

# PSYC1030.4x

Introduction to Psychological Research Methods

## SYLLABUS

PSYC1030.4x Introduction to Psychological Research Methods

### ABOUT THE COURSE

In this course you will learn how to plan, conduct and analyze psychological research and effectively communicate the results.

### INTENDED AUDIENCE

This course is designed with two audiences in mind.

- Undergraduate university students
- General audience seeking an introductory foundation in Psychological Research Methods.

### PREREQUISITES

There are no prerequisites for this course.

### EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

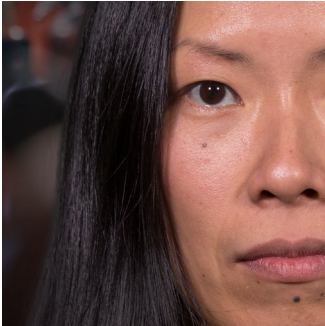
- Understand what psychology is, and how research is conducted to investigate psychological phenomena.
- Describe how to write clearly and effectively in psychology and understand why research is reported the way it is.
- Explain the study topic for the lab report and write clear predictions for the Introduction section of a lab report.
- Critically evaluate research to write an effective Introduction section of a lab report.
- Describe the components of the Method and Results sections of a report, and evaluate the method and findings reported in an example report.
- Describe the components of a Discussion section in a research report and write an effective Discussion section of a lab report.

## LEARNING PATHWAYS

It's a good idea to cover the topics in the course in the order in which they appear.

This course is part of a series of courses that taken together are equivalent to the on campus subject PSYC1030 Introduction to Psychology, which is taught at The University of Queensland.

**PSYC1030x XSeries** - Introduction to Developmental, Social & Clinical Psychology



### **PSYC1030.1x**

Introduction to Social Psychology



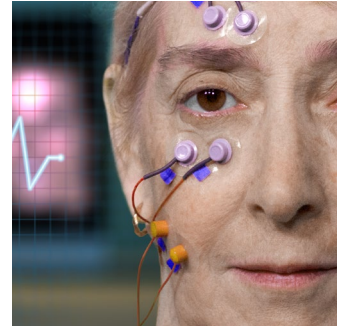
### **PSYC1030.2x**

Introduction to Developmental Psychology



### **PSYC1030.3x**

Introduction to Clinical Psychology



### **PSYC1030.4x**

Introduction to Psychological Research Methods

## COURSE LENGTH

This course is roughly equivalent to a quarter of the on-campus course. There are seven sections, and each should take between 1 and 2 hours to complete.

## COURSE CONTENT ORGANISATION

Each topic is divided into:

- Pre-quiz: ungraded pre-assessment
- Learning Goals
- Content: course content videos, text, polls, discussions, and activities
- Quiz: graded assessment

## COURSE CONTENT ORGANISATION - CONTINUED

The table below provides a summary of the course sections and sub-sections.

SECTION	SUB-SECTIONS
<b>Welcome to the course</b>	Welcome to the course videos Pre-course surveys Learning goals, content and how to succeed Lab report assessment information
<b>Introduction to psychological research methods</b>	Learning Goals Pre-quiz (Ungraded assessment) Introduction Common sense and the scientific method The scientific method Research designs Conclusions Find out more Quiz (Graded assessment)
<b>Writing for psychology</b>	Learning Goals Pre-quiz (Ungraded assessment) The structure of a lab report How to write clearly and concisely Small tips that make a massive difference Writing style Quiz (Graded assessment)
<b>Report topic</b>	Learning Goals Pre-quiz (Ungraded assessment) Introduction to lab report and study Lab report basic requirements Overview to study topic Papers to read Quiz (Graded assessment)

## COURSE CONTENT ORGANISATION - CONTINUED

SECTION	SUB-SECTIONS
<b>Critical thinking</b>	Learning Goals Pre-quiz (Ungraded assessment) Introduction Sources Critical thinking Quiz (Graded assessment)
<b>Method and Results</b>	Learning Goals Pre-quiz (Ungraded assessment) Introduction The research study The Method The Results Quiz (Graded assessment)
<b>Discussion</b>	Learning Goals Pre-quiz (Ungraded assessment) Introduction The Discussion The Discussion continued Double checking your lab report Quiz (Graded assessment)
<b>Lab report assessment</b>	Instructions and rubric Peer graded assessment
<b>Wrap-up</b>	What do you know now? (Ungraded assessment) Course evaluation

# ASSESSMENT AND COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

This course is self-paced.

