

# Master of Clinical Pharmacy

## Research Methods

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### Purpose of the course

This course is intended to train students on the design, conduct, and analysis of clinical research. The course will develop skills in being a more critical reader of the medical literature and provide the tools to design your own protocol.

### Syllabus

Overview	Topic	Notes
Week 1	Introduction to the course	Read Chapter 1 and Answer Questions 1 and 2
Week 2	Key Concepts in Qualitative and Quantitative Research	
<b>Research Designs</b>		
Week 3	Understanding the Research Process in Qualitative and Quantitative Studies	
	Research Problems, Research Questions, and Hypotheses	
Week 4	Research Design I: Designs for Description	
Week 5	Research Design II: Designs for Explanation	
	Discussing home works (research problems, research examples obtained by students)	Deadline For Submitting Research problems
Week 6	Reviewing the Literature	
	Writing a Research Proposal	
Week 7	Samples and populations	
	Sampling methods	
	Sample size	
<b>Data Analysis</b>		
Week 8	Organizing and Presenting Data in Tables & Graphs	
	Summarizing Data: frequency distributions; measures of dispersion and central tendency	
	Probability	
Week 9	The normal distribution	
	1. Hypothesis testing	
Week 10	2. Research Questions About One Group	

<b>Week 11</b>	<b>3. Research Questions About Two Separate or Independent Groups</b>	
<b>Week 12</b>	<b>4. Research Questions About Means in Three or More Groups</b>	
<b>Week 13</b>	<b>Analyzing data when the observations are not normally distributed</b>	
<b>Week 14</b>	<b>Research Questions About Relationships Among Variables</b>	
<b>Others</b>		
<b>Self reading</b>	<b>Consent Form, ethical approval</b>	
	<b>Declaration of Helsinki</b>	

## Projects

1. RCT Critique: You are to critique a published article, evaluating the strengths and weaknesses, using the fundamentals presented in the lectures.
2. Protocol: You are to write a protocol with all of the components presented in some detail. (An example will be provided.) You may select the disease or question that is of most interest to you. Get my approval of your topic before you start.

## Marks:

- Article critique : 5 marks
- Using SPSS: 5 marks
- Research Proposal: 15 marks
- Home Works: 5 marks
- Mid
- Final

**Required knowledge before the course:** Basic Descriptive Statistics

## References

1. Basic Statistics for the Health Sciences: (5th edition) Jan W Kuzma, McGraw-Hill, 2004.

## Course policy on professional behavior

**Professional behavior is expected of all students at all times during this clerkship.** If at any time unprofessional or dishonest behavior of a student is reported (this includes, but is not limited to: copying work from another student, submitting an assignment that is not the student's own work, or other academic dishonesty, failure to treat preceptors and TA's with respect and professionalism, the student may be removed from the course and receive a grade of "F" or at least



