



UM | Faculty of Agricultural
and Food Sciences

Syllabus

HNSC 2000: Research Methods and Presentation (3 credit hours)

(Winter 2024)



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COURSE DETAILS

Course Title & Number:	HNSC 2000 A01: Research Methods and Presentations
Term:	Winter 2024
Number of Credit Hours:	3 credit hours
Class Times & Days of Week:	Monday / Wednesday 9:30 AM – 10:20 AM
Laboratory Times & Days of Week:	Friday 9:30 AM – 10:20 AM
Location for Classes:	Room 206 Human Ecology
Location for Tutorials:	
Pre-Requisites:	Undergraduate level AGRI 2400 Minimum Grade of D or Undergraduate level STAT 1000 Minimum Grade of D or Undergraduate level STAT 1001 Minimum Grade of D or Undergraduate level STAT 1150 Minimum Grade of D

Voluntary Withdrawal Date:

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor Name:	Dr. Ruchira Nandasiri
Preferred Form of Address:	Dr. Nandasiri
Office Location:	Room 4036 / 4021 A St. Boniface Hospital Albrechtsen Research Centre R4036-351 Tache Avenue Winnipeg, MB, R2H 2A6
Office Hours or Availability:	Monday / Wednesday: 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM
Office Phone No.	431-996-5775 (If not answered Please leave a message at this number). Please do not send text messages.
Email:	hewa.nandasiri@umanitoba.ca (preferred mode of communication)

All email communication must conform to the Communicating with Students university policy.

Please use HNSC 2000 as part of the subject with the Student Number and Name. An e-mail will be replied to promptly if name, ID and subject are specified.

Contact:

Instructor will be available after class for scheduling online appointments. I prefer that we schedule online appointments after class, but you can e-mail me for appointments. Please include three proposed times based on your availability, please remember to be flexible with proposed times. I will try to reply to your emails promptly.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

U of M Course Calendar Description

An introduction to research designs, methods and techniques, as well as the practice of disseminating results, in the context of selected determinants of health. Applications in natural and social sciences will be presented. Skills related to presenting research findings will be taught.

General Course Description

This course presents different approaches to research related to the determinants of health. Contrasting quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods approaches will provide students with an introduction to the comprehensive research skills expected in many areas of employment. Basic and applied research methods will be identified. The course includes instruction on presenting research projects and results. The “W” in the course number indicates that this course meets the University of Manitoba’s three-hour writing requirement. The quality of your writing will be an important factor in the grading of your coursework. Correct grammar, organization of ideas and use of words will be evaluated. A minimum of 2 papers of 6-8 pages (3000-word count) must be completed to meet the writing requirement.

TEXTBOOK, READINGS, MATERIALS

Required Readings:

Social Research Methods, 5th Canadian ed, Bryman, A. and Bell. E., 2019, Oxford University Press. Don Mills, Ontario. ISBN 9780199029440

Additional readings will be assigned to supplement the text. These will be posted as electronic document links on the course UM Learn platform. There may be occasions when students will be required to find readings appropriate to the assigned topic and come to lab tutorials prepared to discuss them.

COURSE GOALS

This course provides an opportunity to understand research paradigms. It is expected that the experience will give students the ability to efficiently determine the characteristics of each research paradigm and review published research to observe the application of these characteristics.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. List key characteristics of the social determinants of health
2. To review and refer scientific literature
3. To critically assess research methods pertinent to technology innovation research.
4. To demonstrate knowledge and understanding of data analysis and interpretation in research
5. Identify presentation styles that explain research findings to different audiences
6. Identify the elements of a scientific proposals and papers for publication in a peer-reviewed journal

FOUNDATION KNOWLADGE FOR DIETETIC EVALUATION

The Undergraduate Dietetics program is accredited by the Partnership for Dietetic Education and Practice (PDEP) and prepares students for eligibility for registration with a provincial dietetics regulatory body. The program is designed to meet the Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice (ICDEP). Following are the foundational knowledge areas that this course is designed to meet towards the ICDEP.

