COURSE DESCRIPTION AND EMPHASIS
Advanced Research Seminars (ARS) provide hands-on research training beyond standard methods courses by engaging students in research projects. This particular ARS focuses on sexuality research. Some students will bring their ongoing projects to the courses, and other students will engage in my ongoing project. Regardless of project options students choose, they are expected to learn about each other’s project and exchange feedback.

Prerequisite
Second-year or more advanced students who have completed the first-year sequence of methods courses may enroll in this course. Preferably, students have taken my seminar “Sexuality over the Life Course.”

Research Projects
1. My ongoing project on sexual minority’s career plans
I started this in-depth interview project in 2011 with past graduate students. The project examines what advantages and disadvantages sexual minority young adults perceive in their careers and how these perceptions change over time as they transition to the labor market and experience job changes. The first paper has been published in Social Problems, and our second paper is under review. We have interviewed the respondents three times over the last six years. ARS students this semester will interview a new cohort of sexual minority respondents as well as a comparison group of heterosexual respondents.

2. Students’ new or ongoing work.
Students may bring to the class their ongoing work that directly relates to sexuality. The project can be in its early or late stage but has to have enough work left for the semester. At the beginning of the course, students choosing this option will set their goals regarding how much progress they plan to make for the semester. Students may also start a new project for ARS. Students who have taken my sexuality seminar may use their research proposals they submitted for the course as a starting point for their ARS work.

Class Activities
In weekly class sessions, we will discuss progress on the collective project and individual projects. Here are other activities in which we may engage in class sessions:
- Critiques of interview guides, questionnaires, and protocols for data collection and analysis
- Critiques of past interviews
- Mock interviews
- Coding practice and reliability check
- Discussions about paper topics and paper outline
- Critiques of paper drafts
- Discussions of relevant literature

This is a hands-on methods class, so students will engage in many research activities outside the classroom. These activities include:
- Recruit study participants
- Conduct interviews
- Code data
- Write paper drafts and revise them

Co-authorship for the Collective Project
The main goal of this course is to gain research experience, and engagement in project activities only during the semester does not promise students’ co-authorship for the project. This ARS will focus on data collection for a new cohort of study participants. To earn co-authorship, students are expected to continue their active engagement in additional data collection, data coding, and writing and revising papers after the semester.

GRADING
I will determine your course grade considering the following factors:
• Your performance in project tasks in terms of completeness, timeliness, and thoughtfulness.
• Your improvements in methodological skills over the course.
• Your verbal communications in class sessions and email communications outside the classroom regarding the projects.
• Overall contributions to the collective project, your own project, and classmates’ projects.

UNIVERSITY ATTENDANCE POLICY
Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

ACADEMIC HONOR POLICY
Students are expected to abide by the Academic Honor Policy of the Florida State University, including the statement on Values and Moral Standards published in The Florida State University General Bulletin. The Academic Honor Policy outlines the University's expectations for students’ academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of these expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty throughout the process. Please see the following website for a complete explanation of the Academic Honor Policy: http://www.fsu.edu/~dof/honorpolicy.htm.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS
Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should: (1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; (2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type. Your request should be made during the first week of semester. For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact:
Student Disability Resource Center, 108 Student Services Bldg., Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167. Tel: (850)644-9566 (voice), (850)644-8504 (TDD).
E-mail: SDRC@admin.fsu.edu Website: http://www.fsu.edu/~staffair/dean/StudentDisability/.

SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY
Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.