

HLTH 5101.03 and 5201.03
Research Project
COURSE OUTLINE

HLTH 5101. 03 and HLTH 5102.03: Research Project (taken during the first year of 3 year residency)

Course Description

Students will undertake a small-scale research project in lieu of a master's thesis in these linked courses. HLTH 5101. Students will complete a comprehensive literature review, identify the research question, and write a proposal. This will be completed by the end of the 2nd term. HLTH 5102. Students will collect and analyze data, and prepare a final report in the form of a manuscript for submission to an academic journal. Students will also orally present the results of the project to an audience of peers and faculty. This will be completed by the end of the 4th term.

Objectives

After completing the course, students should have acquired knowledge and skills in:

- Critically appraising a research literature
- Posing and justifying a research question
- Designing a research method to answer a specific question, that includes consideration of ethical issues
- Collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data
- Scientific writing
- Orally presenting research results

Supervision

Students will work under the direct supervision a faculty member. The faculty member will be responsible for mentoring the student in the research process as well as helping them develop and adhere to a strict schedule of activities to ensure that the project is completed within a year.

Students will be responsible for securing their faculty supervisor. Normally, the faculty supervisor for the research project in the qualifying year will also serve as the supervisor of the student's doctoral thesis research.

Format

Two course numbers are associated with the research project. For HLTH 5101, students will undertake a comprehensive literature review and prepare a research proposal. After successfully completing HLTH 5101 and receiving ethical approval of the proposal, students will enroll in HLTH 5102. For HLTH 5102, students will collect and analyze research data, submit a final report, and present research results to an audience of peers and faculty. In many cases, students will complete both HLTH 5101 and HLTH 5102 in a calendar year (three academic terms). However in some cases, a fourth academic term may be required. In all cases, it is expected that the research project will be completed by the end of the Fall term of the second year of the program.

Evaluation: Students will receive a letter grade for HLTH 5101 and HLTH 5102. The grade will be determined by the faculty supervisor. A grade of B- is required to pass.

SYLLABUS STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

At Dalhousie University, we are guided by the values of academic integrity: honesty, fairness, responsibility and respect. As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all of the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity.

WHAT DOES ACADEMIC INTEGRITY MEAN?

At university we advance knowledge by building on the work of other people. Academic integrity means that we are honest and accurate in creating and communicating all academic products. Acknowledgement of other people's work must be done in a way that does not leave the reader in any doubt as to whose work it is. Academic integrity means trustworthy conduct such as not cheating on examinations and not misrepresenting information. It is the student's responsibility to seek assistance to ensure that these standards are met.

HOW CAN YOU ACHIEVE ACADEMIC INTEGRITY?

We must all work together to prevent academic dishonesty because it is unfair to honest students. The following are some ways that you can achieve academic integrity; some may not be applicable in all circumstances.

- make sure you understand Dalhousie's policies on academic integrity (see http://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity/academic-policies.html)
- do not cheat in examinations or write an exam or test for someone else
- do not falsify data or lab results

Be sure not to **plagiarize**, intentionally or unintentionally, for example...

- clearly indicate the sources used in your written or oral work. This includes computer codes/ programs, artistic or architectural works, scientific projects, performances, web page designs, graphical representations, diagrams, videos, and images
- do not use the work of another from the Internet or any other source and submit it as your own
- when you use the ideas of other people (paraphrasing), make sure to acknowledge the source
- do not submit work that has been completed through collaboration or previously submitted for another assignment without permission from your instructor (These examples should be considered only as a guide and not an exhaustive list.)

WHERE CAN YOU TURN FOR HELP?

If you are ever unsure about any aspect of your academic work, contact me (or the TA):

- [Faculty of Health Academic Integrity Website](#)
 - Overview of academic integrity process, with resources for faculty and students
- [Academic Integrity Website](#)
 - Links to policies, definitions, online tutorials, tips on citing and paraphrasing
- [Writing Centre](#)
 - Assistance with learning to write academic documents, reviewing papers for discipline-specific writing standards, organization, argument, transitions, writing styles and citations
- [Dalhousie Libraries](#)
 - Workshops, online tutorials, citation guides, Assignment Calculator, RefWorks

- Dalhousie Student Advocacy Service
 - assists students with academic appeals and student discipline procedures.
- Senate Office
 - List of Academic Integrity Officers, discipline flowchart, Senate Discipline Committee

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF AN ALLEGATION OF AN ACADEMIC OFFENCE IS MADE AGAINST YOU?

As your instructor, I am required to report every suspected offence. The full process is outlined in the Faculty Discipline Flow Chart (www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html) and includes the following:

- Each Faculty has an Academic Integrity Officer (AIO) who receives allegations from instructors
- Based on the evidence provided, the AIO decides if there is evidence to proceed with the allegation and you will be notified of the process
- If the case proceeds, you will receive a PENDING grade until the matter is resolved
- If you are found guilty of an offence, a penalty will be assigned ranging from a warning, to failure of the assignment or failure of the class, to expulsion from the University. Penalties may also include a notation on your transcript that indicates that you have committed an academic offence.