

INF 397C Introduction to Research in Information Studies
Unique No. 27670
Spring, 2009

Course Description

Nature of social science research and its role in library and information science. Critical evaluation of research in the literature. Performance and reporting of empirical research. Qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis techniques, including descriptive and inferential statistics. Graduate standing required.

Major Course Objectives

To introduction:

- Basic concepts for INF research based on social science research
- The relationship between social science research in INF and other discipline.
- The concept of theory and its place in INF research
- Basic techniques of research design and planning
- Basic procedures for data collection and analysis
- Basic elements of research ethics and legalities

Specific objectives

See instructional modules

Syllabus and Dates

Jan. 20 (Module 1)

Module 1. Introduction of course and assignments
Consider: What is research—why is it so important?
For Jan 27, prepare Module 2, Parts A and B.

Jan 27 (Module 2)

Module 2. (Parts A & B). Introduction to information sources and the literature of research
Powell and Connaway, p. 1-2

Feb 3-10 (Module 3)

Module 3. Research in the modern world: A comparative look at research traditions and their relationships to INF
Feb 3 (social/cultural anthology)
Feb. 10 (literary and/or biblical criticism)

Feb. 17-24 (Module 4)

Module 4. Research in INF fields
Feb. 17 Historical research
Feb 24 Qualitative research
Powell and Connaway, pp. 1-15
Book Review due Feb. 17
Feb. 24, Portfolio, pt. 1 due (includes modules 1-3, plus historical part of module 4 as appropriate to assignments)

March 3 (Module 5)

Module 5. Theory and its role in INF research
Powell and Connaway, 30-33
Work group 1 presentation. Biographies of selected theorists

March 10 (Module 6)

Module 6. Major research techniques and applications
Powell and Connaway, Chs. 3, 6, 7, 8

March 17 (Spring break)

March 24 (Module 7)

Module 7. Recent INF Research
Powell and Connaway, pp. 1-15
Workgroup 2. Presentation Examples of recent research in INF fields

March 31 (TLA, no class)

April 7 (Module 8)

Module 8. Primary tools of research
Powell and Connaway Chs. 4, 5, 6, review chs. 7, 8
Portfolio, pt. 2 due April 7, (modules 4-7)
Work group 3. Overview of selected techniques (e.g., content analysis)

April 14-21 (Module 9)

Module 9. Statistics as a research tool
Powell and Connaway Ch.9
Guest lecturer
April 14 (James)
April 21 (Dillon)
Statistical exercise due April 21

April 28 (Module 10)

Module 10 Designing and preparing the research study
Writing research proposal for grants (behind the scenes)
Powell and Connaway Ch. 11
Guest lecturer
Research proposal due Apr. 28

May 5 (Module 11)

Module 11. The Ethics and Legalities of Research
Powell and Connaway, 68-74
Guest lecturer
Portfolio, pt. 3, (modules 7-11, include copy of statistical exercise)

TEXTS

Powell, Ronald R. and Connaway, Lynn S. *Basic Research Methods for Librarians*. 4th. ed. Westport, Conn. Libraries Unlimited, 2004. Required.

Trochim, William *Research Methods: The Concise Knowledge Base*. Cincinnati, Ohio, Atomic Dog Publ. 2007. (paperback only). Optional..

ASSIGNMENTS AND DUE DATES

Assignments	Value	Due Dates
1 Book review of 2 pages	15 %	Feb. 17
1 Short proposal design for a research project Four pages	25%	April 28
Reading and exercise portfolio	20%	See below
Part 1 Feb. 24		
Part 2 April 7		
Part 3 May 5		
1 Work group presentation 20 minutes	20%	TBA
1 Statistical exercise	15%	April 21
Participation in class discussions and small group projects	05%	Ongoing

