

PSYC 200 – Research Methods in Psychology

Spring 2022

Instructor

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In-Person Office Hours: Tuesday 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Zoom Office Hours: Thursday 3:00pm – 5:00pm; (also by appointment)



Class Schedule

January 24th – May 13th; Online Asynchronous – Content delivered via Canvas

Course Description

PSYCH 200 – Research Methods in Psychology, 3 credits hours

Introduction to the research methods used in psychology including experimental and nonexperimental designs. Library research, conducting research, research ethics, and basics of writing in APA style.

Prerequisite – PSYC 110 – Intro to Psych

Course Structure

This course will be delivered entirely online through Zoom and Canvas. You can access Canvas (which contains links to Zoom) from the UWSP [log in page](#) using your UWSP credentials. If you have not activated your UWSP account, please visit the [Manage Your Account](#) page to do so.

Objectives

- Apply discipline-specific standards of oral and written communication to compose an articulate, grammatically correct, and organized presentation/piece of writing with properly documented and supported ideas, evidence, and information suitable to the topic, purpose, and audience.
- Critique their own and others' writing/oral presentations to provide effective and useful feedback to improve their communication.

Required Materials and Online Canvas Page

- Methods in Behavioral Research, 13th Edition by Cozby & Bates.
- Materials that will be used to supplement the text (journal articles etc..) will be provided via Canvas.
- Canvas will be used regularly to distribute documents, grades, and exams. If you have any troubles accessing the course Canvas page please inform IT Service Desk (<http://www.uwsp.edu/infotech/Pages/helpdesk/default.aspx>)

Grading/assessment

Final grades will be based on in class activities/homework, APA paper, and exams

- **Activities/homework:** There will be 7 graded activities/homework throughout the semester. These are bolded in the class schedule below. Activities/homework will be used to facilitate the learning process of research methods, critical thinking skills, and proper APA writing style. Each assignment will be worth 5 points.

- **Discussion posts:** There will be a discussion post each week hidden in the content for that week (it will be very obvious what the question is if you go through all of the content). Replying to the discussion post question will be worth 2 points.
- **APA paper report:** Throughout the semester you will write an APA paper report on a study conducted in class. Certain sections of the paper will due through the semester and be peer-reviewed by other members of the class. Rubrics for the peer-review process will be given out and will be based on expectations for the final paper. I strongly encourage you to consider incorporating peer review edits. The final paper with the edited sections will be due at the end of the semester.
- **Exams:** There will be four-unit exams. Exams will consist of choice questions and each will be worth a total of 50 points. Exams will take place during the normally scheduled class time. There will be no makeup exams unless I am provided with a legitimate, documented excuse. In the case of an absence during an exam please contact me as soon as possible. **I must be notified before the exam start in order to reschedule an exam.**

The following will comprise your final grade:

• In class activities/homework	35 pts
• Discussion posts	32 pts
• Drafts of various APA paper sections	70 pts
• Paper peer review	25 pts
• APA final paper	50 pts
• Exams	200 pts
Total	412 pts

Grading Scale

Final grades will be based on the percentages shown below. I reserve the right to lower/raise these cutoff points. The cutoff points are:

94%- 100%	A	80%- 83%	B-	67%-69%	D+
90%- 93%	A-	77%-79%	C+	64%-66%	D
87%- 89%	B+	74%-76%	C	60%-63%	D-
84%- 86%	B	70%-73%	C-	0%-59%	F

Attendance

Attendance will not count explicitly in the calculation of your grade, but attending class is imperative since all of the tests and final exam will be mostly based on what we cover in class. If you miss a class, please obtain the lecture notes from a classmate.

University Policy Regarding Students with Disabilities

The University will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students need to register with Disability and Assistive Technology Center every semester they are enrolled. DATC is located in Albertson Hall on the 6th floor (715-346-3365). To be assured of having services when they are needed, students should register no later than the end of the add/drop deadline of each term. If you have a disability that necessitates an accommodation or adjustment to

the academic requirements stated in this syllabus, you must register with DATC as described above and notify your professor.

UWSP Technology Support

- Seek assistance from the [IT Service Desk](#) (Formerly HELP Desk)
 - IT Service Desk Phone: 715-346-4357 (HELP)
 - IT Service Desk Email: techhelp@uwsp.edu

Understand When You May Drop This Course

It is the student's responsibility to understand when they need to consider unenrolling from a course. Refer to the UWSP [Academic Calendar](#) for dates and deadlines for registration. After this period, a serious and compelling reason is required to drop from the course. Serious and compelling reasons includes: (1) documented and significant change in work hours, leaving student unable to attend class, or (2) documented and severe physical/mental illness/injury to the student or student's family.

Statement of Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity is an expectation of each UW-Stevens Point student. Campus community members are responsible for fostering and upholding an environment in which student learning is fair, just, and honest. Through your studies as a student, it is essential to exhibit the highest level of personal honesty and respect for the intellectual property of others. Academic misconduct is unacceptable. It compromises and disrespects the integrity of our university and those who study here. To maintain academic integrity, a student must only claim work which is the authentic work solely of their own, providing correct citations and credit to others as needed. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, and/or helping others commit these acts are examples of academic misconduct, which can result in disciplinary action. Failure to understand what constitutes academic misconduct does not exempt responsibility from engaging in it. Students suspected of academic misconduct will be asked to meet with the instructor to discuss the concerns. If academic misconduct is evident, procedures for determining disciplinary sanctions will be followed as outlined in the University System Administrative Code, Chapter 14.

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Readings	Class Activities/Homework
Week 1	Course introduction and expectations	N/A	
Week 2	Ch 1. Scientific Understanding of behavior Ch 2. Starting the process of behavioral research	Chapter 1 Chapter 2	Activity 1 Activity 2
Week 3	Ch 3. Ethics in behavioral research & Article breakdown Library methods	Chapter 3 Liu 1973 article	Library demonstration on article research
Week 4	Writing a research report – APA basics Ch 3. Ethics in behavioral research Writing methods	Appendix A Chapter 3	Article summary 1 due Activity 3
Week 5	Exam 1 – Ch. 1-3		
Week 6	Ch 4. Fundamental research issues/methods writing Ch 5. Measurement concepts	Chapter 4 Chapter 5	Activity 4
Week 7	Ch 6. Observational methods Introduction writing – putting everything together	Chapter 6	Article summary 2 due Methods section due
Week 8	Ch 7. Using survey research Data Analysis/Results Section	Chapter 7 Writing results	Activity 5
Week 9	How to give and get proper feedback Exam 2 Ch. 4-7		Peer review of methods due
Week 10	Ch 8. Experimental design Ch 9. Conducting experiments	Chapter 8 Chapter 9	Introduction – Background and hypothesis paragraphs due Activity 6
Week 11	Ch 10. & Complex experimental design	Ch. 10	Results section due

	Discussion writing		Peer review of introduction and results sections due
Week 12	Exam 3 – Ch. 8-10		
Week 13	Ch 11. Quasi-experimental design	Chapter 11	Activity 7
Week 14	Ch 12. Understanding research results Abstract writing	Chapter 12 Abstract writing	Discussion section due
Week 15	Ch 14. Generalizing results	Chapter 14	Abstract section due
Week 16	Exam 4 – Ch. 11,12, & 14		Peer review of discussion and abstract due
Finals week	Final paper due		

This syllabus is subject to change and you are responsible for keeping up with any changes and announcements. Any changes will be announced in-class and on the Canvas course page.