



PSYCH 200 SPRING 2024

Research Methods in Psychology

Dr. Conley



DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to introduce you to the methodologies, tools, and requirements of scientific psychology. To accomplish this, you will first be exposed to literature search and review; one must know what has been done before any new research can be proposed. Next, you will learn the important role ethics plays in scientific psychology. Finally, you will be exposed to the varying types of data gathering, research design, and analysis that the different branches of psychology require. As we progress, you will also practice how to write a psychology paper correctly (both in style and content) using APA (American Psychological Association) rules.

COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor:	Dr. Patrick Conley	Office Location:	D261 SCI
Email:	pconley@uwsp.edu	Office Hours:	W 1-2 and Th 2-3

TIME AND LOCATION OF CLASSES:

9:30 – 10:45am Tuesdays and Thursdays in SCI D223

REQUIREMENTS OF PSYCHOLOGY 200:

REQUIRED READING:

The textbook for this course is: Cozby & Bates (2023). *Methods in Behavioral Research* (15th Edition). McGraw-Hill: Boston.; Three additional articles will also be assigned (TBA), as well as other brief articles for reading.

REQUIRED PERFORMANCE

1. Satisfactory performance on examinations.
2. Consistent class attendance (though class attendance itself will not be graded, you will see that either a homework or class assignment is due every week). You are also expected to participate actively in class.
3. Careful reading of the assigned readings in a timely manner. This means reading the text material the weekend before the week for which it is assigned.
4. Attendance at the scheduled exam times. **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE ADMINISTERED EXCEPT FOR SERIOUS PERSONAL OR FAMILY EMERGENCIES WITH APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTATION.** If you have such an emergency, you must attend the one-time-only makeup period I assign. If you do not, you will receive a zero on the exam.
5. Homework assignments must be handed in **ON TIME**. No credit will be given for any late assignments without express advance permission given by me. This permission will only be given in the case of emergencies or other serious causes.

ASSIGNMENT AND EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

In-Class Activities (20% of your final grade). I will use various (sometimes unannounced) in-class activities to “encourage” you to attend every class session. These assignments will range from discussion of journal articles to worksheets on a topic to small group discussion of class material.

Homework (40% of your final grade). These homeworks represent the work you will be doing outside of the course related to a *research proposal* that you will develop over the entire semester. A research proposal is a document submitted to a funding or other higher agency for approval to conduct a specific experiment or research design. Various parts of this document are separated into the five homeworks that will be due throughout the term. These homeworks cover: Library research, citation and reference of previous sources, ethics, the review of previous research and introduction of your proposed research, the method of your research, and your expected results. The due dates for each of these assignments is listed in the course schedule below.

The breakdown of the total 40% of the grade for each homework is as follows:

Homework 1: 5%

Homework 3: 10%

Homework 5: 10%

Homework 2: 5%

Homework 4: 10%

Exams (40% of your grade). Two examinations will be given. The first will take place during Week 8, and the final exam during the university-assigned period. Both exams are equal in weight. These exams will consist of both multiple choice and short answer questions.

Course Schedule

DATE	Preparatory Readings	Topic for Class	Assignment Due
Week 1	Overview: What are the Expectations for this Course?		
1-23	<input type="checkbox"/> C&B (Ch. 1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduction	
1-25		<input type="checkbox"/> Introduction Continued	
Part I: Research Foundations			
Week 2	Science and Methods		
1-30	<input type="checkbox"/> C&B (Ch. 2, first half – up to	<input type="checkbox"/> Goals of Empirical Psychology	
2-1	“Exploring Past Research”)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hypotheses and Predictions	
Week 3	Library Research		
2-6	<input type="checkbox"/> C&B (Ch. 2 second half)	<input type="checkbox"/> Identifying Researchable Ideas	
2-8		<input type="checkbox"/> APA Style Citations and References	<input type="checkbox"/> HW 1: Topics & References
Week 4	Reading and Writing APA Style Research Reports		
2-13	<input type="checkbox"/> C&B (Appendix A)	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading Scientific Articles	
2-15	<input type="checkbox"/> Journal Article (TBA)	<input type="checkbox"/> Journal Article Discussion	
Week 5	Ethics in Research		
2-20		<input type="checkbox"/> Writing a Research Proposal	
2-22	<input type="checkbox"/> C&B (Ch. 3)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ethics in Human Research	
Week 6	Human and Animal Ethics		
2-27	Article TBA	<input type="checkbox"/> Ethics in Human Research cont,	
2-29		<input type="checkbox"/> Ethics in Animal Research	<input type="checkbox"/> HW 2: Ethics
Week 7	Methods and Measurement		
3-5	<input type="checkbox"/> C&B (Ch. 4)	<input type="checkbox"/> Types of Research Methods	
3-7		<input type="checkbox"/> Research Methods (Cont.)	
Week 8	Understanding Variables		
3-12	<input type="checkbox"/> C&B (Ch. 5)	<input type="checkbox"/> Variables in research	
3-14		<input type="checkbox"/> EXAM 1	
S P R I N G B R E A K			
Part II: Research Designs			
Week 9	Experimental Designs		
3-26		<input type="checkbox"/> Overview of Experimental Designs	
3-28	<input type="checkbox"/> C&B (Ch. 8)	<input type="checkbox"/> Manipulating Variables	<input type="checkbox"/> HW 3: Intro
Week 10	Conducting Experiments		
4-2	<input type="checkbox"/> Journal Article (TBA)	<input type="checkbox"/> Repeated Measures Designs	
4-4	<input type="checkbox"/> C&B (Ch. 9)	<input type="checkbox"/> Journal Article Discussion	
Week 11	Quasi-Experimental and Developmental Designs		
4-9	<input type="checkbox"/> C&B (Ch. 10)	<input type="checkbox"/> Factorial Designs	
4-11		<input type="checkbox"/> Other Experimental Designs	