Grades and Values

Level 1
Superior work
100-96 A
95-93 A-
92-89 B+

Level 2
Satisfactory
88-84 B
83-80 B-

Level 3
Unsatisfactory
79-70 C
69-60 D

Level 4
Failure
<60 F

Portfolio and related group discussion Checklist

Details on these assignments are contained in modules

____. Module 1. No requirements. Prepare for module 2 exercises

____. Module 2. Portfolio: Four report summaries on information resources. Prepare for group discussion.

____. Module 3. Portfolio: Report on two research journals. Prepare for group discussion

____. Module 4. Portfolio: Report on two INF resource journals. Report on 3 INF abstracts appearing in Dissertational Abstracts International. Prepare for group discussion

____. Module 5. Portfolio: Report on a biographical sketch or theory in a field of interest to you. Prepare for group discussion

____. Module 6. Portfolio: Report on a research method commonly used in research. Prepare for group discussion

____. Module 7. Portfolio: Report on two class group presentations. Prepare for work group

____. Module 8. Portfolio: Report on the research methodologies used in a selected article. Prepare for group discussion.

____. Module 9. Portfolio. Complete the statistical exercise. Prepare for group discussion and sharing

____. Module 10. Portfolio. Report on 2 research reporting journals. Prepare for group discussion

____. Module 11. Portfolio. Report on 2 article concerning ethics in research. Prepare for group discussion.

ASSIGNMENT GUIDELINES

BOOK REVIEW GUIDELINES

Select a book dealing in some way with research and write a two page review. This review should be aimed at a professional audience such as librarians or other types of information workers. Select a book that is a discussion rather than a reference book. It may be a book on procedures and techniques, a book on the history of research in a discipline, or a book on the issues and problems regarding research. You may select from the books listed in the syllabus if you like. However do not use the required or suggested two textbooks for this course

For examples of review of published reviews in the INF field check the professional press such as *Library Journal*, *Booklist*, *Library Quarterly*, *American Archivists* and others. Make sure that your review includes the following:

- ▶ Bibliographic citations (use a standard form or style)
- ▶ An introduction describing the content of the book and its purpose
- ▶ The intended audience
- ▶ Special overages or attributes
- ▶ A critical assessment based on its stated purpose, coverage, accuracy, and usefulness
- ▶ Make a recommendation for its purchase or information value
- ▶ Sign your name (this is a requirement for a published review)

WORK GROUP PANEL PRESENTATIONS

During the semester you and your work group will present a 20 minute panel discussion for the class. A list of suggested topics will be provided. Once you have been assigned a topic or have selected one depending on how the class develops, you should meet and select a group coordinator. This coordinator will be in charge of making sure that everyone knows their responsibilities. During the presentation the coordinator also will make sure that time limits are met and manage questions from the class.

For the content of the discussion. Make sure that you:

- ▶ Provide an introduction to the topic
- ▶ Outline some of the major issues involved with the topic
- ▶ Give some of the controversies that might be associated with the topic
- ▶ Suggest its relationship to INF
- ▶ Add any other insights that you might have

►Prepare a handout for the class in which the major points are the discussion are summarized.

You may prepare a PowerPoint for your presentation if you wish.

Each member may present a separate part of the discussion, but there should be a unifying theme that holds these together. A summary statement should be made at the end of the presentation that brings all your point together. Leave time for questions from the class.

The following are some work group topic that can be selected for presentation/

Behavior and learning theorists

David Ausubel
Albert Bandura
John Dewey
Robert Gangé
Howard Gardner
Edward Guthrie
Kurt Koffka
Kurt Lewin
Jean Piaget
Shannon and Weaver (Claude Shannon and Warren Weaver)
B. F. Skinner
Lev Vygotsky
Bernard Weiner
Max Wertheimer

Library and Information Science Theorists

Maria Bates
Piece Butler
Brenda Dervin
Margaret Egan
Jesse Shera
Douglas Wapler

Theories

A theory is a systematic explanation of the observations that relate to a particular aspect of life.

