

**ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & HOSPITALITY ADMINISTRATION**

**Research Methods
RP 4023 001 – Spring 2019
MWF 10:00 A.M. – 10:50 A.M. Brown 435**

Dr. Jay Post
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Office Hours
Monday 1:30pm-3pm (Brown Lobby & 446)
Wednesday 1:30pm-3pm (my office)
Thursday 1pm-2pm (my office)
Friday Noon-1pm (my office)

Required Text

Henderson, K. A., & Bialeschki, M. D. (2017). *Evaluating leisure services: Making enlightened decisions* (4th ed). Urbana, IL: Sagamore Venture. ISBN: 978-1-57167-847-8

Supplemental Text

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed). Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association. (Copies for sale at ATU Bookstore and on reserve at the library) or APA.org

RP 4023 Research Methods.

An introduction to the spirit and theory of research. The scientific method and its application to the recreation and park profession.

Recreation and Park Administration Mission Statement

The mission of the Recreation and Park Administration Program is to educate Recreation and Park professionals for self, community, and society.

The Recreation and Park Administration Program at ATU is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism and Related Professions. Students graduating from ATU are qualified to sit for the Certified Park and Recreation Professional exam immediately following completion of the baccalaureate degree in Recreation and Park Administration. ATU has the only Recreation and Park Program in Arkansas nationally accredited by COAPRT.



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Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will:

- be familiar with the scientific method of inquiry in social science.
- have utilized library search techniques to locate professional journal sources and to become more familiar with the format of research reporting.
- identify a problem, develop testable hypotheses, and suggest methods to collect, analyze, interpret data, and formulate conclusions.
- have completed a formal evaluation proposal in an acceptable journal format.
- become familiar with descriptive and inferential statistical tests and their implications to hypothesis testing.

COAPRT STANDARDS	LEARNING OUTCOME(S)	METHOD(S) OF ASSESSMENT
7.02	Evaluate services that facilitate human experiences	Quizzes Exercise Research ADA Assessment & Report Research Project Peer Evaluation

Evaluation and Grading

Individual Quizzes

There will be ten (10) quizzes. The quizzes will be at the beginning of class.

Team Quizzes

There will be ten (10) quizzes. The quizzes will be at the beginning of class right after the individual quiz time.

Assignments

CITI Training Online (Individual)
Participant in Research Project
ADA Assessment (Team)
ADA Report (Team)
Excel Assignment (Pairs)
SPSS Assignment (Pairs)
Proposal & IRB (Team)
Implementation/Data Collection (Team)
Analysis & Results (Team)
Conclusion & Discussion (Team)
Draft (Team)
Poster Presentation (Team)
Presentation Attendance & Comments (Individual)
Peer Evaluation (Individual)
See descriptions and rubrics on Blackboard for more details.

Attendance and participation

Students are required to attend and participate all classes. Daily attendance will be taken. Students should notify the instructor ***prior to the class*** if they are unable to attend. Lateness will not be tolerated; more than five minutes late, absence will accrue. Attendance is more than a warm body in a seat. Excessive absences can result in the student being dropped from the course. All students are expected to participate in class discussions. Discussions not related to class should wait until after class.

Bonus Points

These will be available throughout the semester from attending professional conferences and helping on research.

Grading Policy and Method

Papers cannot be emailed or handed in as a hard copy. ***Word documents*** are due online in Blackboard on the date identified in this syllabus. Projects will be turned in at the

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beginning of class. You are expected to turn in all assignments in a timely manner (which means by 10:00 am on the date they are due).

Individual Quizzes	20 pts each	100 points
Team Quizzes	20 pts each	100 points
CITI Training Online (Individual)		50 points
Participant in Research Project		50 points
ADA Assessment (Team)		50 points
ADA Report (Team)		50 points
Excel Assignment (Pairs)		25 points
SPSS Assignment (Pairs)		25 points
Proposal & IRB (Team)		50 points
Implementation/Data Collection (Team)		50 points
Analysis & Results (Team)		50 points
Conclusion & Discussion (Team)		50 points
Draft (Team)		25 points
Poster Presentation (Team)		100 points
Presentation Attendance & Comments (Individual)		25 points
Peer Evaluation (Individual)		100 points
Attendance		100 points
		Total 1000 points

Grading:

A	900-1000 of total points
B	800-899 of total points
C	700-799 of total points
D	600-699 of total points
F	000-599 of total points

Late assignments will not be accepted past 7 days of the due date (*Extreme circumstance must be discussed with the instructor*). Late assignments will have the following deductions:

Up to 1 day late	10%
2 to 3 days late	30%
4 to 7 days late	50%
Above 7 days late	NOT ACCEPTED

No assignments will be accepted during Pre-Finals Week or beyond.

