

## **Social Science Methodology Graduate Certificate Program**

Approved by the Social and Behavioral Sciences Council June 25, 2003

### **Summary**

The Social Science Methodology Graduate Certificate program is intended for students who have a strong interest in developing methodological skills in addition to their substantive field of interest in the social and behavioral sciences

[1] Students must complete 12 approved credit hours of study from the list, with at least 3 units selected from the home department and 3 units chosen from outside the home department.

[2] Grades of B or better are required in all relevant course-work.

[3] Students must complete a graduate degree at the University of Florida.

[4] Students should submit a plan of study that has been endorsed by the student's supervisory committee to the Certificate Coordinator for approval.

### **Introduction**

The Social Science Methodology Graduate Certificate program is intended for students who have a strong interest in developing methodological skills in addition to their substantive field of interest in the social and behavioral sciences. The principal mission of the program is to provide thorough, and documented, training in the research methodologies that bear directly on the student's planned career.

Tools of research methodology have become indispensable for graduates, whether they are pursuing an academic career or work in the private sector. Methodology broadly encompasses quantitative approaches such as mathematical formalism and statistical analysis, as well as qualitative approaches such as surveying, focus groups, ethnography, elite interviews, and unobtrusive measures. This standard definition can and should be broadened to include: policy analysis skills, economic or financial analysis, demography, and computation, such as GIS.

This Graduate Certificate certifies a graduate student as having committed himself or herself to obtaining methodological expertise through coursework offered across departments in the college. The basic idea is to package a wide variety of currently offered courses under a more general rubric in order to provide a wide range of foci for students.

This program is administered by a Certificate Coordinator, who is appointed by the Social and Behavioral Sciences Council.

## **Course Progression And Sequence**

Students will complete 12 credit hours from an approved list of courses, above and beyond the core methodology courses required in the student's home department. At least one of these must be an offering from the student's home department. In addition, at least one course must be outside the home department in order to provide alternative perspectives and approaches.

Except for prerequisites, individual course sequence is unimportant. Students may also take the 12 credit hours at any time prior to completing their graduate degree. Since individual departmental offerings may be intermittent due to faculty status and other scheduling concerns, it is essential to provide this flexibility.

## **Summer Offerings**

Each summer, one of the supporting departments expects to offer an applicable methods course to support the Certificate Program. This course offering will rotate by department, dependent on staffing ability. In order to further support graduate student interest in summer offerings an approved list of ICPSR Summer Program courses will be established as a substitute for 3 of the 12 credit hours for the Certificate. The other 9 credits must be earned at the University of Florida. Information on the ICPSR program (Intra-University Consortium for Political and Social Research at the University of Michigan, the premier graduate methodology training program in the world) can be obtained at their web-page: <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/TRAINING/summer.html>.

A second feature, designed to promote exploration by students, is the introduction of "modules" in the summer offerings. Departments can, at their prerogative, take their summer offering and segment it into separate modules on particular topics taught by multiple faculty.

## **Plan Of Study**

In consultation with the Supervisory Committee, each student will prepare a plan of study outlining the courses to be taken to fulfill the requirements of the Certificate. That plan of study will be reviewed for approval by the Certificate Coordinator. Upon completion of an approved plan of study (with no grade less than "B"), the Certificate Coordinator will present the Certificate to the student.

Those wishing to pursue the certificate should meet with the Certificate Coordinator to discuss a selection of courses appropriate to the student's individual goals. Students must choose either a quantitative or a qualitative specialization for their certificate program, and their selection of proposed courses (as well as subsequent changes) must be approved by the Certificate Coordinator. As a preliminary guide for students, courses in the list below that are marked with an "A" normally count for the quantitative specialty and those marked with "B" normally apply to the qualitative specialty. Approved programs will have an appropriate combination of courses. For example, the Philosophy courses

listed below are appropriate for both quantitative and qualitative programs. However, an approved program will normally include no more than one of these courses. In addition, it is expected that the certificate courses will not include any courses required for the student's degree because the goal of the certificate program is to provide an additional credential. The Coordinator may approve appropriate courses not listed here.

This list will be updated periodically to reflect the addition of courses.

Sociology:

SYA 6315 -- Qualitative Research Methods (Fall)	B
SYA 6407 -- Quantitative Research M (Spring)	A
SYD 6135 -- Demographic Methods and Processes (not yet scheduled)	A

Political Science

POS 6747 -- Applied Linear Models (Fall)	A
POS 6747 -- Likelihood Theory (Spring)	A
POS 6747 -- Bayesian Methods for the Social and Behavioral Sciences (intermittent)	A
POS 6757 -- Survey Research (Spring even numbered years)	A
POS 6933 -- Qualitative Methodology (Spring odd numbered years)	B
PUP 6006 -- Policy Evaluation (Fall).	A

Statistics

STA 4210 -- Regression Analysis (Fall)	A
STA 4211 -- Design of Experiments (Spring)	A
STA 4321/4322 -- Mathematical Statistics	A
STA 5106 -- Computer Programs in Statistical Analysis (Fall and Spring).	A
STA 5503 -- Categorical Data Methods (Spring).	A
STA 5507 -- Applied Nonparametric Methods (Fall).	A
STA 6207 -- Basic Design and Analysis of Experiments (Fall).	A
STA 6208 -- Regression Analysis	A
STA 5701 -- Applied Multivariate Methods (Spring odd numbered years).	A
STA 6857 -- Applied Time Series Analysis (Fall odd numbered years).	A
STA 6329 -- Matrix Algebra and Statistical Computing	A

Economics (open issue: not in college yet)

ECO 7424 -- Econometric Methods 1 (Fall).	A
ECO 7327 -- Econometric Methods 2 (Spring).	A

Psychology

PPE 6308 -- Research Methods II (intermittent).	A
SOP 6218 -- Laboratory in Social Psychology: Attitudinal Scaling (intermittent)	A
DEP 6799 -- Current Research Methods in Developmental Psychology	A,B

Anthropology

ANG 5485 -- Research Design in Anthropology (Fall)	A
ANG 6801 -- Ethnographic Field Methods (intermittent)	B

Geography

GEO 5157 -- Geographic Information Systems in Business (Spring)	A
GEO 5159 -- Geographic Information Systems Applications in Environmental Systems (intermittent).	A
GEO 5177 -- Geographic Information Systems in Research (Fall)	A
GEO 5186 -- Analysis of Thematic Data Quality (Fall)	A

Criminology

- CCJ 6705 -- Research Methods in Crime, Law, and Justice I A  
CCJ 7705 -- Research Methods in Crime, Law, and Justice II A

Mathematics

- MAP 6472 -- Probability and Potential Theory I (intermittent) A  
MAP 6473 -- Probability and Potential Theory II (intermittent) A  
MAP 5207 -- Foundations of Mathematics (Spring) A

Philosophy

- PHI 5135 -- Graduate Logic (Fall) A,B  
PHI 5425 -- Philosophy of Social Science (Spring) A,B  
PHI 6100 -- Seminar in Logic (intermittent) A,B

History

- HIS 6445 -- Theories and Methods of Social History (intermittent) A,B

Women's Studies

- WST 5933 -- Proseminar in Women's Studies B