Adult Learning Theory [how adults learn]
Behaviorism and Social Learning Theories (Bandura)
Bibliographic Control Theory
Bibliometric Theory
Cognitive Theory and Cognitive-Development Theory
Community Psychology Theory
Conflict Theory

Cooperative Learning Theory
 Critical Theory (social or literary)
 Discourse Analysis (textual and conversational)
 Ecological Systems Theory
 Ethnographic theory
 Feminist Theory
 Gender Theory (includes Queer Theory)
 Gestalt Theories
 Information Processing Theories
 [A type of cognitive theory which is a mechanistic, computer-like model of stimulus input and behavioral output combining with active processing structures].
 Instructional Design Theories (Bloom; Gagné)
 Marxism
 Modernism
 Moral Reasoning Theory (Kohlberg)
 Piaget's Cognitive-Development Theory-
 Postmodernism
 Role Theory
 Social Constructionism
 Social Exchange Theory
 Social Functionalism
 Social Judgment Theory
 Symbolic Interactionism
 Social Marketing Theory
 Socio-Literary Theories (how literature interacts with society and culture)

See also other theories in manual. For brief definitions of these and others see:
 Jennifer Bothamley, Jennifer. *Dictionary of Theories*. Gale Research, 1993.
 Fisher, K. E. and others (eds.) *Theories of Information Behavior*. Medford, NJ: Information Today, 2005. Includes Bates, M. J. (2005). An introduction to metatheories, theories, and models, pp. 1-24.

Research methods and specific techniques

Case studies
 Focus groups
 Content analysis
 Field studies
 Experimental and quasi-experimental studies designs
 Historical analysis and design
 Literary research and design
 Phenomenological design
 Survey research (Questionnaires and interviews) design
 Textual analysis (various kinds) (e.g., authorship, origins)

PORTFOLIO AND MODULE GROUP WORK ASSIGNMENTS

You will keep a portfolio of most of the work that you do in this class. The portfolio assignments are ongoing and are generally assigned with each module. Much of the portfolio work comes from the small group discussion activities assigned for that module, and readings. Group work discussions are planned throughout the course and are stated within each module. You are expected to be prepared for each module group discussion according to the assignments for the module. Some of these assignments involve prior reading so plan your time according. Check each module for specific assignments. Include in the portfolio any other assignments that you have that indicate the progress of your work (e.g., book review, summary of your panel discussion, etc. according to the date that you presented it or had it returned to you). As you finish each module exercise, date it, and place it in the module in chronological order. The module will be due at assigned dates during the semester. See Assignment Dates for the specific times that each section of the portfolio is due

BRIEF RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Prepare a 4 page proposal in which you outline a research project. Include all the major elements of a proposal. Include introduction to the problem, with a brief literature review (3-4 well chosen articles); the specific problem statement, a hypothesis if necessary; and a design strategy for your research. In the design methodology make sure that you use both qualitative and quantitative procedures (e.g., mixed method). Include a bibliography. In your proposal follow directions given in a well known style manual (e.g., *APA Manual of Style*).

INSTRUCTIONAL MODULES

Module 1. Introduction of Course What is Research?

Objective

To present and outline requirements for course

To introduce the concept of research and to consider its importance to society and to professional life

To introduce students and form into work groups for model 2 assignment

Module 2. Sources of information about research in INF fields

Objectives

To introduce and consider how information is published and/or and reported in the various disciplines through literature reviews, and abstracting and indexing tools

To introduce methods of finding research through major review and indexing and abstracting services

To introduce standard terminologies in describing research reports

Part A INF Field Resources

The following are some general research review sources useful in the INF fields located in PCL:

- Annual Review of Information Science and Technology (Z 699 A1)
- Advances in Librarianship (Z 674 A4);
- Advances in Computers (QA 76 A3);
- Advances in Information Systems (QA 76 D3155);
- Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science, 1st ed. (Z 1006 E57). Includes a very large number of supplements.

