

**PSYCH 3010 - 03**  
**Research Methods in Psychology I**  
**Summer 2020 Online**  
**University of Missouri**

**Instructor:** John E. Scofield, M.S.

**Office:** 125 Psychology Building

**Office Hours:** By appointment only (in person or Skype). Available continuously via email and will try to respond within the same day.

**Email:** [jel7c5@mail.missouri.edu](mailto:jel7c5@mail.missouri.edu)

University policy requires all email communication between instructors and students be conducted through the student's MU account. When you email me from your MU account, please indicate the course in which you are enrolled and the section number.

**Prerequisites:**

- C or better in PSYCH 1000
- C or better in STAT 1200 (or its equivalent) or concurrent enrollment in STAT 1200

If you have not met these requirements, please make an appointment with your academic advisor to discuss options. Please make sure to do this before the add/drop period ends.

**Required Course Materials:**

Cuttler, C., Jhangiani, R. S., & Leighton, D. C. (2019). *Research Methods in Psychology*, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition. Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

This is a free, public domain textbook. You can download it as a pdf from Canvas, or from the original source at <https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/75>. I hope that by assigning a free and immediately-available textbook I have made it easier for you to keep up with the assigned readings.

**Course Description:**

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to research methods in psychology. A solid understanding of experimentation and the scientific method is absolutely essential in any field of psychology, including counseling, clinical, industrial/organizational, cognitive, biological, social, and more. You will learn how to critically evaluate research studies as well as learn how to define research problems, identify variables, state hypotheses, select appropriate samples, design experimental and quasi-experimental studies, and communicate research findings. Understanding and applying these concepts will not only prepare you for advanced undergraduate psychology courses (and graduate level courses), but will allow you to be a more critical consumer of information presented to you in the real world.

## **Course Learning Objectives:**

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- Identify various types of research claims made in both popular and scientific sources.
- Understand ethical guidelines that apply to psychological research.
- Identify different types of variables.
- Assess the reliability and validity of measures.
- Recognize different types of experimental and non-experimental approaches to research.
- Differentiate between different sampling techniques.
- Critically analyze scientific claims.
- Design a basic experimental study to test a hypothesis.

## **Course Delivery:**

While this course is administered online, it is NOT a self-paced course. It is an 8-week based course and the information will be presented similarly to that of a traditional semester-based course. Course material will be presented on a week-to-week basis. My hope is that this will enable us to learn the course material and engage in class discussions and activities together as a class. It is essential that you regularly access the course site for course announcements, to interact with your classmates in discussions, submit assignments, etc.

## **Online Course Access:**

The course is available at <http://courses.missouri.edu>. Under Login, select Canvas and enter your PawPrint. If you have difficulty logging in to the course or you do not see the course listed, please contact the *Mizzou IT Help Desk* at [helpdesk@missouri.edu](mailto:helpdesk@missouri.edu) or at 573-882-5000.

## **Online Course Etiquette:**

This is a safe online learning environment. While we may discuss some controversial, uncomfortable, sensitive or triggering material in this course, please make sure class discussions are respectful and academically focused. I place high value on inclusivity, so please be respectful and recognize that we all come from different backgrounds and life experiences. All opinions and experiences must be respected in the tolerant spirit of academic discourse. You are encouraged to comment, question, or critique an idea but are not allowed to attack an individual, a race, an ethnicity, or someone's religious beliefs. Also, please remember that sarcasm and humor can be misconstrued in online interactions and generate unintended disruptions. Working as a community of learners, we can build a polite and respectful course ambience.

## **What to Expect from an Online Course:**

Taking an online class gives you the flexibility to schedule your own time during the week to access the course and complete assignments. However, creating schedules to fulfill course requirements can be difficult for some people. To make sure that you do not fall behind or miss deadlines, I recommend that you schedule your work for this class as you might schedule your work for your in-person classes, employment, and/or appointments. On your calendar, schedule several blocks of time throughout the week to work on this online class (PSYCH 3010 Research Methods in Psychology I). It is essential that you access the course site regularly (at least 3-4 times per week) to read course announcements, complete the assigned readings, go over the

lectures, interact with your classmates in discussions, submit assignments, take quizzes, and complete exams.

