Faculty
Name: Dr. Joel Martin
Office hours: By appointment
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Office phone: 703-993-7607
Email address: jmarti38@gmu.edu

Prerequisites/Corequisites
Graduate standing or Permission of instructor.

University Catalog Course Description
Studies problem areas in exercise, fitness, and health promotion research, theory, or practice under direction of faculty member. May be repeated. No more than 3 credits may be earned.

Course Overview
This independent study course facilitates opportunities for students to engage in-depth self-directed inquiry of a relevant topic or professional experience. The instructor of record will approve the title and focus and provide a final grade for this course.

Course Delivery Method
This course is delivered through experiential learning experiences and face to face meetings with the course instructor.

Learner Outcomes or Objectives
This course is designed to enable students to do the following:
1. Apply theories, concepts, and evidence-based strategies to address a research question
2. Implement an evidence-based approach to collect data
3. Demonstrate the ability to complete data collection for a research project independently

Required Readings
As directed by course instructor or supervisor.

Course Performance Evaluation
Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard, Tk20, hard copy).

- Assignments and Examinations
  o Weekly Reports
The weekly reports allow the instructor to monitor your progress throughout the semester. These serve as documentation of your activities during the semester. A template of the report will be provided to you.

- **Research Techniques Mastered**
  Student must demonstrate competency in data collection procedures to be used. Adequate pilot testing should be performed under the supervision of the primary research project advisor.

- **IRB**
  An IRB will be developed so that data collected from Prince William County Public Safety can be used for research purposes.

- **Educational Manual / Data Collection**
  You will be responsible for collecting data related to the research project assigned to you by your research project primary advisor. The expectations will be clearly communicated to you at the start of the semester. If you have work or personal activities that may restrict your availability at specific times you are responsible for communicating this to the research project advisor with as much notice as possible. As needed the student will assist peers with their data collection. This will provide experience using additional research instruments and methodology beyond what the student is utilizing for their research project.

- **Education Presentation**
  Student will make a 30-45 minute educational presentation to peers on a topic agreed upon by the student and instructor. The purpose of this assignment is to gain experience providing an educational presentation to peers. This ability is desired by many MS level jobs.

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**Grading**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Method</th>
<th>Points Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Reports</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Techniques Mastered</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRB</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Manual / Data Collection</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Presentation</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Course Grading Scale**

The student's final letter grade will be earned based on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Quality Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Quality Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>2.67*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>3.67</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;73%</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Note: Although a B- is a satisfactory grade for a course, students must maintain a 3.00 average in their degree program.

**Professional Dispositions**
See [https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/](https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/)

**Class Schedule**
There will be weekly meetings from 8:30 to 10:30 am on Wednesday to discuss and work on the research projects. These will take place in room 212 of Bull Run Hall. Please plan on attending the following dates:
- 8/29
- 9/12
- 9/19
- 9/26
- 10/3
- 10/10
- 10/17
- 10/24
- 10/31
- 11/7
- 11/14
- 11/28
- 12/5

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.
Core Values Commitment

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: [http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/](http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/).

GMU Policies and Resources for Students

Policies

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see [https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/](https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/)).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see [http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/](http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/)).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see [http://ods.gmu.edu/](http://ods.gmu.edu/)).
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be silenced during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Campus Resources

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to tk20help@gmu.edu or [https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20](https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20). Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to [http://coursessupport.gmu.edu/](http://coursessupport.gmu.edu/).
- For information on student support resources on campus, see [https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus](https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus)

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website [https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/](https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/).