COURSE COORDINATOR: Program Director

INSTRUCTORS: TBD

CREDITS: 4

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is designed to immerse students in the planning and designing of a research study and the writing of a research proposal. Students will be matched with a local research advisor who is an expert in their chosen field of research, who will assist in the development of a research question, research design and student placement in a research project. Students will receive lectures in research methodology and design, as well as write several drafts and a final proposal and give an oral presentation on their proposal.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
The objective of this course is to instruct the student in the necessary procedures for the undertaking of a scientific research project in an area of interest. This is an excellent opportunity to learn how to write a research proposal that includes how to: a) identify and concisely define a feasible research problem, set its context and importance and show what has been done on this or related problems; b) divide the problem into a set of proper sub-problems (objectives); c) design a planned methodology that properly defines variables, how you plan to measure those variables with data, and your plan for analysis of data; d) show a timetable of planned activities; f) a proposed budget of itemized costs covered by each funding source and g) if needed, describe protection strategies to be used with confidential information and/or human subjects for use and approval by the ACM Ethics Panel or, if need be, your home college Institutional Review Board (IRB).

REQUIRED TEXTS
To be determined

COURSE CONTENT

Class 1:

Class 2:
Class 3:

Class 4:
Research projects that involve “human subjects.” How, when and where of IRB requirements (protection of participants in a research project in terms of minimizing risk, protecting privacy, and securing informed consent).

Class 5:
Quantitative Research and Analysis in Natural and Social Sciences.
Qualitative Research and Analysis in Social Sciences and Humanities.

ASSESSMENT
Grading: The final grade will be calculated as a percentage earned out of 500 possible points. Please see the documents “Research Proposal and Proposal Oral Presentation Guidelines”; “Research Proposal Grading Rubric”, and “Proposal Oral Presentation Grading Rubric” found in the “Student Academic Resources” Dropbox folder.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Possible Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final research proposal</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposal oral presentation</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lecture assignments (5 x 20 pts.)</td>
<td>100</td>
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Total points possible 500

ACM POLICY ON ACADEMICS
A complete listing of ACM policies can be found in your student handbook.

Class attendance and participation: You are expected to attend and participate fully in all classroom sessions, site visits, and field trips.

Academic honesty: Actions of dishonesty are destructive to the well-being of the academic community, and ACM staff respond to them vigorously. Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic theft will result in a failing grade for that assignment and may result in failure for the course.

ACM POLICY ON NON-DISCRIMINATION
The Associated Colleges of the Midwest does not discriminate in the operation of its educational programs, activities, or employment on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, marital status, or disability.

CLASSROOM CONDUCT
Laptops, tablets and mobile phones are strictly forbidden during class time.