

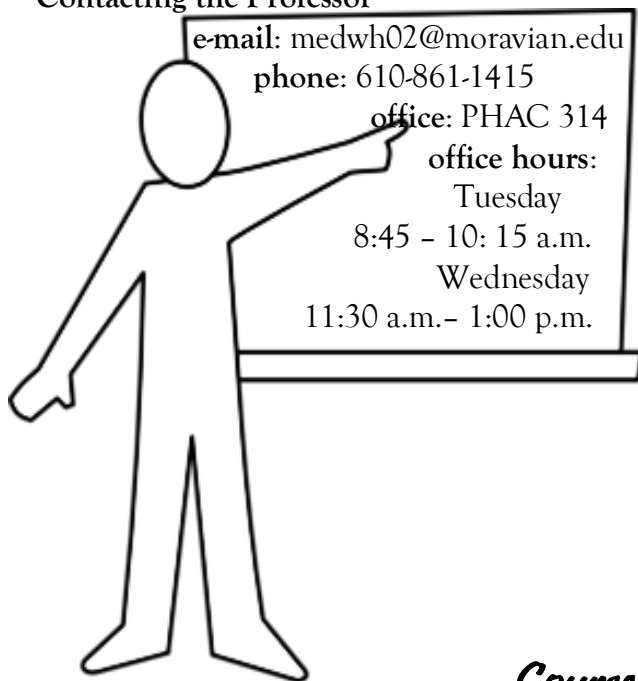
# SYLLABUS

## BASIC SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH

### MORAVIAN COLLEGE

### DR. D. WETCHER-HENDRICKS

#### Contacting the Professor



#### Required Course Readings

Babbie, Earl. *The Basics of Social Research*, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition. Wadsworth Publishing. 2011.  
ISBN-13: 9780495094685

Assorted handouts (distributed by professor)

#### *Course Outcomes*

*Successful completion of this course should produce the following outcomes.*

- 1. understanding of the basic scientific research process*
- 2. competence in identifying components of a study and recognizing their relationships to one another*
- 3. appreciation for the influences that previously conducted research and established theories have upon new research*
- 4. familiarity with methods of sociological research and related issues, such as validity, reliability, and research ethics*
- 5. skills to comprehend and assess research reports as well as to write summaries of new research*

Throughout the term, students work on research projects. Three written summaries, due at designated times throughout the semester, should demonstrate the methodological processes involved in formulating and investigating a hypothesis. Specific information about the project appears in the "Semester Project Guidelines."

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Four non-cumulative quizzes are given in this course. Quizzes are given during the first ½ hour of class on scheduled dates (see course schedule). They include short-answer questions that address the basic concepts discussed in class and in assigned readings.

Five laboratory sessions require students to apply information from class and readings to various research scenarios. These sessions take place during the last ½ hour of class on scheduled dates (see course schedule). Lab responses are due at the end of these classes. Specific information about each lab will be presented as it becomes relevant. Students have access to their books and notes and may discuss the labs with classmates during lab sessions.

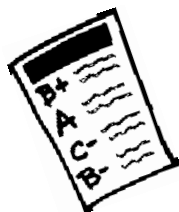
Although attendance, itself, does not affect students' grades in this course, each student receives a class participation grade. **IT IS NECESSARY TO ATTEND CLASS TO RECEIVE CLASS PARTICIPATION CREDIT.** Contributions to class discussions and activities increase students' participation grades. Obvious inactivity (including sleeping), disruptions (including consistently arriving to class late), and lack of effort lowers the grade.

The preceding factors will be combined in the following manner to determine students' course grades.

RESEARCH PROJECT	40%
Phase 1	10%
Phase 2	10%
Phase 3/PORTFOLIO	20%
LAB RESPONSES	25%
5% each	
QUIZZES	25%
6.25% each	
CLASS PARTICIPATION	10%

Course grades follow the letter-grade system. Please consult the Moravian College Student Handbook for a description of the level of work characteristic of each grade. The numerical ranges used in assigning each letter grade in this course are as follows.

A	92%-100%	C	72% - 77.9%
A-	90%-91.9%	C-	70%-71.9%
B+	88%-89.9%	D+	68%-69.9%
B	82%-87.9%	D	62%-67.9%
B-	80%-81.9%	D-	60%-61.9%
C+	78%-79.9%	F	0%-59.9%



## Policies

All standards listed in the college catalog that deal with attendance, withdrawal, cheating, plagiarism, and any other pertinent policies apply to this class.

Please make every possible effort to take quizzes, complete labs, and submit project reports on the scheduled dates (see course schedule). All missed quizzes and labs are completed at the end of the semester. Late reports and will be accepted with a five point penalty for each day that they are late, including weekends and holidays.

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Mr. Joe Kempfer, Assistant Director of Learning Services for Disability Support, 1307 Main Street (extension 1510). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the office of Learning Services.

Please Note: The calendar on the next page provides an anticipated schedule of topics and assignments. Please be aware that it may change based upon the progression of the term.



## Course Schedule

assignment for this week	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Buy the book Read pages 5-6, 8-12, 16-21, and 24-28	1/16	1/17  Introductions	1/18	1/19  Sociological Inquiry	1/20
Read Chapter 2 (beginning with page 43)	1/23	1/24  Research Elements	1/25	1/26 <b>LAB 1</b>  Research Elements	1/27
Read Chapter 4 (first half)	1/30	1/31 Research Elements/ The Research Plan	2/1	2/2  The Research Plan	2/3
Read Chapter 4 (second half) and handouts	2/6	2/7 <b>LAB 2</b>  The Research Plan	2/8	2/9 <b>QUIZ 1</b>  Literature Reviews	2/10
Read handout(s) and website information Write Phase 1 summary	2/13	2/14 <b>Phase 1</b> <b>summary due</b> Literature Reviews	2/15	2/16 Literature Reviews/ Research Ethics	2/17
Read Chapter 3	2/20	2/21  Research Ethics	2/22	2/23 <b>LAB 3</b>  Research Ethics	2/24
Read Chapter 5	2/27	2/28 <b>QUIZ 2</b>  Measurement	2/29	3/1  Measurement	3/2
Rest and relax	3/5	3/6	3/7	3/8	3/9





Read Chapter 6 Write Phase 2 summary	3/12	3/13  Developing Questions	3/14	3/15  Developing Questions	3/16
Read Chapter 7	3/19	3/20  Sampling	3/21	3/22 <b>Phase 2 summary due/ LAB 4</b> Sampling	3/23
Read handout	3/26	3/27 <b>QUIZ 3</b> Data Gathering Techniques Overview	3/28	3/29  Individual Meetings	3/30
Read handout	4/2	4/3  Individual Meetings	4/4	4/5 <b>LAB 5</b> Data Gathering Techniques Overview	4/6
Read pages 269-283, 286- 296 and 246-254	4/9	4/10  Surveys	4/11	4/12  Surveys/Experiments	4/13
Read pages 254-261 and 314-331, and 333-343	4/16	4/17  Experiments	4/18	4/19  Observations	4/20
SKIM Chapter 11	4/23	4/25 <b>QUIZ 4</b>  Unobtrusive Research	4/25	4/26  make-up/review day	4/27
Write Phase 3 summary Revise Phase 1 and Phase 2 summaries	4/30 <b>PORTFOLIO DUE</b>	5/1	5/2	5/3	5/4