The following sources are available from UT Library Online
(<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/indexes/index.html>):

- Dissertation Abstracts International
- ERIC (Includes Library and Information Science
- Library and Information Science Abstracts;
- Library Literature and Information Science;
- Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science, (2d.ed.);
- The ACM Digital Library (also www.acm.org)
- [Source: G. Harmon]

Part B. Other Related Fields

The following are **indexing and abstracting tools** in other areas that offer access finding and exploring research in related fields of interest to INF. All of these are available online at <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/indexes/index.html>. Descriptions are provided with the "About" link at each site.

- America: History & Life
- BIOSIS Previews (includes Biological Abstracts)
- Communication & Mass Media Complete
- Contemporary Literary Criticism
- Chemical Abstracts Student Edition
- Film and Television Literature
- Historical Abstracts
- LexisNexis Academic (includes business)
- Medline
- MedlinePlus
- MLA International Bibliography
- PAIS International (political social sciences)

PsycINFO (psychology)
PubMed
Social Services Abstracts
Sociological Abstracts
Web of Science (inclusive of a wide variety of disciplines)

Assignments for model 2Parts A and B)

For portfolio: Examine two tools A and two tools from B paying attention to coverage and their research reporting. See list below for guidance. Describe findings for your portfolio. For class participation be prepared to share your observations with your class by developing some talking points to share with your group.

- **For abstracts and indexes**
 - Types of research reported--subject coverage.
 - Information provides (bibliographic access points, abstracts and the kinds of abstract provided
 - Subject approaches and online access
 - Authority behind the tool (publishers, association, writers, etc.)
 - How easy it is to use?
 - How affordable is it?
 -
- **For reporting journals or tools**
 - In addition to some of the above points, consider:
 - How is the research presented (journals, discussions, condensed reports
 - What is the overall tone of the source toward research (important in terms of scholarship and professional knowledge, or just a secondary importance?

Module 3. Research in the modern world: A comparative look at research traditions

Objectives:

To consider how research is viewed and practiced in various disciplines and professions and appreciate how this is holistically related to work in INF

To consider how various disciplines view research and its application and how they report research through their major reporting journals and publications.

Some selected fields of inquiry and references:

Anthropology and archeology (cultures and antiquity)

Godson, Chris. *Anthropology and Archaeology: A Changing Relationship*. New York: Routledge, 1999. Available Online.

Biblical criticism (cultural meanings within historical settings)

McKenzie, Steven L and Stephen R. Hayes, eds. *Each Its Own Meaning: An Introduction to Biblical Criticisms and Their Application*. Louisville: Westminster, 1999. Available Online.

Barton, John. *The Nature of Biblical Criticism*. Westminster: John Knox Press, 2007. Not Available at UT.

Biology (evolutionary biology)

Sapp, Jan. *Genesis: The Evolution of Biology*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2003. Available Online.

Communications and journalism (effects of media on behavior)

Hartin Iorio, Sharon, ed. *Taking it to the streets: qualitative research in journalism*. Mahwah, NJ: L. Erlbaum Associates, 2004. PCL: PN 4784 R38 T35 2004.

Leung, Kenneth W.Y., James Kenny, and Paul S.N. Lee, eds. *Global trends in Communication Education and Research*. Cresskill, NJ: Hampton Press, 2006.

Criminology

Bachman, Ronet. *The Practice of Research in Criminology and Criminal Justice*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge Press, 2003. PCL HV 6024.5 B33 2003.

Defle, Mathieu. *Sociological Theory and Criminological Research*. Burlington: Elsevier, 2006. Available Online

Education (learning and culture)

Nutbrown, Cathy. *Research Studies in Early Childhood Education*. Stoke-on-Trent: Trentham, 2002. PCL LB 1139.225 R477 2002.

Ethnic and group studies (e.g., Hispanic, Black, Gay and lesbian studies, Gender studies)

Jones, Liz, and Ian Barron. *Research and Gender*. New York: Continuum, 2007. PCL Q 180.55 M4 J66 2007.

Bulmer, Martin, and John Solomos, eds. *Researching Race and Racism*. New York: Routledge, 2004. PCL HT 1521 R457 2004.