General guidelines for grades on exams and projects

- A A work is superior work. It is work that provides more than what the instructor requires and shows initiative by the student. It demonstrates proper grammar, spelling, and professional report writing skills. Concepts have been presented in a professional manner.
- B B work is above average work. It is work that meets the requirements of the assignment, demonstrating a good understanding of the course concepts and is well written. Concepts are presented in a professional manner with the use of proper grammar, spelling, and report writing skills.
- C C work is average work. The work meets requirements of the assignment in general but has not thoroughly and/or correctly applied course concepts. The work falls short of demonstrating application of concepts at a professional level using proper grammar, spelling, and report writing skills. The student needs to continue to work on some areas of the course concepts.
- D D work is below average work. The work does not meet the assignment requirements. It demonstrates a need for improved understanding to interpret and apply course concepts. The work is lacking key information, is poorly organized, or demonstrates a need to work on a better understanding of course material. Students should see the instructor to discuss how the student can improve his or her work. More time needs to be spent on the study and application of course material. Additional practice and development of written and/or spoken communication skills may be needed.
- F F work is failing work. The work does not meet the assignment requirements. Examples of not meeting the assignment requirements include, but are not limited to, failure to turn in work, work that does not meet minimum length requirements, work that exhibits numerous spelling and other writing errors, reference citations that do not attempt to follow the format specified in the *Publications Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 6th ed. This grade, in general, will be reserved for work that exhibits little or no effort in its preparation.

Writing Skills and Style

Effective writing skills are important to any profession, attention will be paid to the actual writing components of your papers. All written work is to be professionally presented with attention paid to elements such as structure, clarity, grammar and spelling. You should give yourself time and opportunities to revise your work. All papers should be 1” margins all around, font New Times Roman size 12, and double space. In addition, utilize “APA (American Psychological Association) style, 6th Edition.” For more details regarding APA style, please check out <http://www.apastyle.org> or Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association 6th edition (ISBN 1-55798-810-2) may be purchased at the ATU Bookstore or on line. Several copies are also available at the reference desk at the ATU Pendergraft Library. The *Writer’s Handbook 6th ed.*, found at the ATU bookstore under ENGL 1023, also has information on APA style. *APA is the writing style adopted by the Department of Parks, Recreation and Hospitality Administration for all papers, reports and projects in all RP and HA courses.*

University Policies

Statement OF Non-Discrimination and Access

Arkansas Tech University does not discriminate on the basis of color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, age, national origin, religion, veteran status, genetic information, or disability in any of practices, policies, or procedures. If you have experienced any form of discrimination or harassment, including sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the institution.

If you report such an incident of misconduct to a faculty or staff member, they are required by law to notify Arkansas Tech University’s Title IX Coordinator and share the basic facts of your experience. The Title IX Coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus. For more information please visit:

<http://www.atu.edu/titleix/index.php>

Arkansas Tech University adheres to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act in order to prevent barriers to academic accessibility. If you need an accommodation due to a disability, please contact the ATU Office of Disability Services, located in Doc Bryan Student Center, Suite 171, or visit <http://www.atu.edu/disabilities/index.php>

Academic Misconduct & Dishonest

<https://www.atu.edu/academic-integrity/>

See the new [Student Handbook](#) for the university's policies.

Do NOT cheat, plagiarize, or copy.

Technical Assistance

Technical support, including Blackboard support, is available online, via email, or by phone: Telephone Support: (479) 968-0646; 1-866-400-8022; Email

Support: campussupport@atu.edu

Additional information may be found at: <https://ois.atu.edu/>

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day - 7 days a week * Excluding holidays *

When the library is closed, there will only be email and telephone support available.

Assistance

Students should seek assistance and ask for help from the instructor, the campus support center, or other university staff as appropriate.

Student Success Services

- **APEX Tutoring Center** has two locations on campus to help you with all of your courses:
 - **Ross Pendergaft Library (2nd floor),**
 - **Doc Bryan, room 153.**
- The **Tutoring Schedule** will be provided in class, but can also be accessed online via the Tutoring Services website: <https://www.atu.edu/tutoring/>.
- **Academic Coaching**, and workshops are also available in this office.
- To find out more information contact the **Student Success Services office** at this email address: student.success@atu.edu, by calling (479) 968-0278, or going to the office in **Doc Bryan 153.**

Food/Housing

- Any student who faces challenges securing their food or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to notify the instructor, if they are comfortable in doing so.

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- Community resources are available for students and can be found at the following webpage: <https://www.atu.edu/localresources/>
- If a student finds they need more support, they are encouraged to contact the Office of the Vice President for Student Services (479-968-0238).

CLASS CONDUCT

- **Please be on time for class.**
- **Please turn off all electrical devices including cell phones, pagers, CD players, A-Track players, headphones, and smart devices.**
- **Please do not text, watch videos, social media, or play games on cell phones, laptops, pads, or tablets during class.**
- **No photography in class.**
- **Please be respectful to your professor and colleagues.**
- **Please participate in the class discussions. Save off-topic conversations until the class has been dismissed.**

Check on Blackboard for Tentative Schedule