

Team Research Project Information
Methodology and Research Questions

Methodology General description of method and then specific instructions for team. (note – see Nathan’s overall description of her methods on pp. 15-17)	Nathan’s Research Questions – Each group chooses one Q to replicate (and may modify as necessary) and adds one additional question of own choosing (note-see Nathan’s initial research questions on pp.4-5)	Nathan Chaps
Survey - a study in which the same data, usually in the form of answers to standardized, closed-ended questions (i.e. questionnaires, time-use journals, etc.), are collected from all members of the sample and analyzed using statistics [Each team member will administer 10 surveys: 5 via face-to-face interview, 5 self-administered]	How do college students spend their time? How do college students manage their workload? What do students talk about outside of class? What do students think about cheating?	2, 5, 6, 7
Available Data - data that has already been collected; typically existing statistics (like census or crime data) and secondary data sets (i.e. NSSE, GSS, etc.) [Team will read complete NSEE instrument and review SUNY Potsdam NSEE and SOS data and choose 3+ topics to explore]	How do college students spend their time? How do college students manage their workload? What activities are students involved in on campus?	2, 6, 7
Field Observation - observing social activity as an outsider and/or while participating in the activities [Team will choose sites on SUNY Potsdam campus to observe similar to Nathan’s process including dining areas or classrooms]	What is the nature of campus life and the campus “community”? What is the nature of diversity and intercultural interaction on campus? What are the norms of classroom behavior? How do students behave in classes? What is dorm life like?	1, 3, 5
Qualitative Interviewing - in-depth interviewing, using open-ended questions; usually one-on-one, but can also include focus groups [each member will conduct and transcribe 3 one-on-one interviews]	How do international students perceive American college culture? How do college students manage their workload?	4, 6
Content Analysis - a method of data collection in which some form of communication is studied systematically [Team will choose some form of communication at SUNY Potsdam - bulletin boards, faculty doors, class FB pages, <i>The Raquette</i> , etc.]	How is campus culture (or various subcultures) expressed through displays like residence hall doors, bulletin boards, etc.?	2
Comparative/Historical - analyzes patterns across places and/or time periods; <i>comparative</i> typically involves the use of existing statistics & data while <i>historical</i> typically uses archival resources like those found in special libraries, museums, or historical societies [Team chooses 5 decades in SUNY Potsdam history and at least 3 aspects of campus life to explore]	What was college life (in general) like in the past?	2, 6