Gunaratnam, Yasmin. *Researching Race and Ethnicity: Methods, Knowledge and Power*. London: SAGE, 2003. PCL GN 496 G86 2003.

Meezan, William, and James Martin, eds. *Research Methods with Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Populations*. Binghamton, NY: Harrington Park Press, 2003. PCL HV 1449 R47 2003.

Hesse-Biber, Sharlene Nagy, and Patricia Lina Leavy. *Feminist Research Practice: A Primer*. Thousand Oaks: SAGE, 2007. PCL Stacks HQ 1180 H47 2007.

Historical research (standards interpretations and reconstructionism)

Mary Fulbrook, *Historical Theory: Ways of Imagining the Past*. New York: Routledge, 2002. PCL D 16.8 F856 2002.

Literary criticism

Murry, John Middleton. *Discoveries - Essays In Literary Criticism*. London: W. Collins, Sons & Co., 1924. PCL 809 M968D.

Medicine (advances in cures)

Landmark research of the Medical Research Council – available on Wikipedia.

Freidman, Meyer, and Gerald W. Friedland. *Medicine's 10 Greatest Discoveries*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1998. PCL R 145 F75 1998.

Music (history, forms, performances, artists)

Beard, David, and Kenneth Gloag. *Musicology: The Key Concepts*. New York: Routledge, 2005. Fine Arts Library ML 3797 B35 2005.

Lehmann, Andreas C. John A. Sloboda, and Robert H. Woody. *Psychology for Musicians Understanding and Acquiring the Skills*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2007. Fine Arts Library ML 3838 L464 2007.

Nursing (culture and health)

National Institute of Nursing Research. *Changing Practice, Changing Lives: 10 Landmark Nursing Research Studies*. Available Online at:

<http://www.ninr.nih.gov/NR/rdonlyres/6F8585AD-A8AC-40D1-B368-84704AF4EED1/0/10LandmarkNursingResearchStudies.pdf>

Popular culture (music, folk applications, reading, entertainment)

Saukko, Paula. *Doing Research in Cultural Studies: An Introduction To Classical and Newer Methodological Approaches*. London: SAGE, 2003. PCL H 62 S33 2003.

Psychology

Spitzer, Robert L. "Can some gay men and lesbians change their sexual orientation?" *Archives of Sexual Behavior* 32, 5 (2003): 403-417.

Hock, Roger R. *Forty Studies that Changed Psychology: Explorations into the History of Psychological Research*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2005. PCL BF 198.7 H63 2005.

Science (General)

Ben-Ari, Moti. *Just A Theory -- Exploring the Nature Of Science*. Amherst, NY: Prometheus Books, 2005. Not Available at UT.

Lee, Jeffrey A. *The Scientific Endeavor -- a Primer on Scientific Principles and Practice*. San Francisco: Benjamin Cummings, 2000. Not Available at UT.

Bronowski, Jacob. *Science and human values*. New York: Harper and Row, 1965. PCL: Q 171 B8785 1965.

Bronowski, Jacob. *The common sense of science*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1978. PCL Q 175 B792 1978

Morrison, Philip, and Morrison, Phylis. *The Ring of Truth: an Inquiry into How we Know What we Know*. New York: Times Books, 1987. PCL Q 175 M8695 1987.

Sociology and social work (culture and urban life)

Nofz, Michael P. *Sociology and You: An Applied Approach*. Champaign, IL: Stipes, 1996. Not Available at UT.

Work and recreation

Juravich, Tom. *Chaos on the Shop Floor: a Worker's View of Quality, Productivity, and Management*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1985. PCL Stacks HD 6957 U6 J87 1985.

Berg, Kris E., and Richard W Latin. *Essentials of Research Methods in Health, Physical Education, Exercise Science, and Recreation*, 2nd ed. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2004. PCL Stacks Q 180.55 M4 B417 2004.

Reporting Resources

Journal Resources (Selected). See also Module 1A. Hundreds of research journals exist. For others consults the periodical room PCL.