### **As a Student Enrolled in this Course, I Expect You to:**

1) Complete the readings. Foundational concepts come from the text, and reading and taking notes will help you succeed in this class. 2) Watch all lectures. Lectures will be available on YouTube, and links will be provided in Canvas. My suggestion is to watch the lectures once without disruption. Then, I encourage you to watch the lectures again multiple times to ensure you are understanding all concepts, and especially focusing on topics that are difficult to grasp. 3) Complete all assignments. This will include various weekly homework assignments, discussion posts, quizzes, and exams. 4) Ask questions. Please seek clarification, direction, and guidance on any course material that is unclear. There will be a general discussion board on Canvas for questions, as well as personal communication via email.

*Tips for Success:* Manage your time wisely. It is good practice to block out consistent sections of time each and every day dedicated to this class. Take good notes. It is important to take adequate notes on both the assigned readings as well as the lectures. Study early and study often. Please do not wait until the last minute to complete everything. You will be responsible for creating your own schedule in this course and sticking to it. ASK QUESTIONS. Please feel free to email me at any time if you are struggling in this course.

### **Weekly Schedule and Learning Assessments:**

Course material will be presented on a week-to-week basis. Our learning weeks will begin on Mondays and end on Sundays. Every week of the course will have a corresponding instructional unit which includes your assigned reading(s), lectures, learning activities, and quiz questions. You should complete the readings and review the lectures before engaging in the learning activities and completing quizzes. Each week will have one homework assignment, where you will be required to read and answer questions pertaining to course material. There will also be one discussion post each week, where you will be asked to read and respond to a group discussion (with an initial post and commenting on one other student's post). Each week there will also be a timed quiz on Canvas over the material for that week. Quizzes will last 30 minutes and will be a mix of multiple choice, matching, and free response questions. Initial discussion posts are due on Wednesdays by 11:59 pm CST. Weekly quizzes are due on Fridays by 11:59 pm CST. Responses to discussion posts and homework assignments are due on Sundays by 11:59 pm CST.

- Wednesdays (11:59 pm CST) – Initial discussion board posts
- Fridays (11:59 pm CST) – Quizzes
- Sundays (11:59 pm CST) – Discussion post responses & Homework assignments

### **Exams:**

There will be three exams. Exams will cover information presented on Canvas (e.g., assigned readings, instructor commentary, lectures, videos, activities). The exams will be timed exams and you will have 80 minutes to complete each exam. The exams will consist of multiple-choice questions. Each exam will be worth 100 possible points. The best way to study for the exams is to make sure you know and understand the material presented in each learning module in Canvas and are able to apply the information to different scenarios. That is, make sure you read and take

notes on all of the assigned readings, watch the lectures multiple times and take notes, and engage fully in the learning activities.

### Course Grade Calculations:

This class is point based. This means that there will be no “rounding up” to receive a certain grade. The entire class is worth 660 points, and the table below breaks down points for each assessment. The second table shows the minimum number of points required to achieve a certain grade. For example, to receive an A- (A minus), you will need no less than 594 out of 660 points. 593 points will *not* be counted as an A-, it will be counted as a B+.

Assessment	Point Values
Discussion Posts (Initial Post and Response to Others). These are worth 10 points each week (5 points for the initial post and 5 points for the response to another student’s post). <i>8 weeks x 10 points each</i>	80 points
Homework Assignments. These are worth 15 points each week. <i>8 weeks x 15 points each</i>	120 points
Quizzes. These are worth 20 points each week. <i>8 weeks x 20 points each</i>	160 points
Exams. These are worth 100 points each exam. <i>3 exams x 100 points each</i>	300 points
<b>Total</b>	<b>660 points</b>

Minimum Points Required	Percentage	Letter Grade Earned
647	98.00 – 100.00	A+
614	93.00 – 97.99	A
594	90.00 – 92.99	A-
575	87.00 – 89.99	B+
548	83.00 – 86.99	B
528	80.00 – 82.99	B-
509	77.00 – 79.99	C+
482	73.00 – 76.99	C
462	70.00 – 72.99	C-
443	67.00 – 69.99	D+
416	63.00 – 66.99	D
396	60.00 – 62.99	D-
< 396	Below 60.00	F

### **Grading Policies:**

All work must be completed by the deadlines provided. Late work will not be counted. Please take this into consideration when creating your schedules to turn in your assignments on time. I understand that internet connections can be weak, and computers can crash. Therefore, I strongly encourage you to submit all assignments well before the deadline and to not wait until the last minute to submit assignments. Deadlines are at 11:59 pm CST. Work submitted at 12:00 am CST will not be considered. Please note the time zone differences, and that the deadlines are in Central Standard Time.