Highest level achieved: 1= demonstrate broad knowledge; 2= demonstrate comprehension; 3 = analyze, interpret and apply knowledge

Content Area	Foundational Knowledge	Cognitive Complexity Level
Biochemistry	Foundations of chemistry and biochemistry	2
	Major metabolic pathways	2
	Mechanisms of metabolic regulation	2
Human Nutrition across the Lifespan	Ingestion, digestion, absorption, metabolism and excretion of nutrients	3
	Biochemical utilization of nutrients and energy	3
	Nutrient and energy requirements	3
	Nutrition recommendations and guidelines	3
	Effect of deficiencies and toxicities of nutrients	3
	Food sources of nutrients and dietary supplements	3
	Role of nutrients and other food components in health	3

USING COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL

Please respect copyright. I will use copyrighted content in this course. I have ensured that the content I use is appropriately acknowledged and is copied in accordance with copyright laws and University guidelines. Copyrighted works, including those created by me, are made available for private study and research, and must not be distributed in any format without permission.

Do not upload copyrighted works to a learning management system (such as UM Learn), or any website, unless an exception to the Copyright Act applies or written permission has been confirmed. For more information, see the University's Copyright Office website at <http://umanitoba.ca/copyright/> or contact um_copyright@umanitoba.ca

RECORDING CLASS LECTURES

No audio, snapshots, photos or video recording of lectures or presentations is allowed in any format, openly or surreptitiously, in whole or in part without permission of the instructor. Course materials (both paper and digital) are for the participant's private study and research.

COURSE TECHNOLOGY

It is the general University of Manitoba policy that all technology resources are to be used in a responsible, efficient, ethical and legal manner. The student can use all technology in classroom setting only for educational purposes approved by instructor and/or the University of Manitoba Disability Services.

This course uses UM Learn, to gain access or learn how to navigate in these technologies please contact the [Centre For The Advancement Of Teaching & Learning](#) or http://intranet.umanitoba.ca/academic_support/catl/resources/umlearn.html for details.

Please note that all communication between myself and you as a student must comply with the electronic communication with student policy ([http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/electronic communication with students policy.html](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/electronic_communication_with_students_policy.html)).

You are required to obtain and use your u of m email account for all communication between yourself and the university. Please note that all communication between myself and you as a student must comply with the electronic communication with student policy: [http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/electronic communication with students policy.html](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/electronic_communication_with_students_policy.html). Please use subject **HNSC 3260** -"subject/issue" as indicated in page 1.

EXPECTATIONS: I EXPECT YOU TO

I expect everyone to participate in the discussion. However, assigned roles will be given priority. Regular attendance is expected (online classes). Students can use their computers and laptops for taking notes (muted mode). Cell phones must be switched off or muted.

During an assigned discussion, presentation (e.g., student presentation) interrupting others is not expected and will receive **5%** deduction of his/her final grade.

Give yourself 24-48hrs before you contact me after marks are posted. Please do not ask for justifications/explanation per e-mail for your marks. If you have a question, please make an appointment and I will try to solve it at my level best.

I will be in class for 5 minutes prior to and 10 minutes after the class time. I will treat you with respect and would appreciate the same courtesy in return. See [Respectful Work and Learning Environment Policy](#).

I will make regular (important) announcements in class now and then. It is your responsibility to access these announcements. At the end of this section, the policies and services students are expected to follow/utilize need to be included ([Section 2.5 ROASS](#)). I expect you to follow these policies around Class Communication, Academic Integrity, and Recording Class Lectures.

EXPECTATIONS: YOU CAN EXPECT ME TO

Instructor will be asking questions and expect students to respond at any time during scheduled class presentation and discussion (please note that I do not expect perfection). Instructor will aim to facilitate constructive criticism and share experiences.

