



**PSYC 3560 Research Methods – Fully Online
Spring 2017**

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Office hours: Tuesdays 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Virtual Office hours via Zoom and Skype – please email me for scheduling

Course Description

This course focuses on laboratory and field research methods applied in the study of human behavior. Course content emphasizes the development of sound methods of hypothesis testing, data interpretation and formal research report writing, the review of empirical, peer-reviewed literature, the critique and interpretation of applied research and the ethical responsibilities and codes of conduct related to psychological research.

Course Objectives

By the completion of this course the successful student will be able to:

- 1) Analyze the main features and philosophy of the scientific process.
- 2) Detect the basic tenets of the empirical method.
- 3) Develop and synthesize a scientific attitude toward the study and analysis of behavior.
- 4) Develop testable hypotheses derived from a theory.
- 5) Examine the tools and techniques employed by professional experimental psychologists in conducting their research.
- 6) Detect and apply various experimental designs in new situations.
- 7) Evaluate and interpret how to design, execute, analyze, and interpret adequate psychological research.

Text Required

Leedy, P. & Ormond, E. (2013). *Practical research: Planning and design* (10th ed.). Prentice Hall.

Course Requirements

1. Introduction (15 points)

In order to earn all points you must post an introduction and two replies by **Sunday, January 15th @ 11:59pm** (unless you registered after the first week of class). Your **initial post** should address all six (6) questions posted and include minimum of 250 words. Your **two (2) replies** should be minimum of 150 words.

2. Forum Participation (3 x 30 = 90 points)

Chapters 1, 2 and 10 require you to complete a forum discussion. You will be posting an initial discussion (**due on Thursdays @ 11:59pm**) minimum of **300** words, and respond to **two (2)** of your classmates' initial posts (**due on Sundays @ 11:59pm**) minimum of **150 words each**. Please see grading rubric (p.3) for Forum Discussions.

*****Note that if your initial discussion is not posted by Thursday at 11:59pm 10 points will be deducted for late submission.**

3. Quizzes (125 points)

You will be completing multiple choice quizzes for **chapters 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12**. The quizzes will be available from Thursday 12:00am until Friday 9:00pm. You can access the quiz as many times as you like and save your responses, however, you will only be able to submit it **once**. *****Late submissions will not be accepted for quizzes. If you do not submit your quiz by 9:00pm the assigned grade will be 0.**

4. Assignments (80 points)

You will be completing assignments for **chapters 4, 8 and 13**. The assignments will be available to you at the beginning of the course and must be submitted by the assigned due dates – see syllabus. *****Late submissions will not be accepted.**

5. Extra Credit (25 points)

- A **syllabus quiz** will be available the first week of class. I strongly encourage you to take it as it will assist you in finding all necessary information that will help you to successfully complete this course.
- **Chapter 4 includes an extra credit assignment** (*please note that there is also a required assignment that needs to be completed for this chapter*). It is preferable to complete the extra credit before midpoint; however, it will be available to you until 04/09.

*****All written work will follow the format of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Please see guidelines and examples available under "Table of Contents" at D2L.**

Forum Requirements – Grading Rubric	Points
Posted correctly work is posted according to instructions (minimum of 300 words required; all questions were addressed; meaningful and thoughtful initial post)	10
Replies (two replies to initial posts – minimum of 150 words; responses contributed to classmates initial posts)	20
Total	30

Course Requirements	Points
Introduction	15
Online Discussions	3 x 30 = 90
Quizzes	125
Assignments	80
TOTAL	310
<i>Extra Credit:</i>	
<i>Syllabus Quiz</i>	15
<i>Chapter 4</i>	10

280+	A
249 - 279	B
218 - 248	C
187- 217	D
< 186	F

Regarding students' grades

******Please note that we are using the points grading system instead of percentage. Your final grade will depend on the points you have earned.***

You are responsible for keeping track of your own class averages during the course of the semester. Please contact me if you want an update of your grade during the course. All graded materials will be submitted back in a timely fashion. ***Please remember that midterm grades will only reflect a percentage of the total grading scale, because all assignments and tests will not be required before calculating your midterm grade.***

