

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: PSYC-201: Research Methods in Psychology

CLASS SECTION: 001 A, B & C

TERM: Winter 2025

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Weekly Lecture and Lab

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Ləkʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Dr. Judy Caldwell

OFFICE: F314C

EMAIL: caldwell@camosun.bc.ca

HOURS: Tuesday 2:30 to 3:50

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to research techniques in psychology. The aim is to develop an understanding of the conceptual foundations of various research strategies. Topics include: formulating research designs and questions, measurement of variables, data analysis, drawing valid conclusions, and writing research reports. Labs and exercises include acquiring computer skills.

PREREQUISITE(S):

All of:

- C in PSYC 110

One of:

- C in Foundations of Math and Pre-calculus 10 or Apprenticeship and Workplace Math 11; C in MATH 053; C in MATH 135

And one of:

- C in PSYC 120; C in PSYC 130; C in PSYC 164; C in PSYC 171

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

1. Apply the methodology of psychological research through written essays and exams.
2. Critique research claims and reports.
3. Demonstrate practical skills for designing and conducting psychological research.

4. Demonstrate competence in experimental and survey research.
5. Demonstrate skills in quantitative and qualitative data-analysis.
6. Use statistical software for summarizing and analyzing data.
7. Use APA guidelines to write a scientific paper.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

1. **Text:** Cozby, P. C., Mar, R. A., & Rawn, C. D. (2020). *Methods in Behavioral Research* (3rd Canadian Edition). Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson. Available at the Camosun College Bookstore (Lansdowne campus)
2. **Coursepack:** Psychology 201 Lecture Workbook. Available in the Camosun College Bookstore.

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week of Jan 6th	Introductions	No Lab Assignment Due
Week of Jan 13th	The Scientific Method (Chapters 1 & 2)	Lab Activity: How to Read a Scientific Article
Week of Jan 20th	Ethics (Chapter 3)	Lab Activity: Operational Definitions and Ethical Research
Week of Jan 27th	Measurement (Chapter 6 and Chapter 11 pp. 196-202)	Lab Activity: Reading a Scientific Article
Week of Feb 3rd	Exam #1 (15% Chapters 1, 2, 3, 6 & 11 pp. 196-202)	Lab Activity: Descriptive Statistics Review
Week of Feb 10th	Non-Experimental Methods (Chapters 7, 8 & 9)	Lab Activity: Qualitative versus Quantitative Research
Week of Feb 17th	No Lecture Due to Reading Break	Lab Activity: No Lab Assignment Due

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week of Feb 24th	Correlational Research (Chapter 5 pp. 84-92 and Chapter 14 pp. 264-268)	Lab Activity: Correlational Research Project Proposals Due
Week of Mar 3rd	Sampling (Chapter 4) Experimental Research (Chapters 5 pp. 93-105 & 11)	Lab Activity: Correlations versus Experiments
Week of Mar 10th	Between- and Within-Subject Designs (Chapter 10) Writing a Research Paper in APA Style (Appendix A)	Lab Activity: Project Informed Consent and Ethics Checklist Between- versus Within-Subject Designs
Week of Mar 17th	Exam #2 (15% Chapters 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 14 pp. 264-268)	Lab Activity: Methods Section Write-up
Week of Mar 24th	Factorial Designs (Chapter 13) Specialized Designs (Chapter 12)	Lab Activity: Project Data Analysis and Results Section Write-up
Week of Mar 31st	Statistics (Chapter 14 pp. 253-264 & Appendix C pp. 364-366)	Lab Activity: Project Write-up
Week of Apr 7th	Statistics (Chapter 14 pp. 253-264 & Appendix C pp. 364-366)	Final Research Paper Due
Final Exam Period	Exam #3 30% (Chapters 12, 13, 14 pp. 253-264 & Appendix C pp. 364-366 and all previous readings)	

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced noticed is required. Deadlines scan be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

Changes to this syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Lab Participation and Weekly Lab Assignments	20%
Final Research Project - There is short research report required in this course. This report will involve designing an experiment, collecting data, analyzing data, and writing the results in an APA style research paper. This report will be completed alone or in pairs. This lab report will be due Friday, April 11th at 4:00. Details concerning the lab report will be discussed in lab.	15%
Lecture Activities – brief in-class activities given during lecture time	5%
Exam #1 – Feb 4th during lecture time and covers Chapters 1, 2, 3, 6 & 11 pp. 196-202	15%
Exam #2 – Mar 18th during lecture time and covers Chapters 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 14 pp. 264-268	15%
Exam #3 (cumulative) – Scheduled during the final exam period and will cover Chapters 12, 13, 14 pp. 253-264 & Appendix C pp. 364-366 and all previous readings	30%
TOTAL	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

Lecture Attendance

To get the most out of this course, students are expected to attend all classes and be on time. It is your responsibility to acquire all information given during a class missed, including notes, hand-outs, changed exam dates etc

Seminar Attendance

Seminar participation is essential to the course objectives, and largely involves discussion of the weekly topic and assigned readings or activities. It is also an opportunity for students to ask questions and learn from each other. The participation grade is assigned based on the level of your constructive engagement in the weekly seminars.

Due Dates and Late Assignments

The due dates are established in accordance with the course and term duration. The purpose of the due dates is to help both you and I to get the assignments done so that they can be assessed in a timely manner. Just as you need time to complete the assignments, I need enough time to grade them. As such, the due dates are fixed (unless you have an approved academic accommodation through CAL) and it is expected that students will hand in assignments on time. Assignment marks, comments, and feedback will be returned to students in a timely manner, usually within 1-3 weeks, depending on the length of the assignment.

