
USF Sarasota-Manatee - Substantive Undergraduate Course Proposal Form

1. College/School Contact Information

<u>Tracking Number</u> 47	<u>Date & Time Submitted</u> 2016-01-11 15:12:53.0		
<u>Discipline</u> Interdisciplinary Social Sciences	<u>College/School</u>	<u>Budget Account Number</u> 120700004	
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2. Course Information

<u>Prefix</u> ISS	<u>Number</u> 3300	<u>Full Title</u> Research Methods in Social Sciences	
Is the course title variable?			N
Is a permit required for registration?			N
Are the credit hours variable?			N
<u>Credit Hours</u> 3	<u>Section Type</u> Class Lecture (Primarily)	<u>Grading Option</u> Regular	

Abbreviated Title (30 characters maximum)
Research Methods in Social Sci

5. Prerequisites

ISS 3010; and ISS 3311

6. Corequisites

7. Co-Prerequisites

8. Course Description

This course introduces students to the methodologies used in social science research. It covers both qualitative and quantitative research design, sampling, measurement, analysis, and critical evaluation of scholarly literature.

9. New Course Information

<u>New Prefix</u> N/A	<u>New Number</u> N/A	<u>New Full Title</u> N/A	
Is the course title variable?			N
Is a permit required for registration?			N
Are the credit hours variable?			N
<u>New Credit Hours</u>	<u>New Section Type</u>	<u>New Grading Option</u>	

N/A

Class Lecture (Primarily)

Regular

New Abbreviated Title (30 characters maximum)

N/A

12. New Prerequisites

ISS 3010;

13. New Corequisites

N/A

14. New Co-Prerequisites

ISS 3311

15. New Course Description

N/A

16. **Justification**

A. Nature of change(s)

We would like to change the prerequisite of ISS 3311 to a Co-prerequisite to facilitate program completion for transfer students. Because ISS 3311 (current prerequisite to ISS 3300) has a prerequisite of STA 2023, transfer students who had not previously taken STA 2023 found it difficult to complete the degree in 4 semesters. This course is not necessary for accreditation. This is a core program requirement.

B. Indicate how this course will strengthen the Undergraduate Program.

According to academic advisors, this change will increase student satisfaction. Students who take ISS 3311 and ISS 3300 concurrently will still have previous experience with statistics from STA 2023.

C. What specific area of knowledge is covered by this change that is not covered by courses currently listed.

The course covers research methodology in interdisciplinary social sciences.

D. What is the need or demand for this course? {Here you must indicate if this course is part of a required sequence in the major} What other programs would this course?

These courses are a part of the ISS major core curriculum.

E. What qualifications for training and/or experience are necessary to teach this course?

A Ph.D. in a social science with experience teaching research methods or conducting social research is required.

F. What will be the effect of this change on the program and on the students? Do you plan to drop a course if this change is made? (If dropping/deleting a course please complete the nonsubstantive course change form.)

No impact is expected.

17. Other Course Information

A. Objectives

1. Understand the role of research in the social science 2. Distinguish social research from other ways of knowing about human behavior 3. Gain familiarity with qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods approaches in the social sciences 4. Gain experience planning a research study 5. Apply statistical analysis skills 6. Interpret the and evaluate the findings of social research investigations

B. Learning Outcomes

1. Critically evaluate both qualitative and quantitative research methods 2. Formulate research questions and hypotheses 3. Describe research methodologies appropriate for examining a given research question 4. Plan a social scientific investigation of a selected topic 5. Analyze both qualitative and quantitative data 6. Interpret qualitative and quantitative data analysis

C. Major Topics

1. Use of theory in social research 2. Social research design 3. Variable measurement 4. Sampling strategies 5. Ethical issues in social research 6. Specific research methodologies including survey research, field research, historical comparative research, experimental research, content analysis, evaluation research, and mixed-methods approaches 7. Data analysis

D. Textbooks

Babbie, E. R. (2013). The basics of social research. 6th edition. Cengage Learning: Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning. Additional readings will be available on Canvas. You are responsible for completing the assigned readings before class on the day that they are assigned.

18. Syllabus

Please submit an electronic copy of your syllabus to Rhonda Moraca, moraca@sar.usf.edu.