Make-up Policies

Missing Quizzes, Forums & Assignments: Exceptions will be made only if there is a valid excuse supported with documentation and is provided **48 hours prior to the deadline** of the assignment. I understand that emergencies happen so please email me as soon as you can and provide supporting documents.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

Mission Statement and Learning Goals

The Mission of the Department of Psychology is to provide students with the highest quality instructional preparation for immediate employment in occupations such as human services or for graduate programs in areas such as counseling, social work, and psychology. The program faculty is dedicated to providing academically sound instruction in an environment that models for students the highest standards of professional, ethical, and caring behaviors.

- ❖ To understand and apply the major concepts, findings, and theoretical perspectives of Psychology.
- ❖ To evaluate research critically and apply research methodologies used in psychology.
- ❖ To communicate effectively and professionally both orally and in writing.
- ❖ To demonstrate an understanding of the roles, responsibilities, and career opportunities for those with psychology-related degrees.
- ❖ To understand and apply the ethical standards set forth by the American Psychological Association.

Learning Outcomes for Dept. of Psychology

1. Apply the major concepts, findings, and theoretical perspectives of psychology.
2. Evaluate research critically and apply research methodologies used in psychology.
3. Demonstrate effective, professional oral and written communication skills both individually and with groups.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the roles, responsibilities, and career opportunities for those with psychology-related degrees.
5. Apply the ethical standards set forth by the American Psychological Association.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and cultural differences and their influences on beliefs, values, and interactions with others.
7. Interact effectively with people of diverse abilities, backgrounds, and cultural perspectives.

General education outcomes

The following link provides the Clayton State University Core Curriculum outcomes (see Area E): http://www.clayton.edu/Portals/5/core_curriculum_outcomes_clayton.pdf

General Information

- ❖ E-mail: Expect an email response within 48 hours from the time you send it. If you have a more urgent issue, please use the phone number listed at the top of the syllabus.

Computer Requirement

Each CSU student is required to have ready access throughout the semester to a notebook computer that meets faculty-approved hardware and software requirements for the student's academic program. Students will sign a statement attesting to such access. For further information on CSU's Official Notebook Computer Policy, please go to <http://www.clayton.edu/hub/itpchoice/notebookcomputerpolicy>.

Computer Skill Prerequisites:

- Able to use the Windows™ operating system
- Able to use Microsoft Word™ word processing
- Able to send and receive e-mail using Outlook™ or Outlook Express™
- Able to attach and retrieve attached files via email
- Able to use a Web browser.

D2L (Online Classroom)

On-line activity will take place in D2L, the virtual classroom for the course.

- You can gain access to D2L, by signing on to the SWAN portal and selecting: “D2L” on the top right side. If you experience any difficulties in GeorgiaVIEW, please email or call The HUB at TheHub@mail.clayton.edu or (678) 466-HELP. You will need to provide the date and time of the problem, your D2L username, the name of the course that you are attempting to access, and your instructor's name.

Basic Student Responsibilities and Student Handbook

Each Clayton State University student must abide by the rules and regulations pertaining to student conduct as indicated in the Student Handbook and the University Catalog. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain these documents and become familiar with this information.

Academic Dishonesty

Any type of activity that is considered dishonest by reasonable standards may constitute academic misconduct. The most common forms of academic misconduct are cheating and plagiarism. All instances of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of zero (0) for the work involved. All instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Student Life/Judicial Affairs. Judicial procedures are described at

<http://adminservices.clayton.edu/judicial/>.

Disruption of the Learning Environment

Since this is an online course please review **netiquette police** under our course “Content”.

Disability Services

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations need to register with Disability Services in order to obtain their accommodations. You can contact them at 678-466-5445 or disabilityservices@clayton.edu. If you are already registered with DS and are seeking accommodations for this course, please make an appointment with me to discuss your specific accommodation needs for this course and give me your accommodations letter.

