

FRNSC 894 RESEARCH PROJECTS IN FORENSIC SCIENCE

(Tentative schedule; subject to change)

MEETING TIME: FRIDAY 11: 15-12.05 PM in Oil Osmond Building

Faculty: Reena Roy, **Ph D**,
Associate Professor; 325 Whitmore Laboratory, 814-867-2054

Office Hours: By web email only
Appointment: reena@psu.edu OR rxr34@psu.edu

Text Book; None

It is the responsibility of each student to carefully review this syllabus. The content is subject to change with email notification when posted

Required Courses: MPS Candidates

SYLLABUS

- AUG 24: **Introduction**
What is research? Course goals, syllabus, assessment and discussion
How to select your adviser, your committee members
Deadlines in our program
- August 31 : **How to write a proposal for your research topic of choice**
What is a proposal? An example of a successful proposal
How do you go about putting it together?
- SEPT 07: Impromptu seminars: (10 minutes each)
- SEPT 14: Impromptu seminars: (10 minutes each)
- SEPT 21: Impromptu seminars: (10 minutes each)
- SEPT 28: Impromptu seminars: (10 minutes each)
- OCT 05: **Informed consent; What is it? Do you need consent to work with samples obtained from deceased individuals? What is confidentiality and Privacy?**
- OCT 12: Ethics and research (plagiarism)
- OCT 19: Seminars on Topic related to your research: (15 min each)

- OCT 26: Seminars on Topic related to your research: (15 min each)
- NOV 02: Seminars on Topic related to your research: (15 min each)
- NOV 9: Seminars on Topic related to your research: (15 min each)
- NOV 16: **TO BE OR NOT TO BE**
- NOV 23: **NO CLASSES - THANKSGIVING BREAK**
- NOV 30: **How to present your data?**
- DEC 07: **Final wrap up**

Assignments: From time to time the student will be given assignment and instructor will provide guidance as to complete them.

GOALS AND ASSESSMENT FOR FRNSC 894

1. **Understand** the nature of the research and choice of topics and how to proceed with research
2. **Understand** how to find sources for writing a good research proposal
3. **Understand** the expectations of deadlines and how to meet them
4. **Understand** the importance of ethical behavior when analyzing research data
 - a. Lectures and discussions on how to keep track of data
 - b. Understanding how to present your data ethically
5. **Understand** the value of informed consent
6. **Understand** the steps in **FOB** and **FBC** and Informed consent

GRADING: (1 Credit Course)

Meeting the deadlines	=	300 points
Presentation and discussion of The research topics during the course	=	100 points
Preparation and Presentation of impromptu topics	=	100 points
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TOTAL	=	500 pts (100%)

GRADING SCHEME:

Grading will follow the University's guidelines.

Academic Integrity is an essential component of your education. The following is quoted from the "PSU Faculty Senate Policies for Students". "It is the pursuit of scholarly activity free from fraud and deception and is an educational objective of this institution. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating of information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students." All University and Eberly College of Science policies regarding academic integrity/academic dishonesty apply to this course and the students enrolled in this course. Refer to the following URL for further details on the academic integrity policies of the Eberly College of Science:

<http://www.science.psu.edu/academic/Integrity/index.html>.

Matters of academic dishonesty will be turned over to the University disciplinary system and may result in the failing of the course.

The Eberly College of Science Code of Mutual Respect and Cooperation

([www.science.psu.edu/climate/Code-of-Mutual-Respect final.pdf](http://www.science.psu.edu/climate/Code-of-Mutual-Respect_final.pdf)) embodies the values that we hope our faculty, staff, and students possess and will endorse to make The Eberly College of Science a place where every individual feels respected and valued, as well as challenged and rewarded.

Disability Services

“Penn State welcomes students with disabilities into the University's educational programs. If you have a disability-related need for reasonable academic adjustments in this course, contact the Office for Disability Services (ODS) at [814-863-1807](tel:814-863-1807) (V/TTY). For further information regarding ODS, please visit the Office for Disability Services Web site at <http://equity.psu.edu/ods/>.

In order to receive consideration for course accommodations, you must contact ODS and provide documentation (see the documentation guidelines at <http://equity.psu.edu/ods/aidelines/documentation-guidelines>). If the documentation supports the need for academic adjustments, ODS will provide a letter identifying appropriate academic adjustments. Please share this letter and discuss the adjustments with your instructor as early in the course as possible. You must contact ODS and request academic adjustment letters at the beginning of each semester.”