

SOCI 376 ¹ - Quantitative Research Methods

Fall 2023

Instructor: Dr. Tamara Humphrey

Course Description and Objectives:

This course provides a detailed examination of quantitative research methods and techniques in sociological research. A key objective of this class is to provide students with a critical understanding of the approaches used in quantitative research with a particular focus on survey methods that are used to investigate social phenomena. We will also discuss whether/how it is possible to use quantitative methods in feminist and Indigenous research.

Through this course, you will gain a better understanding of the quantitative research process and how theory, methods, and statistical analysis fit together to investigate social phenomena. This course will also provide you with an opportunity to design a research project, analyze existing survey data, and develop tangible skills to critically assess the quality of research findings. Specifically, **you will engage in a research project over the course of the term that will employ population-level Canadian survey data**². Topics will include research design, measurement and issues related to reliability and validity, sampling, questionnaire construction, data collection, and data analysis techniques.

Course Pre/Co-requisites:

SOCI 211 and SOCI 271 are required as pre-requisites for this course.

Format of Classes:

This course will be delivered in person. While this class is primarily lecture-based, students will also have five required lab sessions – scheduled during class time - that will be built around different phases of their research projects. We will also have several in-class activities that are designed to introduce you to key pieces of your research project over the term.

Required Resources:

There is no official textbook. Scanned chapters from various textbooks will be uploaded to Brightspace and articles will be available online through the university library.

¹ This online outline is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. Detailed course outlines will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.

² The data that we will use are subject to change.