

Course ID	Course Description	Course Objectives
<p>ESCD 7770 Health Services Research Methods</p>	<p>This course develops theoretical knowledge and applied skills in designing and conducting research in health systems. You will utilize and build upon knowledge gained in prerequisite courses as you learn to carry out each step of the research process. In doing so you will study textbooks and articles, present reports to the class in a seminar setting, and complete a number of assignments which, taken together, contribute to the experience of research design and analysis. An important component of the course is developing an understanding of factors which, unless planned and accounted for, sometimes result in serious flaws in the research project.</p> <p>The topic of health services research draws upon the disciplines of psychology, sociology, biostatistics, epidemiology, and others to study processes and outcomes in health delivery systems. You will utilize this in developing study hypotheses and designs, as well as reliable and valid measurement methods for the variables of interest. You will learn about working with existing data sets and writing up results of studies. As a final project of this course, each student will develop a research proposal.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze the theoretical and statistical issues involved in the design of health services research. 2. Describe and contrast appropriate usage of various research designs. 3. Formulate research problems in a manner that is both theoretically and methodologically sound. 4. Delineate measurement issues inherent in conducting and analyzing research. 5. Differentiate the effects of interactions, mediators, and moderators in research designs. 6. Demonstrate proficiency in sampling, including issues of sample size and selection. 7. Summarize issues inherent in measuring opinions and attitudes. 8. Contrast advantages and disadvantages of qualitative data, self-report data, behavioral measures, and unobtrusive measures. 9. Formulate correct and incorrect ways to design and conduct interviews, questionnaires, and rating scales. 10. Explain measurement issues concerning range restriction, power, reliability, and validity. 11. Examine ethical responsibilities of researchers.