
Name	Jungyun Gill
Department	Sociology and Criminology
What course are you proposing to collaborate on?	SOC 210 Survey of Research Methods for Sociology
In which semester would you be teaching this class?	Fall 2013
Project Title	Finding Sociological Literature

Project Proposal (250–500 words)

Students in the Survey of Research Methods for Sociology course would benefit significantly from the FLPP. This course is the entry level research methods course required for every sociology major. Students in the course learn about the importance of literature review, developing focused research questions, and how to carry out the major forms of sociological research and analyses of results. These include survey research, including the development of questionnaires and the advantages and limitations of different procedures for selecting samples of respondents; in-depth interviews; focus group interviews; field research; content analysis; comparative and historical research; secondary data analysis; evaluation research; quantitative data analysis; and qualitative data analysis.

It is important for sociology students to become expert in locating sociological literature as early as possible in their academic careers. If students in this class could work with a librarian and develop a high level of knowledge of how to access sociological literature, including published research studies, as well as the major sources of archived sociological data, not only would it aid them significantly in this course, but it would also be of great help in the other required advanced-level sociology research courses. These include Qualitative Research, Social Science Statistics, and the Capstone Research Course in which students write their own research papers.

As a relatively new member of the faculty, the FLPP will also help me develop greater familiarity with the library and its assets. This will be important for my own teaching, research and writing and for better assisting my students in achieving their objectives.

Course Description/Syllabus

Course learning objectives include ensuring that students understand the reasons for and potential uses of social research; learn how to develop a research question; learn how to conduct literature review; learn how to identify the most appropriate method to use for a particular research question; learn how to articulate ethical and possible political issues involved in sociological research; understand the fundamental theoretical and methodological differences between quantitative and qualitative research designs; evaluate the relative strengths and weaknesses of different research designs; become proficient at using theoretically informed research methods in community or work settings to assess issues and bring about beneficial change; be able to develop and defend research proposals; and be able to effectively communicate research findings, both orally and in written form, and critically evaluate reported findings.