Give a sample assignment paper, presentation, but this should be treated as an example only. Actual paper and presentation depend on the paper that you have received. Solicit formative feedback to contribute to student learning and experience.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the University of Manitoba [Academic Integrity principles](#). Always remember to reference the work of others that you have used. Also be advised that you are required to complete your assignments independently. Inappropriate collaborative behavior and violation of other Academic Integrity principles, will lead to the serious [disciplinary action](#). Visit the [Academic Calendar](#), [Student Advocacy](#), and [Academic Integrity](#) web pages for more information and support.

Refer to specific course requirements for academic integrity for individual and group work such as:

- I. Group projects are subject to the rules of academic dishonesty.
- II. Group members must ensure that a group project adheres to the principles of academic integrity.
- III. Students should also be made aware of any specific instructions concerning study groups and individual assignments.
- IV. The limits of collaboration on assignments should be defined as explicitly as possible; and
- V. All work should be completed independently unless otherwise specified.

STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

The University of Manitoba is committed to providing an accessible academic community. [Students Accessibility Services \(SAS\)](#) offers academic accommodation supports and services such as note-taking, interpreting, assistive technology, and exam accommodations. Students who have, or think they may have, a disability (e.g., mental illness, learning, medical, hearing, injury-related, visual) are invited to contact SAS to arrange a confidential consultation.

Student Accessibility Services
 520 University Centre
 Phone: (204) 474-7423
 Email: Student_accessibility@umanitoba.ca

“Student Accessibility Services requires volunteer note-takers for this class. If you would like to volunteer and receive recognition on your Co-Curricular Record (CCR) for your time, please login to JUMP and click on the Student Accessibility Services link on the top left-hand side of the page (in the Quick Links section). Volunteering is now easier than ever; you can upload notes directly to JUMP with the SAS scheduler.”

CLASS SCHEDULE

This schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor and/or based on the learning needs of the students but such changes are subject to [Section 2.8 of ROASS](#).

Please check UM Learn for the detailed and actual Schedule

Date	Class Content
Week of January 8 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction & review of course syllabus • General research orientations
Week of January 15 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research methods and methodology
Week of January 22 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finding sources and referencing
Week of January 29 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research designs
Week of February 5 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research ethics
Week of February 12 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantitative research
Week of February 19 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall Term Break (No Classes)
Week of February 26 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sampling, observation, survey research, data analysis
Week of March 4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantitative research
Week of March 11 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative research
Week of March 18 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviewing, content analysis, data analysis
Week of March 25 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing a research project • Conducting a research project
Week of April 1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Determinants of Health
Week of April 8 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam Overview

COURSE EVALUATION METHODS

Evaluation of mid-term test, term paper, group presentation and final exam will focus on lecture material, including questions and discussion in class. Students are strongly encouraged to read the textbook to enhance their learning and understanding of the lecture material. Please refer to the Assignment Description on the following page of the syllabus and the Assignment Guidelines provided in class for details.

Due Date:	Assessment Tool	Value of Final Grade
9.30 AM February 26 th , 2024	Mid-term Test 1 (In-Class)	15%
9.30 AM March 25 th , 2024	Mid-term Test 2 (In-Class)	15%
11.59 PM February 9 th , 2024	Assignment 1 (Individual)	10%
11.59 PM March 8 th , 2024	Assignment 2 (Individual)	10%
11.59 PM April 5 th , 2024	Assignment 3 (Individual)	10%
11.59 PM November 10 th , 2023	Lab Assignment (Group)	10%
Date/Time TBA	*Final Exam (TBA)	30%

*Final exam date & time TBA (will be a in person mixture of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions); Final examination will be 2 hours, covering the complete course content.

Deadlines and Late Penalties:

Students are required to manage time effectively as per course requirements and schedules in a blended learning environment.

GRADING

Letter Grade	Percentage out of 100	Grade Point Range	Final Grade Point
A+	91-100	4.25-4.5	4.5
A	81-90	3.75-4.24	4.0
B+	76-80	3.25-3.74	3.5
B	70-75	2.75-3.24	3.0
C+	65-69	2.25-2.74	2.5
C	60-64	2.0-2.24	2.0
D	50-59	Less than 2.0	1.0
F	Less than 50		0

Voluntary Withdrawal

The last day to drop the class without paying tuition fees is January 19th.

