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**PROCESS A** NON-GENERAL EDUCATION ~ CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

SCC #02-03- 701

**eadlines:**

Regular proposals: October 18, 2002 to be implemented Fall 2003; Short-Term proposals: December 6, 2002 to be implemented Fall 2003  
Regular proposals: February 14, 2003 to be implemented Spring 2004; March 21, 2003 short-term courses to be implemented Spring 2004  
*impl. fall/04*

**PROPOSAL TITLE: Research Methods I**

Sponsor(s): Dr. Joe Davey \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: joedavey@aol.com \_\_\_\_\_ Ext: 3662 \_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Allan Jiao \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: jiao@rowan.edu \_\_\_\_\_ Ext. 3725 \_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Cynthia Line \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: line@rowan.edu \_\_\_\_\_ Ext. 3722 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Ext. \_\_\_\_\_

**DEPARTMENT: Law & Justice Studies**

**COLLEGE: Arts & Sciences**

If Liberal Arts & Sciences CHECK :  History/Humanities  Math/Sciences  Social/Behavioral Sciences  
 UNDERGRADUATE  GRADUATE

THE ATTACHED **NON-GEN-ED** PROPOSAL IS BEST DESCRIBED BY THE ITEM(S) CHECKED.

New non-gen-ed course  Non-gen-ed degree requirements  
 Short-term non-gen-ed course  Major  
 Minor curricular changes (fewer than three)  Minor, specialization, concentration, track, certificate program  
 Existing non-gen-ed course

**The following signatures REPRESENT APPROVAL**

Department Chair: Allan Jiao Date: 9/20/02  
Department Curriculum Chair: [Signature] Date: 9/24/02  
Academic Dean: [Signature] Date: 10/8/02  
College Curriculum Chair: Mary J. Thoreson Date: 12/9/2002  
College Curriculum Committee OPEN HEARING Date: 12/9/2002 Approved  Not Approved

**UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

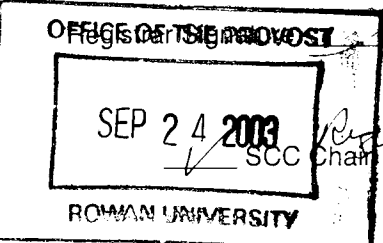
Senate Curriculum Chair Signature: [Signature] Date: Senate Announcement/Vote: 6-28-2003

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT/PROVOST Signature: [Signature] Date: 9/11/03

Approved ~ Not Approved due to the following:  Student Cr Hrs  Faculty Load Hrs  Equalized Cr Hrs

**REGISTRAR**

Date: 9/22/03 Course Description Received & Approved ~ Hegis Taxonomy & Course #: 2105511



**NOTIFICATION FORWARD**

Academic Dean  Department Chair  Registrar \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
*Back from Registrar*  
*OP & JR - 9-25-03 TM*

Course Proposal

1. Details

- a. Course Title: Research Methods I
- b. Sponsors: Drs. Joe Davey, Allan Jiao, Cynthia Line
- c. Credit Hours: 3 s.h.
- d. Course Level: Graduate
- e. Curricular Effect: No effect on Undergraduate Curriculum. No effect on Graduate programs in other departments/colleges. Courses will be offered as required courses for graduate students in new Master's Degrees Program in Criminal Justice.
- f. Prerequisites: Admission to the program.
- g. Suggested time and scale of implementation: Course would be initially offered the first semester of the program (estimated to be Fall 2004) and would be offered once a year.
- h. Staffing and resources: Current faculty and new faculty positions for the new Master's Degree Program in Criminal Justice.
- i. Library Impact: Departmental library budget will cover purchases.
- j. Short-term Evaluations: None

2. Rationale:

- a. As an academic discipline, criminal justice involves a great deal of scientific research in both the academic and applied realms. Graduates of a Master's degree program may be conducting research in job settings (working for the state, doing research and design, and so on) or may be furthering their graduate careers in Ph.D. programs. Both avenues necessitate a solid understanding of research methods and the ability to conduct research projects. Furthermore, both academics and those in the applied setting spend time reading research reports and articles which require critical thinking skills and the ability to understand research and to critique methods. A research methods course is a standard course in a Master's program in criminal justice.

- b. Master's degree students will be required to complete a thesis in order to satisfy degree requirements. It is incumbent upon us to provide our students with the skills necessary to succeed.
  - c. Professors may engage students in independent or on-going research projects. Students are best able to participate if they understand the means by which research in the field is done.
3. Essence of Course    The course is the first course in a two course sequence.
- a. Objectives
    - 1. To understand various research methods used in criminal justice.
    - 2. To understand the advantages and disadvantages of different research methods, including the appropriateness for hypothesis testing.
    - 3. To be able to conduct research utilizing the appropriate method(s) given a particular question.
    - 4. To be able to critically assess research studies in the field.
    - 5. To be able to conduct research for a Master's Thesis.
  - b. Illustrative Topical Outline
    - 1. Introduction to Research Methods
      - a. Scientific Method
      - b. Causation
      - c. Hypotheses
      - d. Data
      - e. Literature Reviews
      - f. Steps in the research process
      - g. Dealing with human subjects (ethical & practical)
    - 2. Research methods and relation to theory
    - 3. Qualitative Research Methods
      - a. Field studies and participant observation.
      - b. Interviewing (non-quantitative)
      - c. Life history/narrative
      - d. Coding and analyzing data
      - e. Drawing conclusions with qualitative data
      - f. Writing up qualitative studies

#### 4. Quantitative Research Methods

- a. Populations and samples (& sampling techniques)
- b. Experimental methods
- c. Interviewing (quantitative)
- d. Surveys
- e. Analysis of existing data
- f. Coding and analyzing data
- g. Writing up quantitative studies

#### 5. Possible Texts:

Bickman, Leonard and Debra J Rog (Eds.). 1997. *Handbook of Applied Social Research Methods*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Creswell, John W. 1994. *Research Design. Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Drew, Clifford, Ann Weaver Hart, and Michael Hardman. 1996. *Designing and Conducting Research: Inquiry in Education and Social Science*, 2/e. Needham Heights, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

Girden, Ellen R. 1996. *Evaluating Research Articles from Start to Finish*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

#### c. Course Processes and Pedagogy

The course will be largely a seminar course, with some materials directly presented by the professor. Students will participate regularly in a seminar style. Students will also take part in research projects throughout the semester.