All course content is released on the starting day of the course.

We will notify learners of any updates to the course by posting an alert on the Home page.

There are 6 (six) graded quizzes.

There is also a **lab report assessment**, where you will write up the Introduction and Discussion sections of a study. We will provide lots of detail about this assessment, which will be marked by your peers. It is worth 35%.

The pass mark is 50%.

The due-by-date for all assessment is the last day/closing day of the course.



It is important to note that the lab report assessment is peer graded, so you will need to submit it in time for your peers to do their marking, and for you to grade and provide feedback to your peers, also. Thus, the closing day deadline for this assessment includes the peer marking to have been completed in addition to your own writing submitted.

## WHAT IS THE LAB REPORT ASSESSMENT?

You will write the **Introduction** and the **Discussion** section of a **lab report** and submit this for assessment.

Once you submit your lab report you will then be required to review, grade and provide feedback on five (5) lab reports submitted by your peers in this course.

You will use a rubric to grade your peers' lab reports and provide helpful feedback. A rubric is a document that lays out assessment criteria and how much criteria is worth when grading. Your peers will use the same rubric to grade your lab report and provide you with feedback.

## DRAFT LAB REPORT

This part is really cool! To assist you in writing for the assessment, we have designed the course to have you *iteratively* write components of the **lab report** throughout the course. Every time you see an activity called **"Writing your lab report!"** be sure to do your best to complete the writing activity. These activities will be collated and towards the end of the course you will receive your writing in these activities presented to you as your **first draft of your lab report**. This will definitely make the lab report assessment an easier task!

# ASSESSMENT AND COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS - CONTINUED

## LAB REPORT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- **Length:** 1000 words
- **Lab report assessment opens:** course open date
- **Lab report assessment finishes:** course close date
- **Weight:** 35%



You must start the process of this assessment **BEFORE** this date, because you will also need to allow for the time it will take to review and grade five (5) lab reports from your peers

## COURSE MARKING:

### QUIZZES

- Topic 1: 15 questions, 15%
- Topics 2 to 6: 10 questions each, 10% each
- Total: 65 marks, weighting 65%

### LAB REPORT

- 14 dimensions x 5 marks each = 70 marks
- Weighting: 35%

## HONOR CODE AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

This course is offered online and we encourage collaboration and help between learners, but please avoid asking for and posting final answers. Violations of the honor policy undermine the purpose of education and the academic integrity of the course. We expect that all work submitted will be a reflection of one's own original work and thoughts. Additionally all learners are expected to follow the [EdX Rules of Online Conduct](#).

## DISCUSSION FORUM GUIDELINES

### MODERATORS

PSYC1030x has a team of moderators that look after the discussion forum. We answer questions, pass on suggestions from learners about the course material, and contribute to discussions. Sometimes we will edit or move posts to make them easier for other learners to understand and find. In the case of inappropriate material, we can edit or delete posts and close discussion threads.

We will regularly check the forum, but because of the large numbers of learners, we may not be able to answer every post. This is why it's important to use the built in 'vote' and 'search' functions to help us know which topics need more attention.

## DISCUSSION FORUM GUIDELINES - CONTINUED

### ETIQUETTE

Please keep your posts on-topic and constructive to the discussion at hand: this makes it much easier for other learners to know what's going on and to find answers to their questions.

Finally, we'd also like to remind you that everyone has an equal right to learn free of the fear of discrimination and bullying, so please keep all discussion polite and related to the course material so that everyone can benefit from the discussions here.

Whilst we strongly encourage you to share your experiences on the fora and engage with your fellow learners, it is not a course requirement that you post as part of the course activities.

We hope you find this an enlightening and interesting experience!