

PSYCHOLOGY 201 – WINTER 2004

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Judy Caldwell, Office: F 308A, Phone: 370-3198

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Office Hours: Posted on my office door, Fisher 308A.

COURSE CONTENT

RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

(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. (T).

Prerequisites: Math 10 or assessment. PSYC 110 and one of either PSYC 120, 130, 150 or 164.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course students are expected to be able to:

- Understand the basic methodological issues pertaining to psychological research
- Critique research claims and reports
- Demonstrate practical skills of designing and conducting psychological research.
- Demonstrate competence for experimental and survey research
- Demonstrate skills to undertake quantitative and qualitative data-analysis
- Use SPSS for summarising, and analysing data
- Write a scientific paper for publication following APA guidelines

COURSE ORGANIZATION

1. There is one two-hour lectures each week.
2. There is one 2-hour lab per week. (Your student class schedule informs you of your assigned lab section.)

REQUIRED MATERIAL

1. Text: Cozby, P. C. (2001). *Methods in Behavioral Research* (8th Edition). Toronto: Mayfield
2. Psychology 201 Lecture Workbook. Available in the Camosun College bookstore.

TESTS & ASSIGNMENTS

Lab Assignments: (25% of course grade)

There is a written assignment for each lab. You must be in attendance to participate in the lab. Lab make-ups will only be allowed with a doctor's note justifying the absence. The assignments are due at the end of week following the lab and are to be submitted by 4:00 on Friday.

Tests: (55% of course grade)

There are three tests in this course. The first test will cover Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7 and is worth 15%. The second test will cover Chapters 4, 8, 9, and 10, and is worth 15%. The last test will cover Chapters 12, 13, and 14, Appendix A, as well as the chapters covered in the first two sections of the course. All tests are based on information from the lectures, lab activities, and assigned readings. These tests will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions.

MAKE-UP TESTS WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED WITH PROPER DOCUMENTATION. YOU MUST CONTACT THE INSTRUCTOR, AND PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION, WITHIN 7 DAYS OF THE MISSED TEST DATE TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE MAKE-UP TEST.

Lecture Activities: (5% of course grade)

There will be random, brief, in-class activities. You must be in attendance to participate in the activity. **There will be no make-up opportunities for lecture activities missed without a doctor's note.**

Lab Report: (15% of course grade)

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 9th at 4:00 pm. Details concerning the lab report will be discussed in Lab.

LATE WORK WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED IN EXTREME CASES. PLEASE SCHEDULE YOUR TIME TO MEET ALL DUE DATES.

GRADES

FINAL GRADES

For the final grades, I use the Camosun College standards:

A + = 95% - 100% A = 90% - 94% A - = 85% - 89%

B + = 80% - 84% B = 75% - 79% B - = 70% - 74%

C + = 65% - 69% C = 60% - 64%

D = 50% - 59% F = 0% - 49%

I = Incomplete. (If the missing work is not completed within 6 weeks of the end of semester, the mark will automatically revert to **F**.)

HOW I GRADE

1. Grades combine the college definition and my own experience.

A: Superior levels of achievement. I expect quality which shows a full understanding of the work, and which also includes exceptional achievement (i.e. new insight, obvious quality research, clear presentation above and beyond the minimum required, better work than the majority of the class).

B: High levels of achievement. For a B, I use work that is good and shows full understanding. It does not have the same degree of exceptional achievement that makes an A, but is distinctly beyond the minimum required.

C+: Satisfactory level of achievement.

C: Sufficient level of achievement to proceed with next level of study. Average work, showing an understanding of the material and the minimum requirements have been met. It does not indicate the student is having any real difficulties.

D: Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a D grade cannot be used as a prerequisite. I give this grade for work that is handed in, lacking all required details, but has some approximation of adequate work.

F: Minimum level is not achieved.

FINAL GRADES WILL BE WEIGHTED AS FOLLOWS:

Lab participation and assignments	25%
Final Lab Research Paper	15%
Lecture activities	5%
Test #1	15%
Test #2	15%
Test #3	<u>25%</u>
	100%

REGRAIDING AND RESUBMISSION

1. If you are not satisfied with a grade I have given, you have the right to ask me to regrade the work. Work that I review may receive the same grade, a lower grade, or a higher grade.
2. I reserve the right to ask you to resubmit work, or to show me extra material related to it.

STUDENT RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Students are responsible for reading the assigned material prior to class so that they are prepared to participate in class discussions and group tasks. It is essential for students to attend all lectures because key concepts covered in the lectures that are not covered in the course readings will be on the tests.
2. If a student requires special accommodation to be successful in this course, please see me the first week of class.
3. Students have the right not to participate in any lab exercise.
4. In class, you always have the right **NOT** to self-disclose any information.
5. I expect students to follow certain standards of conduct:
 - a) Work must be used for this course only.
 - b) Assignments that are copied (identical or plagiarized) between students will be given 0% for ALL students with identical work. If you want to work cooperatively, inform me ahead of time.
 - c) Fabrication of research data is not acceptable.
 - d) It is college policy that *"If an instructor remains convinced that there has been a violation [such as plagiarism or cheating], he or she may assign a grade of F for the work involved, or for the course..."*

All students are expected to follow the College's Student Conduct Policy as outlined in Camosun College Calendar

PSYCH 201 - TIMETABLE – WINTER 2004

Week

Topic and Readings

1	Chapters 1 & 2: Introduction/The Scientific Method/Getting Started
2	Chapter 3: Recruiting and Using Participants
3	Chapter 5: Measurement
4	Chapters 6 & 7: Non Experimental Research
5	Test #1 (Tuesday, February 3rd) Ch. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 & 7
6	Chapter 4: Correlational Method
7	Chapters 8: Experimental Method
8	Chapter 9: Between and Within Subject Designs
9	Chapter 10: Factorial Designs
10	Test #2 (Tuesday, March 9th): Chapters 4, 8, 9, & 10
11	Appendix A: Writing a Paper APA Style
12	Chapter 12: Descriptive Statistics
13	Chapter 13: Inferential Statistics
14	Chapter 14: Generalizing Results
Exam Period	Test #3: Chapters 12, 13, 14, Appendix A, and all previous Chapters

****Note: this schedule is tentative and any changes will be discussed in class.**

No work will be accepted after 4:00 p.m. on Friday April 9th.
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