#### a. Evaluation and Grading of Students:

Students will be required to submit literature reviews, develop hypotheses, work on research proposals, and complete projects on different research methods. In sum, students will be required to demonstrate proficiency in research. Students will be required to discuss research, hypotheses, and research findings in class. Other activities may also be included per each professor.

#### b. Course Evaluation:

The course will be evaluated using the Student Information Reports (SIRs) currently used in the department.

This form is to be completed by the sponsor(s) of a new course/program, or by the faculty member(s) designing new courses/programs. The information will be used to assess the resources available in the library, and to identify resources the library should acquire to support the course/program. The information will also provide rationale for institutional support for library acquisitions.

This form should be completed in a coordinated effort between the course sponsor(s) and the academic department liaison librarian.

- The sponsor(s) complete parts A & D. If assistance is required to complete parts A & D, please notify the liaison librarian.
- Forward this form to the librarian who will complete parts B, C, & E.

**This form must be completed and attached to the original curriculum proposal before being approved by the Senate Curriculum Committee**

A. College L.A.S. Department Law & Justice  
 Proposed by: C. L. H. S. Date: 5 2 03  
 Course Title Research Methods I  
 Anticipated Date for Course/Program Offering: Fall 2004

B. Describe the resources available in the library to support this course/program, including reference, monographic, electronic databases, audio-visual materials, etc. A summary statement is sufficient.

C. List key periodicals available in the library to support this course/program.

D. List specific resources that should be acquired to support this course.

*Current research methods*

E. Librarian comments and recommendations.

Course Title: Research Methods I

Course Description: This is a graduate level course focusing on understanding various research methods used in criminal justice, the advantages and disadvantages of different research methods, (including the appropriateness for hypothesis testing), techniques for conducting research utilizing the appropriate method(s) given a particular question, the ability to critically assess research studies in the field, and the ability to conduct research for a Master's Thesis.

Course Pre Requisites: Admission to the program.

HEGIS #: To be assigned

**Rowan University**  
LIBRARY RESOURCES  
To  
*SUPPORT A NEW COURSE or NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL*

College: LAS

Dept.: Law & Justice

Proposed by: Dr. Cynthia Line

Date: May 7, 2003

Course Titles: Research Methods I & II  
Contemporary Developments in Theory  
Law and Society  
Criminal Justice Policy Analysis  
Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice

Anticipated Date for Course/Program Offering: Fall 2004 (Master's Program)

Part B: Resources available in Campbell Library

Campbell Library has a core collection of monographs in the following Library of Congress subject categories (number of titles held indicated in parentheses):  
Administration of Criminal Justice (91); Capital Punishment (29); Courts (5); Crime (32);  
Criminals (10); Criminology (71); Criminal Investigation (52); Criminal Justice (91);  
Criminal Law (25); Criminal Procedure (4); Corrections (41); Correctional Psychology;  
Forensic Sciences (10); Forensic Psychology (45); Imprisonment (8); Juvenile  
Delinquency (109); Justice (59); Law (25); Law Enforcement (24); Punishment (38);  
Prisons (34); Police (67).

The library subscribes to a university press approval plan and receives all new monographs in law and justice studies, crime, criminology, law (other than legal textbooks and practitioner's tools), the social sciences, and psychology.

Part C: List key periodical resources

Campbell Library is fortunate to have extensive access to online serials databases in a large number of disciplines, including Academic Search Premier (Ebsco Publishing), Criminal Justice Abstracts, Lexis-Nexis, and Elsevier's SciDirect database. Academic Search Premier provides almost 2,000 periodicals, many full-text, covering a broad spectrum of academic disciplines, including law and justice. Elsevier provides access to over 1,300 full-text journals, including several that cover forensic sciences, pathology, medicine, criminology, psychology, and the social sciences.

In addition, the library also subscribes to ABI-Inform, a major business database, the Applied Science and Technology database and the General Science Full-Text database.

The Library subscribes to 37 print journals under the HEGIS area “Law and Justice.” For periodicals not available in the library or through our online database services, an interlibrary loan and document service is available for faculty and students.

Part D: List resources that should be acquire

The Law and Justice Department is recommending one additional print title: “Police Practice and Research.” The library will acquire this periodical.

Proquest - UMI provides a specialized database of approximately 150 journals in criminal studies, to which we do not currently subscribe. Comparing the coverage of this database with Academic Search Premier, to which we do subscribe, reveals that Premier provides an overlap of approximately 35 percent. Proquest – UMI does provide a number of important periodicals, however, that are not covered in Premier. We therefore would recommend either purchase of the Proquest database or subscribing to the individual titles in paper.

Part E: Librarian remarks

Based on the strength of our online database services and the adequacy of our print holdings, the library supports this proposal. It should be noted, however, that additional resources will be needed to strengthen monographic holdings and for the possible purchase of the Proquest – UMI database.

(Remarks prepared by Gregory Potter, Associate Dean of the Library.)