

SOCI 376 ¹ - Quantitative Research Methods (Spring, 2025)

Instructor: Dr. Eugene Emeka Dim

Course Description and Objectives:

Research is integral to sociology, and it is vital to how we understand social reality. This course provides an examination of quantitative techniques and principles in sociological research. In this course, students will understand the approaches used in quantitative research, with a specific focus on survey methods applied to study social phenomena.

Through this course, you will gain a better and deeper understanding of the quantitative research process and how theory, methods, and statistical analysis are linked together to investigate social phenomena. Through this course, you will be given an opportunity to design a research project, analyze existing survey data, and develop tangible skills to critically assess the quality of research findings. You will be engaged in a research project over the course of the term that employs population-level Canadian survey data.

Course Prerequisites:

SOCI 211 and SOCI 271 are required as prerequisites for this course.

Topics May Include:

Some of the topics we will cover for this course include: selecting a topic for quantitative research; research questions and literature review; research design; conceptualization, operationalization, and measurement of variables; questionnaire construction; sampling methods; data collection; bivariate data analysis; and multivariate data analysis

Format of Classes:

This course will be delivered in person. In addition to the lectures, students will also have five required lab sessions that will be built around different phases of their research projects. We will also have several in-class activities that are geared towards introducing you to some of the key pieces of your research project over the term. The weekly lab will be held at a different time than the lecture.

The lecture will be held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 1:30 pm to 2:20 pm. For the labs, the class will be divided into two. The first half of the class will attend their labs on Tuesdays from 3:30 pm to 4:20 pm. The other half of the students from the lecture will attend labs on Thursdays from 3:30 pm to 4:20 pm.

Required Resources:

There are no official textbooks you need to buy. Scanned chapters from various textbooks and copies of required journal articles will be uploaded to Brightspace.

¹ This outline is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. A detailed course outline will be made available in August before the first day of class. Only that outline is to be considered official.