

Assignment #4 – CRJ 3013 Fall 2020

Instructor: Dr. Cardwell

Due: December 3rd at 11:59 PM on Blackboard

Total Points for Assignment: 25

NOTE: This assignment MUST BE TYPED and submitted as either a Word document or PDF and turned in to Blackboard by the due date and time.

This assignment involves a review of a peer-reviewed journal article in criminology and criminal justice. The assignment will require you to critically evaluate an article and summarize its methodological aspects. This summary will include a coverage of many important topics you learned throughout the course.

Step 1: Download the following article off of Blackboard in the Assignment #4 folder:

1. James, L., James, S., & Vila, B. (2018). The impact of work shift fatigue on police officer response in simulated interactions with citizens. *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, 14, 111-120.

Step 2: Read the article. Suggestions on how to read a research article are discussed in Chapter 1 of your textbook. There is also a short handout on reading research articles in the Assignment 4 page.

Step 3: After reading the article, write a summary of the article addressing the three specific areas below. Your writing must be your own and no one else's.

1. Purpose of Research (1 paragraph)
 - a. Identify the purpose of the research study: specifically, denote if the purpose of the study is exploratory, descriptive, explanatory, or application. Explain your answer.
 - b. Summarize the hypotheses of the study. Note there might be multiple ones in the article.
2. Study Methodology (1-2 paragraphs)
 - a. Provide an overview of the research methods. This should include a discussion of the research design used (e.g., survey, experiment, cross-sectional, and/or longitudinal), the units of analysis, and the independent and dependent variables in the study.
3. Summary and Study Implications (1-2 paragraphs)
 - a. Summarize the main results from the study hypotheses.
 - b. Provide a discussion on whether the authors were able to meet the three criteria of causality: association, temporal order, and non-spuriousness. Explain your answer.

Grading Criteria	Mastery 5 points	Proficient 4 points	Approaching Proficient 3 points	Progressing 2 points	Not Yet Met 1 point	Total
Purpose of Research	Purpose of research study is clearly stated and explanation is clear. Summary of hypotheses is correct and clearly stated.	Purpose is clearly stated and explanation of purpose is mostly clear. Summary of hypotheses is mostly correct and clear.	Purpose is clearly stated but explanation of purpose is unclear at times. Summary of hypotheses is somewhat correct and clear.	Purpose is stated but no explanation of purpose is provided. Summary of hypotheses is incomplete.	Purpose and explanation of purpose is incorrect. Summary of hypotheses is incorrect.	/5
	Mastery 10 points	Proficient 8 points	Approaching Proficient 6 points	Progressing 4 points	Not Yet Met 2 points	Total
Study Methodology	Clear overview of research methods. Clear identification of the research design, units of analysis, and identification of independent and dependent variables.	Mostly clear overview of research methods. Mostly clear identification of the research design, units of analysis, and identification of independent and dependent variables.	Somewhat clear overview of research methods. Somewhat clear identification of the research design, units of analysis, and identification of independent and dependent variables.	Unclear overview of research methods. Unclear identification of the research design, units of analysis, and identification of independent and dependent variables.	Incorrect overview of research methods. Incorrect identification of the research design, units of analysis, and identification of independent and dependent variables.	/10
	Mastery 5 points	Proficient 4 points	Approaching Proficient 3 points	Progressing 2 points	Not Yet Met 1 point	Total
Summary and Study Implications	Clear summary of the main findings of the study provided. Clear discussion and explanation on whether the researchers meet the three criteria for causality.	Mostly clear summary of the main findings of the study provided. Mostly clear discussion and explanation on whether the researchers meet the three criteria for causality.	Somewhat clear summary of the main findings of the study provided. Somewhat clear discussion and explanation on whether the researchers meet the three criteria for causality.	Unclear summary of the main findings of the study provided. Unclear discussion and explanation on whether the researchers meet the three criteria for causality.	Incorrect summary of the main findings of the study provided. Incorrect discussion and explanation on whether the researchers meet the three criteria for causality.	/5
Mechanics (Spelling and Grammar)	Writing is clear and virtually free of spelling and grammar errors.	Minor spelling or grammar errors that are not distracting to the reader.	Significant errors in spelling or grammar that are somewhat distracting to the reader.	Significant errors in spelling or grammar that hinder the reader's understanding.	Spelling and grammatical errors throughout that make comprehension difficult.	/5