was turned in on time, the presentation was delivered, and the student participated in partner grading.
- 10 pts Inquiry 3 writeup
 - 2 pts Inquiry 4 proposal
 - 5 pts Debate presentation
 - 5 pts Inquiry 4 draft. The draft need not be accepted if the proposal was not turned in on time.
 - 5 pts Inquiry 4 oral presentation
- 15 pts Inquiry 4 final writeup. The final writeup need not be accepted unless the first draft was turned in on time, the presentation was delivered, and the student participated in partner grading.

Some course topics will be covered only in class, and you must be present to receive credit. If you turn assignments in late without approval, you will lose 10% of the value of the assignment for each day it is late. Your final inquiries writeups will be graded according to a rubric you will find in your course packet and checklists you can find on the course website. Inquiry drafts will be graded by checking off whether the major sections of the report have been completed (Abstract, Introduction, Design, Analysis, Conclusions).

Rewrite policy: Final drafts of Inquiries 1, 2, and 3 that have been turned in on time can be rewritten for additional credit. Contact your lecture instructor for details of the policy.

Please note that the final inquiry must be related to the subject for which you have signed up for the class. For example, if you are registered in biology, your final inquiry must be a biology inquiry.

Research Methods is a Substantial Writing Component course. Therefore, your inquiries will be evaluated both on content and the quality of written expression. There will be no formal examinations.

Final grades will be determined from 92–100, A; 90–92 A-; 88–90 B+; 82–88, B; 80–82, B-; 78–80; C+; 72–78, C; 70–72, C- 68–70 D+; 62–68, D; 60–62, D-; 0–60, F.

Research Methods will require you to use equipment provided by UTeach. In many cases you will check materials out for use outside the classroom. You are responsible for all items in your care and must return them in a timely fashion. Failure to do so may result in financial bars