All assignments must be handed in by the time indicated (on the assignment, or on D2L). Late assignments may be graded but marks equivalent to 10% of the total value of the assignment will be deducted for each day, inclusive of days on the weekend, past the deadline. If assignments have already been marked and returned, a late assignment will not be accepted. Assignments will not be accepted that are late more than three days, inclusive of days over the weekend.

Exam Procedures

All exams must be written at the scheduled times with the exception of students requiring an accommodation by CAL. It is understood that emergency circumstances do occur (e.g. severe illness or family emergency); for such circumstances accommodation may be offered at the discretion of the instructor, provided the student:

- a) notifies the instructor in advance of the exam (not after), and
- b) provides documented evidence of the circumstance (e.g. medical certificate).

If an exam is missed with an excused absence, it is up to the instructor's discretion as to how the mark will be made up. In most cases, an oral exam will be scheduled for the student as soon as possible.

Be sure not to make travel plans for the end of semester until the final exam schedules are finalized and posted. Please ask any family members who might make travel plans on your behalf to consult you before booking tickets.

Please note: the use of cell phones during a test or quiz is not allowed and may result in a zero for that assessment.

Study Habits

Good and regular study habits are essential to do well in this course. You should plan on a weekly minimum of 6 hours outside of scheduled class time for the completion of readings, assignments and for general studying. Joining a study group can help make this more achievable.

Lecture presentations will be uploaded to the course website. These should be used as a study guide, not as your sole source of information. You will need to write down additional key words for examples and explanations given during lecture and review text and videos to support your understanding. It is also recommended practice to transform lecture notes into a study-friendly format after each lecture, incorporating additional information from your textbook. Study these notes before the next class to prepare yourself for new material, which will often build on previously covered material.

Please take advantage of office hours if you need extra clarification and help.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	http://camosun.ca/advising
Accessible Learning	http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning
Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres

Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds
Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

Camosun Psychology Club Information

During the Fall and Winter semesters, the Psyc Club meets each Friday at 1:30pm. Please contact Dr. Michael Pollock if interested in attending - PollockM@camosun.bc.ca

Journal of Camosun Psychology Research

Discover how to publish research. <https://cc.arcabc.ca/islandora/object/cc%3Apsycjournal>

American Psychological Association

The hub of our discipline <https://www.apa.org>

Canadian Psychological Association

The Canadian hub of our discipline <https://cpa.ca/>

Co-operative Education & Career Services

Learn about how to access a co-op experience for your career. <https://camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services/contact-co-operative-education-and-career>

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started: <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures" (<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

PSYCH 201 01 A, B & C WINTER 2025 SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE

Week # and Lecture Date	Lecture Topic	Readings	Lab Activities	Labs DUE
#1: Jan 7 th	• Introduction to Psyc 201		Introductions	No Assignments Due
#2: Jan 14 th	• The Scientific Method	Chapters 1 & 2	How to Read a Scientific Article	/10 Jordan & Zanna article assignment
#3: Jan 21 st	• Ethical Research	Chapter 3	Navigating the Tri-council website Operational Definitions Project Proposal Assigned	/5 Tri-council Assignment /10 Operational Definitions Assignment
#4: Jan 28 th	• Measurement	Chapter 6 and 11 pp. 196-202	Reading a Scientific Article Ruback Article Assigned	/10 Alzheimer's Article Assignment
#5: Feb 4 th	Test #1 15% (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 6 & 11 pp. 196-202)		Descriptive Statistics Review (pp. 69-74 in the Lecture Workbook)	/10 Descriptive Stats Assignment
#6: Feb 11 th	• Observational Research • Surveys	Chapters 7, 8, & 9	Quantitative and Qualitative Observation Assigned	/10 Ruback Article Assignment due (will not be accepted late!) (3 bonus points for handing in proposal early)
#7: Feb 18 th	• Reading Break		No Lecture	No Lab
#8: Feb 25 th	• Correlational Research	Chapter 5 pp. 84-92 and Chapter 14 pp. 264-268	Correlational Method	/5 Quantitative Data Due /10 Qualitative Assignment due /10 Correlation Assignment /10 Proposal Due
#9: Mar 4 th	• Sampling • Experimental Research	Chapter 4 Chapters 5 pp. 93-105 & 11	Discuss Proposals Ethics Checklist Informed Consent	/10 Correlation vs. Experiment Assignment
#10: Mar 11 th	• Between- and Within-Subject Designs	Chapter 10	Discuss Proposals Data Collection Assigned (i.e., data collection sheet)	/5 Ethics Checklist Due /5 Informed Consent Due /10 Between- versus Within-subject Designs
#11: Mar 18 th	Test #2 15% • Chapters: 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 14 pp. 264-268	Appendix A	Repeated Measures Article Project Write-Up in APA Style: Title page, Methods and Appendix	/10 Title page, Methods and Appendix
#12: Mar 25 th	• Factorial Designs • Specialized Designs	Chapter 13 Chapter 12	Data Analysis Project Write-up: Results, Figure Caption, Figure	Data due in lab (i.e., data collection sheet) /10 Results section, Figure Caption, Figure
#13: Apr 1 st	• Descriptive and Inferential Statistics	Chapter 14 pp. 253-264 & Appendix C pp. 364-366	Project Write-Up: Abstract, Introduction, Discussion, and References	No Assignment Due
#14: Apr 8 th	• Descriptive and Inferential Statistics	Chapter 14 pp. 253-264 & Appendix C pp. 364-366	Project Write-Up: Drop-in	Final Research Paper – Due Friday April 11th at 4:00
Final Exam Period	Exam #3 30% (Chapters 12, 13, 14 pp. 253-264 & Appendix C pp. 364-366 and all previous readings)			

****Note this timetable is tentative and any changes will be discussed in class.
No lab work will be accepted after 4pm on Friday April 11th, 2025.