Refer to the [Registrar's Office](#) web page for more information. As per **Winter 2024 its March 20th**

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Assignment 1 (Individual)

Finding sources and Referencing

TITLE: Literature Review on “**Diet and Health**”

The focus could be a **non-communicable disease** (i.e. hypertension, type 2 diabetes, cancer, obesity, etc.) and **importance of diet** on mediation of the non-communicable disease

GOAL: Students should be able to find sources and write scientifically with proper referencing (Course Objectives 1-3).

PROCEDURE: Maximum 10 pages **excluding cover page**, APA format

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES: PDF uploaded to UM Learn

EVALUATION CRITERIA: **Refer to rubric in UM Learn**

Due date: February 9th

Assignment 2 (Individual)

Survey: Interviewing and Content Analysis

TITLE: Survey Design

GOAL: Students should understand survey research (Course Objectives 1-3).

PROCEDURE: Design a survey with appropriate questionnaire to understand the “**Food Security and Diet Related Diseases in Northern Manitoba**”. Maximum 4 pages **excluding cover page**.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES: PDF uploaded to UM Learn

EVALUATION CRITERIA: **Refer to rubric in UM Learn**

Due date: March 8th

Assignment 3 (Individual)

Research Proposal Writing

TITLE: Writing a Research Proposal

GOAL: Students should be able to find out a research problem and support the hypothesis (Course Objectives 4-5).

PROCEDURE: Identify a research problem, make a hypothesis and support it with literature. Maximum 10 pages excluding cover page, APA format

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES: PDF uploaded to UM Learn

EVALUATION CRITERIA: **Refer to rubric in UM Learn**

Due date: April 5th

Lab Assignment (Group Work)

Scientific Presentation

TITLE: Critical Review Presentation

GOAL: Students should be able to review a scientific literature (Course Objectives 4-5).

PROCEDURE: Select a research article on “**Importance of Macro/Micronutrients in Brain Development of Children under 5-years old**” and review a research article.

Group Presentation followed of 15 minutes.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES: PDF of the presentation should be uploaded to UM Learn by the **first week of April**.

EVALUATION CRITERIA: **Refer to rubric in UM Learn**

Presentations will be in-person on the week of **8th April 2024**.

REFERENCING STYLE

Assignments may use the APA reference styles.

ASSIGNMENT FEEDBACK

Refer UMLearn. Students can expect to receive their **Mid-Term Exam 1, Assignment 1 and Assignment 2** results and term paper (for a total of 35% of their total course grade) prior to the VW date to decide about completing or withdrawing from the course.

ASSIGNMENT EXTENSION AND LATE SUBMISSION POLICY

All assignments (including late assignments) can only be submitted electronically by UM Learn drop box located at <https://universityofmanitoba.desire2learn.com>. For more instructions for submitting electronically please see in-class demonstration.

10% of the total marks will be subtracted for each day that an assignment is late (i.e., If the assignment is due Oct 16th, 10% for assignments submitted Oct 17th, 20% for assignments submitted Oct 18th, 30% for Oct 19th, etc.; refer assignment 1 & 2). If you are unable to complete the assignment due to medical reasons (medical certificate required) or compassionate reasons, please contact the instructor (send an email), preferably before the due date.

Paper copies and assignments emailed directly to the instructor's email address or grader marker's email address will not be accepted.

UNIVERSITY SUPPORT OFFICES & POLICIES

Refer UMLearn document (file name UNIVERSITY SUPPORT OFFICES & POLICIES)

Writing and Study Skills Support

The Academic Learning Centre (ALC) offers services that may be helpful to you as you fulfill the requirements for this course. All Academic Learning Centre services are free for UofM students. For more information, please visit the Academic Learning Centre website.

University of Manitoba Libraries (UML)

For a listing of all libraries, please consult the libraries' homepage: www.umanitoba.ca/libraries.

The English Language Centre

has workshop and programs in advanced academic and health-sciences English. (Located at 520, University Centre)