

CS 7123. Research Methods Course Syllabus Spring 2025

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CS 7123 Research Methods

Spring 2025

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description: Examine and learn practical research skills and research writing techniques. Review, present, and critique recent research publications in the areas of Computer Science.

Credit hours: 3

Prerequisites/co-requisites: Doctoral Student standing.

Course Modality: Traditional in-person

- Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:00 pm to 1:15 pm
- Location: SP1 530

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor Name: Maryam Gholamalitabarfirouzjaei, Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

Department and College: Department of Computer Science, College of Sciences

Office Location: SP1 410E

Student hours:

- Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm (or by appointment)
- Location: In-person at my office listed above

Email Address: Maryam.Tabar@utsa.edu

LEARNING GOALS

At the end of this course, students are expected to

- Learn practical research skills and research writing techniques.
- Learn to review, present, and critique research papers in the areas of Computer Science
- Formulate research design, data analysis, and evaluation techniques for research projects.

COURSE MATERIALS

- Recommended textbooks:
 1. Educational Research: Planning, Conducting, and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research, by John W. Creswell and Timothy C. Guetterman. ISBN: 9780134519364.

2. Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches, by John W. Creswell and J. David Creswell. ISBN: 9781506386706.

ACTIVITIES AND GRADING

Course grades will be based on the following points:

Activity	Percentage
Class Attendance	10%
Writing summary and critiques for research papers (approx. 2)	20%
Paper Presentation	10%
Course Report on selected research topics <ul style="list-style-type: none">Title and AbstractIntroduction, and BibliographyFirst DraftFinal Report	10% 10% 20% 20%
Total	100%

Letter Grade

Final letter grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage
A+	97.00%+
A	93.00% – 96.99%
A-	90.00% – 92.99%
B+	87.00% – 89.99%
B	83.00% – 86.99%
B-	80.00% – 82.99%
C+	77.00% – 79.99%
C	73.00% – 76.99%
C-	70.00% – 72.99%
D+	67.00% – 69.99%
D	63.00% – 66.99%
D-	60.00% – 62.99%
F	0.00% – 59.99%

COMMUNICATION PLAN

The instructor's preferred method of communication is Email. The instructor's email address is Maryam.Tabar@utsa.edu. Please always use your UTSA email address. The instructor will generally respond to all emails within one business day.

ESSENTIAL STUDENT INFORMATION

- **Important:** Bookmark and visit the [Common Syllabus Information webpage](#) to find important and valuable resources about counseling services, transitory/minor medical issues, supplemental instruction, tutoring services, academic success coaching, sexual harassment and sexual misconduct, campus safety and emergency preparedness, and the Roadrunner Creed.
- For a list of important university-wide dates, review [One Stop's academic calendar](#).
- For technical requirements, support, and academic resources, visit the [Student Support Gateway](#), where you can find all your tech and academic support resources in one place.
- Follow [Online Learning Netiquette](#) standards for your online communication activities. Please be mindful of the communication tools available in your course and use them for learning purposes. Class discussions take place in a respectful and safe environment, whether online or in person. UTSA encourages everyone to openly share their ideas and opinions without penalty or judgment, but learning should always be based on facts and research. It is possible to disagree without being disagreeable.
- UTSA provides reasonable accommodations to students via [Student Disability Services](#). For more details on eligibility, policies, and requirements, please visit www.utsa.edu/disability or call (210) 458-4157.
- **UTSA Wellbeing Resources:** your wellbeing is a priority for us. UTSA is proud to partner with [Wellness 360](#) and [MySSP](#) to provide students with access to quality health and mental health care. Visit the [UTSA Students Wellbeing Resources](#) to explore the services available.

COURSE MANAGEMENT AND POLICIES

Announcements

All announcements for this course will be posted on the Canvas course site. It is your responsibility to check the announcements and complete all listed assignments and activities.

Late Submission Policies

All assignments and presentation slides are due at 11:59 pm (CST) on their due dates and must be submitted using the Canvas course site. Late submissions will receive a 10% deduction per day (including weekends and holidays) and will not be accepted if more than two days late.

Student Code of Conduct and Scholastic Dishonesty

The Student Code of Conduct is Section B of the Appendices in the Student Information Bulletin. Scholastic Dishonesty is listed in the Student Code of Conduct (Sec. B of the Appendices) under [Sec. 203](#).

Copyright and Fair Use

It is important to understand the issue of intellectual property rights. You may not use the images or thoughts of others for profit or gain without their written permission. The UTSA library has a [Copyright Laws and Public Performance Rights](#) (PPR) page.

UTSA Wellbeing Resources

Your wellbeing is a priority for us. UTSA is proud to partner with [Wellness 360](#) and [MySSP](#) to provide students with access to quality health and mental health care.

Students with Disabilities

The University of Texas at San Antonio, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, provides “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities. Only those students who have officially registered with Student Disability Services and requested accommodations for this course will be eligible for disability accommodations. Instructors at UTSA must be provided official notification of accommodation through Student Disability Services. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.utsa.edu/disability or by calling Student Disability Services at (210) 458-4157. Accommodations are not retroactive.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

FERPA grants students the right to control certain disclosures of their educational records. For a full explanation of your rights and to grant access to FERPA educational records, go to [Student Catalog Annual FERPA Letter](#) and [One Stop Enrollment – FERPA Proxy Access](#). Without your consent or authorization of proxy access, UTSA may release [Directory Information](#), such as but not limited to your name, email, phone, place of birth, and photograph, unless you have opted out of the release of Directory Information. To opt out, go to [Restrict Directory Information Form](#). ***Mandatory Reporting of Sexual Misconduct and Reporting of Health and Safety Information:*** If a student discloses an incident of sexual misconduct to any UTSA employee (other than to a designated confidential employee such as mental health counselor or PEACE advocate, a UTSA police officer using a pseudonym form or at a public awareness event), that information is not confidential, and the UTSA employee must report all known information to the UTSA Office of Equal Opportunity Services. Employees may also report any concerns about the health and safety of students or others to other school officials and/or law enforcement. For a complete list of exceptions to FERPA, please see [Student Catalog Annual FERPA Letter](#) and [HOP 5.01](#).

Video and Audio Recording

As the instructor of this course, I may record meetings and lessons. You are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class. If the instructor or a UTSA office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required before such

use unless an exception is allowed by law. For more information on your privacy and class recordings, review [Student Privacy \(FERPA\) in Virtual Classrooms and Other Educational Recordings](#) and the [Guide to Secure Video Conferencing Tools](#).

Note: The syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion. Any changes/corrections to the course materials, or other updates will be communicated to the students ahead of time. You are responsible for checking Canvas for corrections or updates to the syllabus.