

**NR 791**  
**INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH**  
**FALL SEMESTER 2021, 1 CREDIT**

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*Lectures:* Fridays 9-9:50 in TNR 255

*Objectives:* 1) be able to write an appropriate research hypothesis; 2) demonstrate the ability to write clearly and concisely in a style that is appropriate for your discipline, 3) be able to produce written and verbal evaluations & summaries of articles from the primary literature; 4) demonstrate the ability to apply principles of experimental design, and 5) understand the various roles of statistics in research, assumptions of parametric tests, differences among various categories of statistics, and the factors that determine the choice of a statistical method.

*Textbooks:* “How to Do Ecology” by R. Karban and M. Huntzinger, 2006. Available as an ebook at <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/uwsp/detail.action?docID=1603119>

*Grading:* Assignments will not be accepted if they are turned in after the due date, other than for extenuating circumstances such as a family or health emergencies. Final grades for the course will be awarded using the following minimum values: A = 93%; A- = 90%; B+ = 87%; B = 83%; B- = 80%; C+ = 77%; C = 73%; C- = 70%; D+ = 67%; D = 60%; F = <60%. The final class grade will be based on the following:

50 points	<i>In-class participation</i>
100 points	<i>Pre-proposal assignment</i>
100 points	<i>Abstract assignment</i>
100 points	<i>Literature Review</i>
100 points	<i>Methods Assignment</i>
50 points	<i>Paper Review Assignment</i>

*Specific details for completing individual assignments will be provided in class.*

## Schedule

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic with Required Readings and Assignment Due Dates</b>	
Sept 3	Research Process (Sloss)	
Sept 10	Research Process (Rader)	
Sept 17	Research Compliance and Ethics (Sloss)	
Sept 24	Framing a research proposal, writing objectives (Isermann)	
Oct 1	Abstracts and executive summaries (Isermann)	
Oct 8	Introduction and Literature Review (Isermann)	<b>Pre-Proposal is Due</b>
Oct 15	Methods and Results (Rader)	<b>Abstract Assignment is Due</b>
Oct 22	Discussion (Isermann)	
Oct 29	Experimental Design in the Real World (Isermann)	<b>Literature Review is Due</b>
Nov 5	Experimental Design in the Real World (Rader)	<b>Methods Assignment Due</b>
Nov 12	Importance of Social Science in Natural Resource Management and Research (Rader)	
Nov 19	Publishing your Research (Rader)	
Dec 3	Providing Useful Critiques and Reviews (Isermann)	
Dec 10	Critical Review of Your Work and How to Respond (Rader)	<b>Paper Review Due</b>