

**Program Evaluation**  
**15:291:520**  
**Fall Semester, 2014**  
**Room 208, GSE**

Instructor: Gregory Camilli

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Office Hours:            Tuesdays 2:30 to 4:30 *and by appointment* (best for sufficient time)

Office Location:        GSE building, Room 325

Meeting Details: Classes will meet Tuesdays from 4:50 to 7:30 PM in the computer lab (room 208) of the Graduate School of Education building. Course runs from 9/2 to 12/9; I will be available after 12/8 by email only. We will be conducting class the week of Thanksgiving.

Texts and Materials:

*Evaluation: A Systematic Approach* (7th Edition) by Rossi, Lipsey, & Freeman

Three Illustrative Studies, chapter by Lee J. Cronbach

Elements in an Evaluation Design by Lee J. Cronbach

Educational Evaluation TBA

Software:

SPSS (required). This software is available for use in the GSE computer lab (room 208 of the GSE). We will be conducting some statistical analyses at the introductory level, but the focus of the class is not on statistics.

Overview:

This course provides an introduction to concepts in program evaluation. The focus is on theory, concepts, and terminology. The course does not provide practical experience in program evaluation, but a number of real examples are emphasized. The topics of school and teacher evaluation are briefly introduced.

Course Goals:

1. To develop a conceptual understanding of the objectives and methods of program evaluation. In short, the goal is to communicate what evaluation is about and why one would conduct a program evaluation.
2. To develop knowledge about the essential elements of a program evaluation.
3. To assess the adequacy of an evaluation design. In other words, how well did a program evaluation meet its objectives?
4. To gain familiarity with SPSS software. This involves the computation and interpretation of basic descriptive statistics.

## Course Outline:

<b>Class</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
1	9/2	Review Syllabus; Overview of Program Evaluation	1 Read in Class	
2	9/10	Tailoring Evaluations	2	
3	9/16	ID Issues & Formulate Questions	3	
4	9/23	Assessing Need	4	
5	9/30	Program Theory	5	
6	10/7	Program Process	6	
7	10/14	Monitoring Outcomes	7	Select Evaluation to Critique
8	10/21	Experiments	8	
9	10/28	Designs	9	
10	11/4	Program Effects	10	
11	11/11	Measuring Efficiency	11	Critique Due
12	11/18	Educational Evaluation	Readings	TBA
13	11/25	Educational Evaluation	Readings	TBA
14	12/2	Three Illustrative Studies	Readings	Cronbach Chapters
15	12/9	Final Exam		

**Attendance:**

Your attendance at class meetings is very important, particularly because we'll meet only once per week. Please bring any necessary planned absences to my attention ahead of time. My policy is that if you miss class, you are required to submit a three-page (double spaced) summary of your reactions (NOT a synopsis) to the reading. This summary is due prior to the next class meeting.

**Evaluation:**

Your performance in this course will be evaluated based on the homework, and one final examination.

Evaluation Critique	50%
Final Examination	50%

A critique of an evaluation that you select will be due on 11/12. Guidelines are: 12 pages minus references, title page, and figures and tables; double spaced; and APA style. I will require rewriting of papers that 1) do not incorporate the readings and class discussion, or 2) have problems with organization, sentence structure, and grammar. For the final examination, there will be two short-answer questions for each week's material, resulting in a total of 24 short-answer questions. Questions may involve readings or class discussion.

The final exam must be taken in class on December 9. It cannot be taken earlier or later.

**Policy on Academic Integrity:**

Please refer to the Policy on Academic Integrity for Undergraduate and Graduate Students at <http://teachx.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html>. I will follow this policy without exception. It is your responsibility to be familiar with the terms of this policy. As graduate students you are held to a higher standard than undergraduates. Any unauthorized help on assignments or examinations is a serious violation of academic integrity.