



School of Arts & Science
PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT
PSYC 201-001
Research Methods in Psychology
2008W

COURSE OUTLINE

The Approved Course Description is available on the web @ _____

Ω Please note: this outline will be electronically stored for five (5) years only.
It is strongly recommended students keep this outline for your records.

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 ORGANIZATION

1. There is one two-hour lecture each week.
2. There is one 1.5 hour lab per week.
(Your student class schedule informs you of your assigned lab section.)

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Dr. Judy Caldwell		
(b)	Office Hours:	TBA		
(c)	Location:	F 308A		
(d)	Phone:	370-3198	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	caldwell@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:			

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)

Upon completion of this course the 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 SPSS for summarizing and analyzing data.
7. Use APA guidelines to write a scientific paper.

3. Required Materials

(a)	Texts	Cozby, P. C. (2001). <i>Methods in Behavioral Research</i> (9th Edition). Toronto: Mayfield
(b)	Other	Psychology 201 Lecture Workbook. Available in the Camosun College Bookstore.

4. Course Content and Schedule

(Can include: class hours, lab hours, out of class requirements and/or dates for quizzes, exams, lectures, labs, seminars, practicums, etc.)

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(Should be linked directly to learning outcomes.)

TESTS & ASSIGNMENTS

Lab Assignments: (20% 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: (60% of course grade)

There are three tests in this course. The first test will cover Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 and is worth 15%. The second test will cover Chapters 4, 7, 8, 9 and pages 346-348, and is worth 15%. The last test will cover Chapters 10, 12, 13, and 14, Appendix A, as well as the chapters covered in the first two sections of the course and is worth 30% of the course grade. 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 11th at 4:00. 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:

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

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	20%
Final Lab Research Paper	15%
Lecture activities	5%
Test #1	15%
Test #2	15%
Test #3	<u>30%</u>
	100%

TEMPORARY GRADES

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

<i>Temporary Grade</i>	<i>Description</i>
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (<i>For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.</i>)
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

REGRADEING 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

Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

PSYCH 201 - TIMETABLE – WINTER 2008

Week	Readings and Topic
1 Started	Chapters 1 & 2: Introduction/The Scientific Method/Getting Started
2	Chapter 3: Recruiting and Using Participants
3	Chapter 5: Measurement
4	Chapters 6: Non Experimental Research
5	Test #1 (Thursday, February 7th) Ch. 1, 2, 3, 5, & 6
6	Chapter 7: Survey Appendix, pages 346-348: Chi Square
7	Chapter 4: Correlational Method
8	Chapter 8: Experimental Method
9	Chapter 9: Between and Within Subject designs
10	Test #2 (Thursday, March 13th): Chapters 4, 7, 8, 9, & pages 346-348
11	Chapter 10: Factorial Designs
12	Chapter 12: Descriptive Statistics

13 **Chapter 13: Inferential Statistics**

14 **Chapter 14: Generalizing Results**

Exam Period **Test #3: Chapters 10, 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 11th.