Week 12	Survey Designs		
4-16	<input type="checkbox"/> C&B (Ch. 7)	<input type="checkbox"/> Creating and Implementing Surveys	
4-18		<input type="checkbox"/> Surveys Continued	<input type="checkbox"/> HW 4: Method & Results
Week 13	Observational Designs		
4-23	<input type="checkbox"/> C&B (Ch. 6)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sampling	
4-25	<input type="checkbox"/> Journal Article TBA	<input type="checkbox"/> Naturalistic vs Correlational Designs	
Week 14	Other Designs		
4-30		<input type="checkbox"/> Journal Article Discussion	
5-2	<input type="checkbox"/> C&B (Ch. 11)	<input type="checkbox"/> Observational Designs	
Week 15	Generalizing & Communicating Results		
5-7	<input type="checkbox"/> C&B (Ch. 14)	<input type="checkbox"/> Generalizing Results	
5-9		<input type="checkbox"/> Communicating Results	<input type="checkbox"/> HW 5: Abstract and Revisions
Week 16	Final Exam Week		
5-15	<input type="checkbox"/> (Wednesday)	<input type="checkbox"/> Exam 2 (Final Exam) 8:00 – 10:00am	

GRADING SCALE

Grade	Percentage
A	100-91%
A-	90%
B+	89%
B	88-81%
B-	80%

Grade	Percentage
C+	79%
C	78-71%
C-	70%
D+	69%
D	68-60%

SPECIAL NEEDS

Special needs (ADD, ADHD, or other physical, psychological, or learning conditions that require special arrangements) must be handled through the Disability Services Office. Please note that even short term disabilities (such as breaking your leg) can also be handled through this office. The Disability Services Office will handle special testing needs, materials, etc.

UWSP is committed to providing reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities and temporary impairments. If you have a disability or acquire a condition during the semester where you need assistance, please contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center on the 6th floor of Albertson Hall (library) as soon as possible. DATC can be reached at 715-346-3365 or DATC@uwsp.edu.

POLICY ON CHEATING AND ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Students are responsible for understanding the nature and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offenses. Note that such offenses include cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course, without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is appropriate, consult your instructor. A claim that you didn't know it was wrong will not be accepted as an excuse.

The use of artificial intelligence for the generation of course-related assignments is not allowed in this course. Assignments determined to have been created or completed using such technology will receive a failing grade for the assignment, consistent with how plagiarism will be treated in this course.

USING ELECTRONIC DEVICES

To maintain the integrity of in-class exams, the use of electronic devices will not be permitted during exams without prior documented approval from the Disability Services office or other pertinent offices on campus. This includes, but is not limited to, requests to use cellular or wireless network-enabled mobile devices for foreign language translation assistance. Students who are found using these devices will be dismissed and receive a zero for their exams. Other penalties will be considered under the misconduct policy. Moreover, students who arrive late to an exam will only be allowed to take it if they arrive before the first student finishes and leaves the room. After that point, requests to take exams will be declined unless they are consistent with the makeups policy.

STUDENT'S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

UWSP values a safe, honest, respectful, and inviting learning environment. In order to ensure that each student has the opportunity to succeed, a set of expectations has been developed for both students and professors (see <https://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/rightsCommBillRights.pdf>). All students are expected to be familiar with and to abide by these expectations.

COURSE WITHDRAWAL

Students must withdraw from class in a timely manner in accordance with published deadlines. Failure to do so could result in a failing grade or the loss of reimbursable tuition fees. The published deadlines can be found at: <http://www.uwsp.edu/news/uwspcatalog/academic.htm#Drop/Add>

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

In the event of a medical emergency call 911 or use Red Emergency Phone. Offer assistance if trained and willing to do so. Guide Emergency Responders to victim.

In the event of a tornado warning, proceed to the lowest level interior room without window exposure at SCI C181. Avoid wide-span rooms and buildings. www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures/other/floor-plans.aspx shows other floor plans providing severe weather shelters on campus.

In the event of a fire alarm, evacuate the building in a calm manner. Meet at the front of the Health Enhancement Center (HEC) Notify instructor or emergency command personnel of any missing individuals.

Active Shooter - Run/Escapes, Hide, Fight. If trapped hide, lock doors, turn off lights, spread out and remain quiet. Follow instructions of Emergency Responders.

See UW-Stevens Point Emergency Management Plan at www.uwsp.edu/rmgt for details on all emergency response at UW-Stevens Point.

TITLE IX

Under several federal and state laws, and according to several university guidelines, I am required to report acts of a criminal or offensive nature. This includes acts of sexual harassment and assault, bias and hate crimes, illicit drug use, and acts of violence. Any disclosure or description of these incidents – both current and in the past – may be reported to the Dean of Students office (<http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/>) or the local authorities.

COVID POLICIES

The official Covid-19 policy of this course is to follow the official guidelines of the University. At the start of the current term (Spring 2024) masks are optional, though that may change if there is a resurgence of Covid-19 on campus. If this happens, please do not ask for exemptions to this policy as I am not capable of making any kind of accommodation going against official University policy.

In case of illness, Covid-19 will be treated as any other excused absence for health reasons. It will be your responsibility to provide a doctor's note, get notes from students and to make up the missed material when possible. I will, of course, help you in any way possible, but I cannot teach this class in two modalities, both online and in-person, meaning that, barring a complete class shutdown or quarantine, class lectures will not be provided online.