*Note. While deadlines are posted for each individual assignment, all materials and assignments will be posted at the beginning of each week. This means that you can finish each week's materials at your own pace, but the following week's materials will not be available until the start (Monday) of the next week.*

### **Extra Credit:**

Individual extra credit will not be given in this class, as that would be unfair to offer you extra credit and not your classmates. However, I do reserve the right to offer *class-wide* extra credit (extra credit that the entire class has the opportunity to complete). There is no guarantee that extra credit will be offered, so I encourage you to study and work hard to achieve the number of points you need for your desired grade.

### **Final Grade Policy:**

Final grades are determined by the points you earn in the class. Percentages are calculated out to two decimal places and will **not** be rounded up at any time in the class or in the submission of final grades. I reserve the right to change the nature, number, and weights of the course requirements. Any changes will be announced on Canvas before they take effect. In the event that I feel any assignments or exams were too difficult, the grades will potentially be curved in favor of the entire class (by giving everyone extra points). Assignment and exam grades will never be curved against you. **You must earn a C or higher in this course to enroll in PSYCH 3020.**

**Tentative Course Schedule:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading/Lecture</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Week 0	Introductions	-	Discussion Post 0	Wed 6/10/2020
Week 1	Science of Psych Scientific Method	Chpt.1 & 2	Discussion Post 1	Wed 6/10/2020
			Quiz 1	Fri 6/12/2020
			Discussion Response 1	Sun 6/14/2020
			Homework 1	Sun 6/14/2020
Week 2	Research Ethics Psych Measurement	Chpt.3 & 4	Discussion Post 2	Wed 6/17/2020
			Quiz 2	Fri 6/19/2020
			Discussion Response 2	Sun 6/21/2020
			Homework 2	Sun 6/21/2020
Week 3	Experimental Research Non-experimental	Chpt.5 & 6	Discussion Post 3	Wed 6/24/2020
			Quiz 3	Fri 6/26/2020
			Discussion Response 3	Sun 6/28/2020
			Homework 3	Sun 6/28/2020
			<b>Exam 1</b>	Sun 6/28/2020
Week 4	Surveys Quasi-Experimental	Chpt.7 & 8	Discussion Post 4	Wed 7/1/2020
			Quiz 4	Fri 7/3/2020
			Discussion Response 4	Sun 7/5/2020
			Homework 4	Sun 7/5/2020
Week 5	Factorial Designs Single-Subjects	Chpt.9 & 10	Discussion Post 5	Wed 7/8/2020
			Quiz 5	Fri 7/10/2020
			Discussion Response 5	Sun 7/12/2020
			Homework 5	Sun 7/12/2020
Week 6	Replications Best Practices Research Bias	Ioannidis (2005) Pashler & Harris (2012)	Discussion Post 6	Wed 7/15/2020
			Quiz 6	Fri 7/17/2020
			Discussion Response 6	Sun 7/19/2020
			Homework 6	Sun 7/19/2020
			<b>Exam 2</b>	Sun 7/19/2020
Week 7	Psychbusters Evaluating Research Presenting Research	Emm et al. (2017) Dixson & Brooks (2013) Chpt.11	Discussion Post 7	Wed 7/22/2020
			Quiz 7	Fri 7/24/2020
			Discussion Response 7	Sun 7/26/2020
			Homework 7	Sun 7/26/2020
Week 8	Descriptive Stats Inferential Stats	Chpt.12 & 13	Discussion Post 8	Wed 7/29/2020
			Quiz 8	Fri 7/31/2020
			Discussion Response 8	Fri 7/31/2020
			Homework 8	Fri 7/31/2020
			<b>Exam 3</b>	Fri 7/31/2020

## **Students with Disabilities:**

*If you anticipate barriers related to the format or requirements of this course, or if you have emergency medical information to share with me, please let me know as soon as possible.* If disability related accommodations are necessary (for example, a note taker, extended time on exams, captioning), please register with the Office of Disability Services (<http://disabilityservices.missouri.edu>), S5 Memorial Union, 573-882-4696, and then *notify me via email* of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. We can schedule a meeting to discuss your accommodations and how to best implement them in this course. For other MU resources for students with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.