Tutoring

The Center for Academic Success (CAS) provides tutoring for this course. Appointments can be made through TutorTrac at <http://tutoring.clayton.edu> or by contacting the CAS at (678) 466-4070, lower level of the library.

Operation Study

At Clayton State University, we expect and support high motivation and academic achievement. Look for Operation Study activities and programs this semester that are designed to enhance your academic success such as study sessions, study breaks, workshops, and opportunities to earn Study Bucks (for use in the University Bookstore) and other items.

Hardship Withdrawal

Students who experience an unexpected event or circumstance beyond their control that directly interferes with their ability to continue to make satisfactory progress in class(es), such as serious illnesses or unexpected major life events, may petition the Dean of their major for a hardship withdrawal. In order to be considered for a hardship withdrawal, the student must have been passing the course at the time that the emergency or other hardship arose and notify his or her instructors or other University officials about the hardship situation as soon as possible after it arose (per University and BOR policy, —passing is defined as a grade of —D or above). Hardship requests that are not filed in a timely manner are subject to denial even if the student was passing and the hardship was legitimate. Students who attend class through the end of a term and complete all course requirements (i.e. final project or exam) are not eligible for hardship withdrawal. If you have taken a final exam, you may not request a hardship withdrawal.

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Tentative Schedule

Date	Topics	Chapters
Week 1 01/09 – 01/15	Introductions & Expectations Introductions due on Sunday 01/15 @ 11:59pm Syllabus Quiz due on Sunday 01/15 @ 11:59pm	Start Readings
Week 2 01/16 – 01/22	The Nature and Tools of Research Forum Discussion Initial discussion is due on Thursday 01/19 @ 11:59pm Two replies are due on Sunday 01/22 @ 11:59pm <i>**No Show Deadline on the 19th</i>	Chapter 1
Week 3 01/23 – 01/29	The Problem: The Heart of the Research Process Forum Discussion Initial discussion is due on Thursday 01/26 @ 11:59pm Two replies are due on Sunday 01/29 @ 11:59pm	Chapter 2
Week 4 01/30 – 02/05	Review of the Related Literature Quiz Due Friday 02/03 @ 9:00pm	Chapter 3
Week 5 02/06 – 02/12	Planning Your Research Project Assignment Due on Sunday 02/12 @ 11:59	Chapter 4
Week 6 02/13 – 02/19	Writing the Research Proposal Quiz Due Friday 02/17 @ 9:00pm <i>**Midpoint</i>	Chapter 5
Week 7 02/20 – 02/26	Descriptive Research Quiz Due Friday 02/24 @ 9:00pm	Chapter 6
Week 8 02/27 – 03/05	Experimental, Quasi-Experimental, and Ex Post Facto Designs Quiz Due Friday 03/03 @ 9:00pm	Chapter 7
Week 9 03/06 – 03/12	Spring Break!!! Enjoy ☺	
Week 10 03/13 – 03/19	Analyzing Quantitative Data Assignment Due on Sunday 03/19 @ 11:59	Chapter 8
Week 11 03/20 – 03/26	Qualitative Research Quiz Due Friday 03/24 @ 9:00pm	Chapter 9
Week 12 03/27 – 04/02	Historical Research Forum Discussion Initial discussion is due on Thursday 03/30 @ 11:59pm	Chapter 10

	Two replies are due on Sunday 04/02 @ 11:59pm	
Week 13 04/03 – 04/09	Analyzing Qualitative Data Quiz Due on Friday @ 9:00pm	Chapter 11
Week 14 04/10 – 04/16	Mixed-Methods Design Quiz Due Friday 04/14 @ 9:00pm	Chapter 12
Week 15 04/17 – 04/23	Planning and Preparing the Research Report Assignment Due on Sunday 04/23 @ 11:59	Chapter 13
Week 16 04/24 – 04/30	Wrapping Up Course	
Week 17 05/01 – 05/07	Final Exams	

**Assignments and dates associated with this syllabus are subject to modification at faculty's discretion.*