The American Historical Review. E 171 A57. Also Available Online.
Children Literature in Education. Z 1037 A1 C5. Also Available Online.
Family Relations. Interdisciplinary Journal of Applied Family Studies. HQ 1
F36.

Also Available Online.
Literature Film Quarterly. PN 1993 L5844. Also Available Online.
Harvard Business Review. HF 5001 H3. Also Available Online.
James Joyce Quarterly. PR 6019 O9 Z637.
Journal of Anthropological Research. GN 1 S64. Also Available Online.
Journal of Communication. P 87 J6. Also Available Online.
Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism. PN 1601 J68.
Journal of Marriage and Family. HQ 1 J48. Also Available Online.
Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion. BL 1 J6. Also Available Online.
Historical Archaeology. E 11 S625.
Historical Journal. D 1 H33. Also Available Online.
International Review of Social History. HN1 I 53. Also Available Online.
The Lion and the Unicorn. PV 1009 A1 L54. Also Available Online.
Marketing Science. HF 5410 M39. Also Available Online.

Indexes and Abstracts. See Module 1 (Part B)

Assignments for Module 3.

For portfolio. Select two journals from the above list and annotate these in terms of reporting research and the application of research findings. See guidelines below. Consider the journals' standings in their fields. For group work: Present your selections and description to your work group.

For reporting journals

- How is research presented (journals, discussions, condensed reports)
- What is the overview tone of the source toward research (important in terms of scholarship and professional knowledge, or just a secondary importance?)
- What is the authority behind the tool?
- What is its standing in the field?
- Is it referred?
- What are the instructions for manuscript submissions?
- Is it indexed or abstracted in an accessible outside source?
- Does it seem to represent the values of an accepted discipline?
- Other characteristics that you notice.

Module 4. Research in INF Fields with Examples

Objectives:

- To consider how research is used and applied in the INF field.
- To consider examples of important and influential research in the field
- To consider who does the major research in the INF Field
- To conflicting ideas about research in the INF field

Examples of research areas

- Management of personnel
- Facilities and their design and functions
- Collection development and management
- Users and user needs and requirements
- Designs and testing of information retrieval instruments
- Learning and the effects of school libraries
- Literature analysis
- Historical studies
- Institutional environments
- Cultural and social patterns
- Bibliography and bibliographic control
- Social and cultural studies
- Technology and its application

Importance of abstracts and abstracting in keeping up with research

Examples of journals in the various disciplines that report research and research applications in the INF field, including those in which the INF faculty have published. Current journals are located in PCL.2.400. Bound journal are in the stacks.

- The American Archivist*. PCL: CD 3020 A45
- Bulletin of the American Society for Information Science and Technology* PCL: Z 699 A1 A624A. Also Available Online.
- Cataloging and Classification Quarterly* PCL: Z 693 A15 C35. Also Available Online
- College and Research Libraries* Z 671 Z6. Also Available Online.
- International Journal of Information and Management Science* T 58.6 I579.
- International Journal of Human-Computer Studies* Engineering Library: TA 167 I5. Also Available Online.
- Journal of Digital Information* Online Only.
- Journal of Documentation* PCL: Z 1007 J9. Also Available Online.
- Journal of Information Science* PCL: Z 699 A1 I5456. Also Available Online.
- Journal of Education for Library and Information Science* PCL: Z 671 J64. Also Available Online.
- Journal of the Medical Library Association* PCL: Z 675 M4 M423. Also Available Online.
- Journal of Usability Studies*
- Knowledge and Information Systems* Online Only.
- Libraries and the Cultural Record*. Continues *Libraries and Culture*. Law Library: Z 671 J6. Also Available Online.

Library History PCL: Z 721 L5255. Also Available Online.
Library Quarterly. PCL: Z 671 L713. Also Available Online.
Library Trends PCL: Z 671 L6173. Also Available Online.
Libri: The International Journal of Libraries and Information Services
PCL: Z 671 L74
New Review of Children's Literature and Librarianship PCL: Z 718.1 I574
Also Available Online.
School Library Media Research Online Only.

