

RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY
SCHOOL OF HEALTH RELATED PROFESSIONS
Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation & Counseling Professions

COURSE TITLE:	Evaluation Research
COURSE NUMBER:	PSRT 6322
CREDITS:	3
PREREQUISITES:	Admission to the doctoral program or permission of the instructor
CLASS HOURS:	3 hours per week of classroom lecture for 15 weeks

Method of Instruction: Lecture, classroom-based presentations and discussion.

Course Description: This course is designed to provide students with the knowledge, skills and attitude necessary to plan, carry out, and evaluate the results of a program or systems evaluation on a micro or macro level. In addition, students will be able to critically review evaluation reports describing similar projects. Students will also acquire first hand experience with quasi-experimental design problems and applied research applications.

Course Goals: Students will be able to design, plan, carry out and evaluate the results of a program evaluation. Students will know the threats to internal validity, as well as the basic quasi-experimental design models. In addition, using their knowledge of these threats and quasi-experimental design, students will be able to create an effective design solution for various applied research problems.

Course Objectives: By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Conduct effective and efficient program evaluations.
2. Understand the unique ethical and boundary issues that evaluation research may engender.
3. Design quasi-experimental studies to mitigate threats to internal validity.
4. Apply statistical techniques in quasi-experimental designs, including ANCOVA, simple and multiple regression, factor and discriminate analysis, survival analysis, canonical regression, etc.
5. Assess the applicability of underlying applied research concepts (e.g., dealing with alternate hypotheses, construct validity, nomological networks, threats to external validity, heuristics, biases, Hawthorne, Lake Wobegone etc. effects).
6. Evaluate techniques for conducting effective micro and macro needs assessments.

Required Texts:

- Cook, T. D., & Campbell, D. T. (1979). Quasi-experimentation. Chicago, Rand-McNally.
- Campbell, D. T., & Stanley, J. C. (1963). Experimental and quasi-experimental designs for research. Boston, Houghton Mifflin.
- Posavac, E. J., & Carey, R. G. (1997). Program evaluation methods and case studies (5th Ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ, Prentice Hall.