

Thursday, May 28, 2009

To: Graduate Affairs Committee
From: Rafael Bahamonde, Ph.D., FACSM
Professor of Physical Education
Re: Applicability of Research and Statistics courses in an MS Tourism degree

Course descriptions: Below are the official course descriptions. These two courses are required courses for the MS in Tourism Management at IUB

(<http://www.hper.indiana.edu/degrees/pdf/tourismmgt-ms.pdf>) and similar courses are also required for the MS program in Hospitality & Tourism Management at Purdue University.

IUB Master in Tourism Management:

- **HPER T590 Introduction to Research in Health, Kinesiology, and Recreation (3 cr.)**
Methods and techniques of research; potential and completed problems analyzed with view to selection of topics; standards for writing research papers.
- **HPER T591 Interpretation of Data in Health, Kinesiology, and Recreation (3 cr.)**
Elementary and essential statistical and graphical techniques for analysis and interpretation of data; practice with actual data.

Purdue Master in Hospitality & Tourism Management

- **HTM 501 Research Methods in Hospitality and Tourism**
Introduction to behavioral research design and the development of research proposals.
- **HTM 501L Statistical Laboratory**
Introduction to the use of software used in behavioral research projects.

Objectives

HPER T590 Introduction to Research in Health, Kinesiology, and Recreation

Course Description

The purpose of this class is to provide the students with a basic understanding of the research process, which will allow them to develop, understand, write, and criticize research in Health, Kinesiology, and Recreation. Topics that will be covered in this class include: understanding the scientific methods of inquiry, types of research, experimental design, basic statistical concepts, ethical issues in research, how to write a research proposal, and others.

Course Objectives

1. To gain an understanding of the scientific methods of inquiry, how it is applied in the research process and its importance to the areas of Health, Kinesiology, and Recreation

2. To learn and apply technology as it pertains to research (on-line searches, statistics analysis (SPSS) etc.)
3. To learn and apply the different techniques of experimental design
4. To gain an understanding of the basic statistical techniques used in the research and to be able to apply them to conduct research
5. To be able to read, understand, write, and critique research articles, abstracts, proposals etc.
6. To create a research proposal taking the information presented in class and applying to your own ideas.

HPER T591 Interpretation of Data in Health, Kinesiology, and Recreation

Course Description

This course covers fundamental statistical techniques and data analytical approaches for graduate-level study in the School of HPER. It includes central tendency measures, variability, sampling distribution, t-tests, one-way and two-way analyses of variance, chi-square tests, correlations, and linear regression analyses.

Course Objectives

1. To familiarize graduate students with basic statistical concepts and techniques.
2. To help students analyze and interpret quantitative data.
3. To help students better understand the results of research reports published in professional journals.
4. To help students apply appropriate analytic approaches to their research projects.
5. To help students gain a solid understanding of essential descriptive and inferential statistics.

Applicability of these classes in our MS degree:

Both of these courses are applicable to the master program in tourism. First, these courses or similar courses are being used by IUB and Purdue programs (see above course descriptions). Second, the T590 provide the students with a basic understanding of the research process and take them through the process of writing a research proposal. The course T591 provides the students with a more in depth understanding of fundamental statistics techniques.

Because the title of the course does not mention the word tourism it does not mean that topics discussed in these courses do not apply to the Tourism field. The research topics and techniques discussed in these two courses are used by researchers and faculty in the Tourism Convention and Event Management department. In many universities in the US the tourism departments are housed in Physical Education/Kinesiology Schools, therefore sharing similar courses, such as in IUB.