Assignment for Module 4.

For portfolio: **1.** identify two important research journals in INF, examine them and briefly describe them. Be prepared to present to your work group. **2.** Consider the types of abstracts that are generally available in research. Go to *Dissertations Abstracts International* (online at PCL), find the coverage sections for INF (depending on your interests), and for the last ten years locate 3 dissertations that have been accepted during those time periods. Read the abstracts, (and sometime more information is provided, e.g., first chapter,) and briefly describe the studies' subjects (e.g., what they attempted to research). Consider whether the abstract was informative enough for you to really understand what the study was all about. How significant do you feel the study might be for further research and development in the area under investigation? Prepare group some talking points to be shared with your group.

Module 5. Theory and its role in research

Objectives

- To consider the various meanings of theory
- To review how theory is applied in both science, social sciences, and humanities
- To review some basic theories and their research bases
- To consider ways that they have been applied to INF research

Examples of theoretical constructs

- Scientific theories (examples):
 - Theory of relativity;
 - Biological evolutionary theories
- Literary theories
- Modernism and postmodernism
- Social theories (examples)
 - Social constructionism
 - Discourse theory
 - Behaviorism
 - Social behavior and social environmental theories
 - Cognitive theory
 - Information theory

Important theorists and schools of theory

- The Graduate School of Library Science, Univ. of Chicago faculty
- The Graduate School of Library Science, Univ. of California, Berkeley
- Case Western Reserve University

Resources:

Scott, E.C. *Evolution vs. creationism -- an introduction*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2004. *Science: "truth without certainty,"* is particularly relevant. PCL: QH 367 S395 2004

Snow, C.P. *The Two Cultures*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993. HRC: AZ 361 S56 1993

Mary Fulbrook, *Historical Theory: Ways of Imagining the Past*. New York: Routledge, 2002. PCL: D 16.8 F856 2002.

Adam, A.K.M. *What Is Postmodern Biblical Criticism? (Guides to Biblical Scholarship New Testament Series)*. Augsburg Fortress Publishers, 1995. Not Available at UT.
Murry, John Middleton. *Discoveries - Essays In Literary Criticism*. London: W. Collins, Sons & Co., 1924. PCL 809 M968D.

Biographical and resources on theories

- Biography Database*. Available Online.
- Biography Reference Bank*. Available Online.
- Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology*. Available Online
- Dictionary of American Biography*. (plus supplements and indexes) PCL: E 176 D567

1964

Dictionary of Scientific Biography. PCL: Q-Q141 D5 plus supplements
Dictionary of Theories. PCL: AG 5 D537 1993
Education and Sociology: An Encyclopedia. PCL: LC 189.95 E38 2002
Elsevier's Dictionary of Psychological Theories. PCL: BF E44 2006. Available online.
Encyclopedia Britannica. PCL: AE 5 E363 2002
Encyclopedia of Education. PCL: LB 15 E47 2003
Encyclopedia of Education and Sociology Development. PCL: LB 15 E473 2005
Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science. PCL: Z 1006 E57 2003
Encyclopedia of Sociology. Available Online.
International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences. PCL: H 41 I58 2001
McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science & Technology. PCL: Q 121 M3 2002
Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (DNB) PCL: DA 28 O95 2004
World of Ideas: A Dictionary of Important Theories, Concepts, Beliefs and Thinkers.
PCL: BF R64 1999

Assignments:

For portfolio: Select and write a brief (500 words) of either a biographical sketch of a well-know theorists in an area of your interest or a theoretical model or idea. Be prepared to present to your work group.

Module 6. Major research techniques and applications

Objectives

To consider the major tools and applications used in research

To understand how these are applied to the broad area of INF studies

- A. Humanistic approaches to textual and documental studies
- B. Historical (critical analysis and documentation)
- C. Literature
- D. Scientific methods: Background and major approaches:
 - Qualitative and Quantitative
 - Clinical and experimental (laboratory and experimental)
- E.. Replication in scientific research

Resources

Assignments

For portfolio: Read a discussion on a major approach commonly used in humanistic (e.g., literature, history) research and one in scientific research. Consider if and how these have application in INF studies and research. Be able to present to your work group.

