

I learned how to conduct research for studies and how to evaluate them to create survey questions after completing the Social Research and Program Evaluation course. I developed the ability to identify well-worded survey questions and those that are not during the semester. I also learned how to find the analysis of the survey questions using inductive open coding. I acquired a lot of knowledge about the best methods for creating survey questions during the course of this semester. This includes ensuring that the questions are relevant to the research, being explicit in the questions that are posed, not asking the same question twice in a row, keeping the questions simple enough for others to grasp, and refraining from prejudice in the questions. It is important to keep survey respondents interested throughout the entire process when creating the survey questions. If they become uninterested, they may not provide accurate answers to the survey questions. I have gained a lot of knowledge about looking at surveys that I am given to feel out as a result of conducting these surveys throughout the semester. I'll be able to use the knowledge I've learned in this course in my future career.

Our final assignment in my social research and program evaluation course involved carrying out a study including the Andy Taylor center and Head Start. Families of the students received Family Fun Time activities, as well as surveys that we created. We designed questions for these parents to respond to within these questionnaires. In this final assignment, I was able to see how involved the family was throughout the activity on a scale from 0 to 10. In this course, I was able to point out quantitative and qualitative data and use the different survey questions to measure the analysis. There were some difficulties analyzing these questionnaire responses because some parents circle two responses to a single question. The major skill I gained from this was the ability to examine the facts and determine which answers match the information

accurately. This skill was very important because it helped me with determining the final findings of the research study of the Family Fun Time activities.

When taking this course, I was very nervous because I had never been in a research class ever. My confidence levels for this course were very low because I was terrified, I was not going to understand the material. My confidence grew over time as I got more involved and involved with my classmates and class. My attitudes and perceptions of this course changed over time, I thought I was not going to like this class because of the research project and the coding that we had to do to find the findings of the Family Fun Time activities. When I first came into this class, I was not expecting to learn as much as I did and knowing that it would have a major outcome on me. This course has taught me a lot that I can apply in the real world, and I will be taking the second part next semester. My lack of understanding of the content made this lesson very difficult for me, but after sitting down to read it and asking questions, I did well and comprehended the material. After completing this class, I understood how to create a very descriptive research paper with a literature review, an abstract, findings, and citations.

Overall, I learned how to “think like a researcher”, thinking like a researcher helps me figure out how to write my paper and get me through the semester. I think that being a researcher means analyzing data and making notes of what you can critique and what looks good to use. This course has taught me a lot of skills that I can use in the future when analyzing data and making my data. This research has opened my eyes when it comes to looking for the correct information that can back up the information that I need. Being a researcher is being able to understand where each person is coming from and being able to identify problems that can be fixed. Being a researcher can be very challenging because it is tough when starting out finding

data and then presenting the data for others to see. I was able to present my findings to others of the Family Fun Time activities.