CJ 4116 PROGRAM & POLICY EVALUATION

This course examines methodologies for the formal assessment of social programs using quantitative and qualitative methods of inquiry including survey, interview, observation and case study techniques. The political and social processes framing evaluation research are also discussed. The course requires a student project to apply lessons learned.

TEXTBOOK: Evaluation A Systematic Approach (2004)(7th ed) P. Rossi, M. Lipsy, & H

Freeman. Sage

Lecture notes and handouts will supplement text readings.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course uses a program evaluation focus to teach the application of research methods to practical problems. The course has three major components. Lectures, discussion, and your course text will impart necessary knowledge about program design and policy evaluation. In the lab, individual and group work assignments will involve you in applying fundamental technical skills such as asking research questions, structuring a case study, running focus groups, conducting data analysis, interpreting and writing up research findings, and making recommendations for future research.

COURSE EVALUTAION:

10% Participation

30% Lab Assignments (3X10%).

30% Term Test

30% Research Project

100% Total

Participation will be graded on attendance and punctuality (don't miss any classes unless really ill and be a few minutes early for class), and active participation that shows you have done the readings and are engaged in the lectures. A handout will be provided on lab assignments, and open labs will be available for help. A study guide will be provided prior to the term test.

There will be three lab assignments. You will use existing data sets, and case study simulations will also be presented to challenge you. Finally, you will conduct your own research study, either analyzing data you have collected or using secondary data to test hypotheses or answer research questions.

Student and instructor will meet formally to discuss the project, and the student will present some of their findings to their colleagues at the end of the class. The presentation will not be marked, but failure to present anything or not attending your colleagues presentations will result in a loss of 5 marks.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION;

The following letter/percentage scale will be used for all assignments.

A+ = 90-100%	B+ = 75-79%	C = 60-64%
A = 84-89%	B = 70-74%	D = 50-59%
A- = 80-83%	C+ = 65-69%	F = 0-49%

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Students should acquaint themselves with the University's policy regarding **academic ethics** (i.e. cheating). It is outlined in The University of Winnipeg Course Calendar under the heading; Regulations and Policies.

http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/calendar-calendar

WITHDRAWAL DATE:

The final date to withdraw from the course without academic penalty can be found online. http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-withdrawal-schedules

SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students with documented disabilities requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams (e.g., private space) or during lectures/laboratories (e.g., access to volunteer note-takers) are encouraged to contact the Coordinator of Disability Services (DS) at 786-9771 to discuss appropriate options. Specific information about DS is available on-line at http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-disability. All information about the disability is confidential.

PROGRAM & POLICY EVALUATION CJ 4116 COURSE OUTLINE AND REQUIRED READINGS

*Indicates article available on-line.

Wk	CLASS TOPICS	
1	Course Overview, Introduction to Evaluation Lab Sept 9 th : SPSS Intro	Rossi Ch1
2	Introduction to Evaluation Lab Sept 14 th Descriptives	Rossi Ch1 *Drug Court
3	Tailoring Evaluations	Rossi Ch2 *Spotlight
4	Evaluation Questions Lab Sept 28 Pre and Post, Matched Sample T-Test.	Rossi Ch 3
5	Assessing Program Need	Rossi Ch 4
6	Program Theory	Rossi Ch 5

	Lab Oct 14, Bivariate Relationships	
7	Program Monitoring	Rossi Ch 6
8	Impact Assessment	Rossi Ch 7
9	Policy Evaluation	
10	Social Context of Evaluation	Rossi Ch 12
11	Term Test	
12	Work on Research project, meetings with Instructor (no formal classes scheduled)	
13	Oral Presentations of Project to date.	
	Research Paper due.	