Module 7. Recent Research in INF

Objectives

To consider some recent examples of INF research

To consider the recently published TLA research initiatives

For portfolio. After hearing the 2 work groups presentations, prepare a list of at least 5 questions that arose from these presentations. Discuss selectively some of these questions with your group, from the discussion prepare a representative list of questions that came from that discussion with comments and include those in your portfolio.

Module 8. Primary tools of research In INF

Objectives

To review and consider the major approaches to gathering research data including:

- Documents and content analysis
- Field work as evidence
- Content analysis
- Human subjects as data and the researcher's responsibility to them (ethical issues)
- Intervention and clinical applications
- Bibliographic research (documents and retrospective literature)

To consider research applications and uses in INF research

Assignments:

For portfolio: Select an article that explains at least two research techniques useful in INF research. Prepare a brief (500 words) review of the techniques and explain how they would be useful in INF research. The following resources should help you with this. Be able to discuss this with your group.

Resources:

Handbook of Applied Social Research Methods. PCL: H62 H24534 1998
Handbook of Mixed Methods in Social & Behavioral Research. PCL: H62 T244 2003
Mellon, Constance A. *Naturalistic Inquiry for Library Science. Methods and Applications for Research, Evaluation, and Teaching.* PCL Reserves: Z 669.7 M46 1990
Kamil, Michael L, ed. *Handbook of Reading Research.* Mahwah, NJ: L. Erlbaum Assoc., 2000. Available Online.
The Sage Encyclopedia of Social Science Research Methods. PCL: H62 S34 2004.
Slater, Margaret. *Research Methods in Library and Information Studies.* Z669.7 R4732 1990

Note: There are many guides to research in specific areas of study that are useful. Check PCL for these. For Example, *Encyclopedia of Nursing Research* PCL Reference RT 81.5 E53 2006 is an example. Use appropriate keywords such as Encyclopedia + a the name of a discipline or area of study, e.g., psychology; or handbook + a discipline to find listings. Methodology is also a useful keyword to use.

Module 9. Statistics as a research tool

Objectives:

To consider role of statistical methods in research
To introduce basic statistical concepts and terms and their applications
To consider the role of the modern computer in statistical analysis
To review some modern development in statistical applications
To consider how to use a statistical consultant in research work
To review the computer and new methods of statistical analysis (new developments)
The statistic consultant as a resource

Assignments

For portfolio: Complete the statistical exercises that follows.

Resources: See citations in exercise

Module 10. Design and preparing the research study

Objectives:

To review how research is reported and disseminated including:

Humanities and history, science, journalism and mass media

To consider the form of the scientific report:

Role of theory

Literature review

Methodology

Findings

Discussion

Conclusions and recommendations

Resources and documentation

To determine how to disseminate findings of research projects – to whom and how

Assignments:

For portfolio: Read a study from a humanistic area of study and one from a scientific area of study and compare and contrast them in term of how they present research findings. Prepare a 500 word review each for both of your studies. Consider whether the study could be restructured to follow the other method of presentation (that is, could a study presented in the tradition of the humanities be reformed to be presented as a scientific study, and vice versa. Suggest how the study could be developed for presentation to a lay audience. For the group: Be prepared to present to your group

Resources:

See module 1 for resource suggestions.

Module 11. The Ethics and Legalities of Research

Objectives:

To consider the expectations and responsibilities of the researcher in a democratic society

To consider some of the major ethical and legal problems facing

To review the role of government in research and its foci

To consider the role of government and professional association and society to protect the research integrity and the public

Assignments:

For portfolio. Select and read 1 article addressing some of the legal and ethical problems faced by society and researcher today. Write a brief (500 word) review of your article. Be prepared to present to your work group.