

**Introduction to Research in Communication Sciences and Disorders
SLHS 444 - Spring 2007**

Time: Tu/Th 9:00-10:15
Room: CL50 125
Credits: 3

Professor: Michael Heinz, Ph.D.
Office: G34C Heavilon Hall
Phone: 496-6627
Email: mheinz@purdue.edu
Office hours: M 9:30-10:30, or by appointment

Required text: Evaluating Research in Communication Disorders, by Schiavetti and Metz (2006)

Grading policy:

Written Assignments	30%
Midterm Exam	25%
Paper Presentation	25%
Final paper	10%
Participation	10%

WebCT: A course webpage will be maintained, which will include course material and grades.

Course Description: This course will provide an introduction to fundamental concepts of research in the basic and clinical aspects of speech, language and hearing normal processes and disorders. Among topics to be covered will be research design and strategies, model and theory development, research ethics, and concepts related to data collection and interpretation. This course will not deal with specific methods of statistical analysis.

The course has **three primary goals:**

- 1) To provide students with fundamental knowledge of issues relating to evaluating basic and clinical research.
- 2) To provide students with experience in reading research articles.
- 3) To provide students with an introduction to specific research taking place at Purdue in the SLHS department.

This course is intended for students who are interested in learning about how research works and how to understand and interpret research. This course would be particularly appropriate for students who are potentially interested in pursuing research themselves or are interested in applying basic and/or clinical research to clinical practice.

Students will read research papers written by several SLHS faculty members. These faculty members will then present an overview of the ongoing research in their labs. Assignments will include short writing exercises throughout the semester, a class presentation by each student of a research paper from the literature, and a final project that will provide each student with experience in writing their own research paper.

Class guidelines: You are responsible for all material covered in class and in the readings. Students are expected to read the assigned material **prior** to the class meeting/lecture session. Students are expected to attend all classes. If a session is missed, it is the student's responsibility to obtain the material that was covered in the class meeting. Student participation in class discussion is much valued and will contribute to the final grade that is earned. Plagiarism will be viewed as a serious violation of student ethics and integrity and will result in a failing grade, referral to the Head of SLHS, and possible referral to the Office of the Dean of Students.

Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities must be registered with Adaptive Programs in the Office of the Dean of Students before classroom accommodations can be provided. If you have a disability that requires academic adjustments, please make an appointment with me to discuss your needs as soon as possible.

Class Schedule (tentative):

Note: Readings listed on the syllabus correspond to the material to be discussed that day and should be read **prior** to each class.

Week	Date	Topic	Reading
1	1/9	Introduction, Consumer of Research	Ch. 1
	1/11	Abstracts, Literature searches, <u>HEINZ</u> research talk	
2	1/16	Research Strategies	Ch. 2
	1/18	Research Strategies	
3	1/23	Research Design	Ch. 3
	1/25	Measurement Issues	Ch. 4
4	1/30	SLHS faculty research talk: <u>Elizabeth Strickland</u>	???
	2/1	Evaluating Treatment Efficacy	Ch. 5
5	2/6	Organization and Analysis of Data	Ch. 6
	2/8	Organization and Analysis of Data	
6	2/13	(ARO) SLHS faculty research talk: <u>Anne Smith</u>	???
	2/15	SLHS faculty research talk: <u>Jessica Huber</u>	???
7	2/20	Evaluating Articles: Introduction Section	Ch. 7
	2/22	Evaluating Articles: Methods Section	Ch. 8
8	2/27	Evaluating Articles: Methods Section	
	3/1	Evaluating Articles: Results Section	Ch. 9
9	3/6	SLHS faculty research talk: <u>Chris Weber-Fox</u>	???
	3/8	MIDTERM EXAM	
10	3/13	SPRING BREAK	
	3/15	SPRING BREAK	
11	3/20	Evaluating Articles: Results Section	
	3/22	Evaluating Articles: Discussion and Conclusions Sections	Ch. 10
12	3/27	Article Evaluation: Fitzgibbons and Gordon-Salant	pp. 411-423
	3/29	Article Evaluation: Robertson and Weismer	pp. 424-444
13	4/3	SLHS faculty research talk: <u>Karen Kirk</u>	???
	4/5	Student Paper Presentations	
14	4/10	Student Paper Presentations	
	4/12	Student Paper Presentations	
15	4/17	Student Paper Presentations	
	4/19	Student Paper Presentations	
16	4/24	SLHS faculty research talk: <u>Mahalakshmi (Preeti) Sivasankar</u>	???
	4/26	SLHS faculty research talk: <u>Amanda Seidl</u>	???
4/30-5/4		FINAL PAPER DUE Tuesday, May 1 at 5pm (NO FINAL EXAM)	