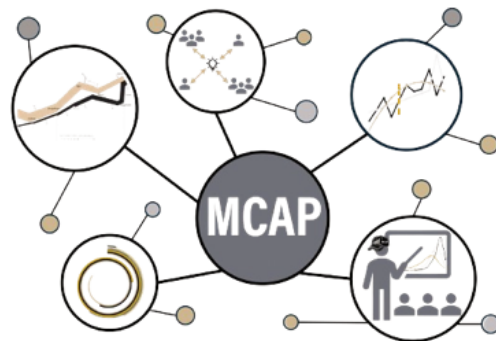




HDFS 607/COM 682/NUR 605: Interdisciplinary Foundations of Research Design in Health, Behavioral, and Social Sciences

MCAP is excited to offer an interdisciplinary foundational course in research methodology this Fall (2026)! The course employs a unique design with three sections. Each Tuesday the three sections meet together and a guest speaker, who is an expert on the specific method, leads the class with an interdisciplinary focus. On each Thursday, the different sections engage in disciplinary-specific discussions about the application of that method. Guest speakers include MCAP Core Faculty and other speakers from across CLA and HHS.

Interested in **health science and nursing** applications? Sign up for NURS 605 with Dr. Donna Xu

Interested in **social science** applications? Sign up for COM 682 with Dr. Jeremy Foote

Interested in **human development and family science** applications? Sign up for HDFS 607 with Dr. David Purpura

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1: Philosophy of Science and the Role of Research

Week 2: Epistemology, Theory, and Development of Research Questions/Hypotheses

Week 3: Pathways Forward: Criticism of Social Science Research, Replicability, and Open Science

Week 4: Concepts and Measurement - Reliability and Validity

Week 5: Causal Inference - How to Know What We Know and Don't Know

Week 6: Experimental Studies

Week 7: Quasi-Experimental and Non-Experimental

Week 8: Design Decisions

Week 9: Qualitative and Mixed-Methods Research

Week 10: Qualitative Research - Ethnography and Participant Research

Week 11: Surveys and Sampling

Week 12: Computational Methods and Prediction

Week 13: Research Ethics and Integrity

Week 14: Preregistration Development

Week 15: Data Management

Week 16: Final Presentations



INTERESTED IN THE MCAP GRADUATE CERTIFICATE? THIS COURSE FULFILLS THE PREREQUISITE METHODS COURSE REQUIREMENT! SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CERTIFICATE!