

Course Title: PSY 290 Research Methods In Psychology

Term: Fall 2022

Instructor: TBA

Course Credit: 3

Mode of Instruction: Online

Course Description:

Focusing on the design of psychology experiments and statistical tests, this course is designed to teach students about the processes and methods used to conduct psychological research. Students will be familiarized with scientific reasoning, basic research designs and methodology, historical and contemporary issues in research ethics, measurement, ANOVA, and application and interpretation of appropriate statistical tests with SPSS. In addition, this course teaches basic writing skills for psychological research as well as critical thinking skills. .

Course Prerequisites:

PSY 230 Introduction To Statistics In Psychology

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, the student should be able to:

- A. Describe and discuss the concepts in various psychological research methods and design;
- B. Know detailed instructions on how to perform statistical tests with SPSS;
- C. Gain a good understanding of ANOVA, and master how to design effective experiments to test the research;
- D. Verbally present their research findings in a coherent and concise manner.

Course Material:

1. Hugh Coolican, *Research Methods and Statistics in Psychology*, 6th Edition, 2018.
2. Fabio Sani Gareth Schott John Todman, *Experimental Design and Statistics for Psychology*, Wiley-Blackwell, 2006.

Evaluation:

- 2 Assignments [10%]
- 2 Research Projects [20%]
- Research Project Report [15%]
- Mid-term Exam [20%]
- Final Exam [35%]

Description of the Evaluation tasks:

Assignment/ Essay/ ... : During the term, students will be required to finish several evaluation tasks within due date. All the tasks are linked with specific course topics/outcomes and will adequately assess students' competence and learning outcomes. Students are encouraged to meet with instructor about these tasks at any point.

Mid-term/ Final Exams/ Quiz/... : There may be periodic quizzes given at the beginning of lecture sessions; the feedback from these quizzes will monitor the progress of the learners and help to set learning priorities. There will be mid-term exam/ final exam for the course. They are the basic criteria for the evaluation of students' learning outcomes and final grade.

Grading Policy:

Students are supposed to finish each online lecture. Prior to each class, students should finish the required readings. During the class time, students are encouraged to make use of all relevant online course resources and communicate with the instructor. Students' grades are accumulated based on the cumulative evaluations.

Students' letter grade will be assigned according to the following scale:

A+ 90-100	A 85-89	A- 80-84
B+ 77-79	B 73-76	B- 70-72
C+ 67-69	C 63-66	C- 60-62
D+ 57-59	D 53-56	D- 50-52
F < 50		

Academic Integrity:

Students must strictly adhere to the university's academic integrity rule; and all essays, exams and any other form of academic assignments must adhere to these rules. Any form of plagiarism, cheating, or misappropriation of materials will be considered a violation of academic integrity and will be punishable by the university.

Withdrawal from the Course(s):

Students will be able to apply for a transfer or withdrawal within 3 days of the starting date of the course. If a withdrawal is applied for within 3 working days, the tuition fee will be fully refunded. After 3 days, the tuition fee will not be refunded. If a withdrawal is applied for in the first two weeks, it will be recorded as W (Withdraw) on the course transcript. After this initial two-week period, the class will be recorded as F (Fail).

Tentative Schedule:

Week 1	
1	Research methods and ethics
2	Psychology, science and research
3	Measuring people – variables, samples and the qualitative critique
4	Experiments and experimental designs in psychology
5	Experiments and experimental designs in psychology (Cont.) Assignment#1

Week 2	
6	Validity in psychological research
7	Quasi-experiments and non-experiments
8	Observational methods – watching and being with people
9	Interview methods – asking people direct questions
10	Psychological tests and measurement scales Research Project#1
Week 3	
11	Comparison studies – cross-sectional, longitudinal and cross-cultural studies
12	Qualitative approaches in psychology
13	Mid-term Exam
14	Ethical issues in psychological research
15	Analysing data and writing reports Assignment#2
Week 4	
16	Statistics – organising the data
17	SPSS procedures for correlation
18	Conducting a regression analysis in SPSS
19	Multi-level analysis - differences between more than two conditions (ANOVA)
20	One-way ANOVA Research Project#2
Week 5	
21	Multivariate analysis of variance
22	Multi-factorial ANOVA designs
23	ANOVA for repeated measures designs
24	Choosing a significance test for your data Research Project Report
25	Final Exam