

PLAN 310 (36)
M 3:30-4:45

Fall 2003
Goldstein

NEURUS and ED Applied Research Seminar Syllabus

Session 1 Orientation and Overview (9/8)

Session 2 ABest Practice@ in MPs (9/15)

Read and evaluate the selection of master's papers (MPs) placed on reserve in the Planning Library. (1) Which come closest to Abest practice@? Why? (2) Given the topic for each MP, would you have conducted the research differently? If yes, how so? (3) Using what you have gleaned from reading and evaluating the set of MPs, as well as other experiences with practice-based research, try to compile a list of the attributes, or characteristics of Abest practice.@

Optional reading: Ian Bracken (1981). *Urban Planning Methods* (Methuen). Chapter 4 (pp. 102-134).

Session 3 Defining Research Questions and Objectives; Validity of Research Findings (9/22)

J. Simon, *Basic Research Methods in Social Science*. Chapter 2, AThe Language of Research: Definitions and Validity, and chapter 3, ABasic Concepts of Research.@

Royce A. Singleton, Jr. and Bruce C. Straits (1999). *Approaches to Social Research* (Oxford University Press). Chapters 3 and 4.

Session 4 Case Study Research Designs (9/29)

Robert K. Yin (1994). *Case Study Research* (Sage Publications). Chapters 1, 2.

Session 5 Field Research Methods (10/6)

Royce A. Singleton, Jr. and Bruce C. Straits (1999). *Approaches to Social Research* (Oxford University Press). Chapter 11 (pp. 320-356).

Robert K. Yin (1994). *Case Study Research*. Chapters 3 and 4 (pp. 54-101).

Session 6 Comparative Research Designs (10/13)

Charles C. Ragin (1987). *The Comparative Method* (University of California Press). Chapters 1-3 (pp. 1-52).

Session 7 Evaluation Research (10/20)

Royce A. Singleton, Jr. and Bruce C. Straits (1999). *Approaches to Social Research*. Chapter 14 (pp. 421- 452).

Robert K. Yin (1993). *Applications of Case Study Research* (Sage Publications). Chapter 4 (pp. 55- 76), and chapter 5 as interested.

Sessions 8, 9 and 10 Student Presentations of Research Designs for NEURUS Projects and MPs (10/27, 11/3, 11/10)