## **Technical Requirements:**

This class is fully online and minimal technical skills such as using Canvas, attaching documents, and using Word are necessary for succeeding in the course. In addition, having reliable access to Internet and a computer is necessary. Complete technical specifications including recommended and minimum hardware and browser information is found here: <https://doit.missouri.edu/new-students/already-have-a-laptop/>. You can search by discipline to find out the specific recommended systems and requirements for your particular discipline.

## **Technical Support:**

*MU Division of Information Technology (DoIT)*

If you are having any technical difficulties (e.g., logging in, accessing the discussion board) please email [helpdesk@missouri.edu](mailto:helpdesk@missouri.edu) or contact the *DoIT Help Desk* at 573.882.5000. Canvas also provides phone (Canvas Support for Students; 855-981-6196) and chat (<https://cases.canvaslms.com/liveagentchat?chattype=student>) support for students 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

## **Resources and Policies:**

### *Basic Needs Security*

Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, or who does not have a reliable way to make it to campus, and believes this may affect their performance in this course (and other courses) is urged to contact the Dean of Students ([deanofstudents@missouri.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@missouri.edu)). Mizzou offers free food support resources through the Tiger Pantry (<https://tigerpantry.missouri.edu/>).

### *Psychological Health*

Any student who feels as though they need help coping with emotional, social, and academic concerns that are interfering with their success is urged to utilize the resources available to them to receive help. The Mizzou Counseling Center (<https://counseling.missouri.edu/>; 573-882-6601) is a wonderful resource that offers many services that you can utilize. Your mental health is extremely important, and I encourage you to reach out for assistance and/or resources.

### *Student Academic Services*

Mizzou is committed to supporting and guiding you to reach both your academic and personal goals. Student Academic Services at MU include, but are not limited to services such as the

Learning Center, MU Libraries, the Online Writery and tutoring services. You can find information and a list of services provided by MU by clicking on the “Policies and Support” link in the left-hand course navigation menu in our Canvas site.

### Library Resources

During the course of the semester, you may be asked to access materials from the library. To search for peer-reviewed journal articles, you may access the University of Missouri Library Databases page at: <http://library.missouri.edu/databases/>.

### The Writing Center – Tutoring and Writing Assistance

For any potential writing assignments, I would strongly suggest that you take advantage of the Writing Center offered through MU. If you’re on campus, feel free to make an appointment or use the walk-in hours to meet with one of their highly-trained tutors in person. Otherwise, you can use the Online Writery service, which allows you to submit a draft of a paper and get feedback usually in 24 hours. Visit their website for more information:

<https://writingcenter.missouri.edu/>

### Student Support Services

Mizzou has many more resources available to help you succeed (e.g., e.g., Career Center, Civil Rights and Title IX, Counseling Center, Disability Center, Health Services, Registration Information, Advising, Financial Aid, Undergraduate Research, Getting Involved in Student Organizations, Stuff to Do). You can find information and a list of service provided by MU by clicking on the “Policies and Support” link in the left-hand course navigation menu in our Canvas site.

### Academic Integrity Policy

Academic honesty is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed, and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. The academic community regards academic dishonesty as an extremely serious matter, with serious consequences that range from probation to expulsion. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, or collaboration, consult the course instructor.

Academic Dishonesty includes but is not necessarily limited to the following:

- Cheating or knowingly assisting another student in committing an act of cheating or other academic dishonesty.
- Plagiarism which includes but is not necessarily limited to submitting examinations, themes, reports, drawings, laboratory notes, or other material as one's own work when such work has been prepared by another person or copied from another person.
- Unauthorized possession of examinations or reserve library materials, or laboratory materials or experiments, or any other similar actions.
- Unauthorized changing of grades or markings on an examination or in an instructor's grade book or such change of any grade report.



