

PSYC 200 – Research Methods in Psychology

Fall 2023

Instructor

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In-Person Office Hours: Tu 1pm – 2:30pm (or by appointment)

Zoom Office Hours: Mo 3pm – 4:30pm (or by appointment)



Class Schedule

September 5th – December 15th; 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, 15th 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	30 pts
• Drafts of various APA paper sections	70 pts
• Paper peer review	20 pts
• APA final paper	50 pts
• Exams	200 pts
Total	405 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

If you have a documented disability and verification from the Disability Resource Center and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to provide documentation of disability to DRC and meet with a counselor to request special accommodation before classes start. The DRC is located in CCC 108 and can be contacted by phone at (715) 346-3365 or via email at drc@uwsp.edu.

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 Sep 5 – Sep 10	Course introduction and expectations	N/A	
Week 2 Sep 11 – Sep 17	Ch 1. Scientific Understanding of behavior Ch 2. Starting the process of behavioral research	Chapter 1 Chapter 2	Activity 1 Activity 2 Due Sep 17th 11:59pm
Week 3 Sep 18 – Sep 24	Ch 3. Ethics in behavioral research & Article breakdown Library methods	Chapter 3 Liu 1973 article	Library demonstration on article research
Week 4 Sep 25 – Oct 1	Writing a research report – APA basics Ch 3. Ethics in behavioral research Writing methods	Appendix A Chapter 3	Article summary 1 due Activity 3 Due Oct 1st 11:59pm
Week 5 Oct 2 – Oct 8	Exam 1 – Ch. 1-3		Due Oct 8th 11:59pm
Week 6 Oct 9 – Oct 15	Ch 4. Fundamental research issues/methods writing Ch 5. Measurement concepts	Chapter 4 Chapter 5	Activity 4 Due Oct 15th 11:59pm
Week 7 Oct 16 – Oct 22	Ch 6. Observational methods Introduction writing – putting everything together	Chapter 6	Article summary 2 due Methods section due Due Oct 22nd 11:59pm
Week 8 Oct 23 – Oct 29	Ch 7. Using survey research How to give and get proper feedback	Chapter 7 Writing results	Activity 5 Due Oct 29th 11:59pm
Week 9 Oct 30 – Nov 5	Exam 2 Ch. 4-7		Peer review of methods due Due Nov 5 11:59pm
Week 10 Nov 6 – Nov 12	Ch 8. Experimental design Ch 9. Conducting experiments	Chapter 8 Chapter 9	Introduction – Background and hypothesis paragraphs due Activity 6 Due Nov 12th 11:59pm

	Data Analysis/Results Section		
Week 11 Nov 13 – Nov 19	Ch 10. & Complex experimental design Discussion writing	Ch. 10	Peer review of introduction due Result section due Due Nov 19th 11:59pm
Week 12 Nov 20 – Nov 26	Exam 3 – Ch. 8-10		Peer review of results due Due Nov 26th 11:59pm
Week 13 Nov 27- Dec 3	Ch 11. Quasi-experimental design	Chapter 11	Activity 7 Discussion section due Due Dec 3rd 11:59pm
Week 14 Dec 4 – Dec 10	Ch 12. Understanding research results Abstract writing	Chapter 12 Abstract writing	Abstract section due Due Dec 10th 11:59pm
Week 15 Dec 11 – Dec 17	Ch 14. Generalizing results	Chapter 14	Peer review of discussion Final paper due Due Dec 17th 11:59pm
Finals week Dec 18 – Dec 22	Exam 4 – Ch. 11,12, & 14		Due Dec 22nd 11:59pm

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.