Academic Integrity Pledge: *"I strive to uphold the University values of respect, responsibility, discovery, and excellence. On my honor, I pledge that I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this work."* Students are expected to adhere to this pledge on all graded work whether or not they are explicitly asked in advance to do so. The University has specific academic dishonesty administrative procedures. Although policy states that cases of academic dishonesty must be reported to the Office of the Provost for possible action, the instructor may assign a failing grade for the assignment or a failing grade for the course, or may adjust the grade as deemed appropriate. The instructor also may require the student to repeat the assignment or to perform additional assignments. In instances where academic integrity is in question, faculty, staff and students should refer to Article VI of the Faculty Handbook. Article VI is also available in the M-Book. Article VI provides further information regarding the process by which violations are handled and sets forth a standard of excellence in our community.

#### Restrictions on Disclosure and Distribution

While video and audio recordings of lectures, along with course materials will be freely available during and after the duration of the course for students, distribution of any course materials without written permission of the instructor is prohibited. Taking recordings and pictures of course materials (including classmates' posts, lectures, assignments, quiz questions, exam questions, etc.) is prohibited. Therefore, you may not upload these materials to online sites. To foster a safe environment for learning, the redistribution of audio or video recordings of statements or comments from the course to individuals who are not students in the course is prohibited without the express permission of the faculty member and of any students who are recorded. *No course material should be shared with individuals outside of class, or faculty and staff who require access for support or specific academic purposes without permission.*

University of Missouri System Executive Order No. 38 lays out principles regarding the sanctity of classroom discussions at the university. The policy is described fully in Section 200.015 of the Collected Rules and Regulations. In this class, students may not make audio or video recordings of any course activities, except students permitted to record as an accommodation under Section 240.040 of the Collected Rules. All other students who record and/or distribute audio or video recordings and photographs of class activity are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of Section 200.020 of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters. Those students who are permitted to record are not permitted to redistribute audio or video recordings of statements or comments from the course to individuals who are not students in the course without the express permission of the faculty member and of any students who are recorded. Unauthorized distribution of such materials is a violation of academic standards and may violate copyright laws, intellectual property laws, and/or privacy rights. Students found to have violated this policy are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of Section 200.020 of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters. Posting and distributing course material without express written permission may result in disciplinary action and possible civil prosecution.

#### University of Missouri Notice of Nondiscrimination

The University of Missouri policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, pregnancy, age, genetic information, disability and protected veteran status. Discrimination

includes any form of unequal treatment such as denial of opportunities, harassment, and violence. If you experience discrimination, you are encouraged (but not required) to report the incident to the MU Office for Civil Rights & Title IX. Any person having inquiries concerning the University of Missouri's compliance with implementing Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, or other civil rights laws should contact the Assistant Vice Chancellor, Human Resource Services, University of Missouri, 1095 Virginia Avenue, Columbia, Mo. 65211, 573-882-4256, or the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education. You can learn more about your rights and options at [civilrights.missouri.edu](http://civilrights.missouri.edu) or call 573-882-3880. You also may make an anonymous report online. Students may also contact the Relationship & Sexual Violence Prevention (RSVP) Center, a confidential resource, for advocacy and other support related to sexual assault or power-based personal violence at [rsvp@missouri.edu](mailto:rsvp@missouri.edu) or 573-882-6638, or go to [rsvp.missouri.edu](http://rsvp.missouri.edu). Both the Office for Civil Rights & Title IX and the RSVP Center can provide assistance to students who need help with academics, housing, or other issues.

#### *Intellectual Pluralism Statement*

The University community welcomes intellectual diversity and respects student rights. Students who have questions concerning the quality of instruction in this class may address concerns to the Psychological Sciences Director of Undergraduate Studies (Dr. Dennis Miller). All students will have the opportunity to submit an anonymous evaluation of the instructor(s) at the end of the course.

#### *Grievance Policy*

Information concerning student grade appeal procedures and non-academic grievances and appeals may be found in the Student Handbook.

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