

Introduction to Research in Psychology (Fall 2020): PSCH 242 – 12126

Prerequisites: Grade of C or better in PSCH 100, Credit Hours: 3

INSTRUCTOR, TAs and DISCUSSION SECTIONS

Instructor:

Christopher Baker, Ph.D.

Email: bakerc@uic.edu

Office Hours: by appointment

Teaching Assistants:

Sushi Shrikanth

sshrik2@uic.edu

Office Hours: Th 11am - 12pm

Cesar Riano

criano2@uic.edu

Office Hours: W 1pm - 2pm

Devante Sloan

dsloan2@uic.edu

Office Hours: M 1pm - 2pm

Friday Discussion Sections:

8:00 am - 8:50 am

Online/Synchronous

Cesar

9:00 am - 9:50 am

Online/Synchronous

Cesar

10:00 am - 10:50 am

Online/Synchronous

Sushi

11:00 am – 11:50 am

Online/Synchronous

Sushi

12:00 pm – 12:50 pm

Online/Synchronous

Devante

5:00 pm - 5:50 pm

Online/Synchronous

Devante

BOOK, BLACKBOARD and BASIC RULES

Text (optional): Frankfort-Nachmias, C., Nachmias, D. & DeWaard, J. (2014). *Research Methods in the Social Sciences* (8th ed.). New York, NY: Worth Publishers. ISBN: 978-1429233002 - **No other materials are required.**

Blackboard: Course syllabus posted under **Syllabus**, discussion-section material and assignments posted under **Sections**, PowerPoint slides posted under **Slides**, lecture recordings posted under **Recordings**, any additional course material posted under **Material**.

- 1. Do not disrespect or distract me or anyone else.**
- 2. All students must be subject to the same evaluation/course points.**
- 3. Please indicate course number (i.e., PSCH 242) when sending emails.**
- 4. Emails are permanent professional records – please ensure that when you send an email that it is respectful, we will do the same.**

EVALUATION: Overview

EXAMS

Exam I **50 pts**

Exam II **50 pts**

**Exams are not cumulative*

**Exams are essay and short-answer format*

**Students have 48 hours to complete each exam*

**Exams penalized 5 points for every day late*

DISCUSSION SECTIONS & ASSIGNMENTS

5 Synchronous Sections (10 points each) **50 pts**

**You can make-up one missed discussion section. You must contact your TA within 48 hours of the missed section to receive the make-up assignment.*

5 Written Assignments (10 points each) **50 pts**

**Students have 1 week to complete written assignments*

**Assignments penalized 2 points for every day late*

EXTRA CREDIT & GRADE DISPUTES

**Extra credit occurs during the synchronous sections and is based on the quality of your discussion responses.*

**Grade disputes must be resolved within 1 week of receiving the disputed grade.*

200 Total Course Points:

A = 180 pts = 90%

B = 160 pts = 80%

C = 140 pts = 70%

D = 120 pts = 60%

DRC, CHEATING and BASIC INFO

Disability Services: UIC is committed to full inclusion and participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of university life. Students who face or anticipate disability-related barriers while at UIC should connect with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at drc.uic.edu, or at (312) 413-2183 to create a plan for reasonable accommodations. In order to receive accommodations, students must disclose disability to the DRC, complete an interactive registration process with the DRC, and provide their course instructor with a Letter of Accommodation (LOA). Course instructors in receipt of a LOA will work with the student and the DRC to implement approved accommodations.

Academic Dishonesty: Students will be held to the University's standards on academic dishonesty as described in the following Student Code of Conduct:

<http://dos.uic.edu/docs/Student%20Disciplinary%20Policy.pdf>

Course Description: Techniques and problems associated with the study of behavior. Emphasis on measurement, descriptive statistics and the principles of experimental design. To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Discussion Section.

Course Outline: 8/24/2020-12/04/2020 *Outline subject to change with advanced notice

-- week 1--

August 24: Course Overview

August 26: Scientific Approach; Philosophy of Science
Reading: 1-18

August 28: No Sections

-- week 2--

August 31: Variables
Reading: 46-54

September 2: Hypotheses and Prediction
Reading: 55-59

September 4: No Sections

*** Last day to complete late registration; last day to add a course(s) or make section changes; last day to drop individual courses via XE Registration without receiving W (Withdrawn) grade on academic record. Last day to Web Drop courses via XE Registration and receive 100% cancellation of tuition and fees.**

-- week 3--

September 7: Labor Day holiday. No classes.

September 9: Scientific Writing; Expressing Ideas and Reducing Bias in Language

**September 11: Synchronous Discussion Section 1: Overview (10 pts)
Written Assignment 1 Posted**

-- week 4--

September 14: Ethics
Reading: 64-67

September 16: Informed Consent
Reading: 67-73

September 18: Written Assignment 1 Due on Blackboard (BB) by 6pm - Ethics (10 pts)

-- week 5--

September 21: Experimental Method and Causality
Reading: 82-94

September 23: Experimental Method and Causality cont.
Reading: 94-98

September 25: Synchronous Discussion Section 2: Experimental Designs (10 pts)
Written Assignment 2 Posted

-- week 6--

September 28: Abstract and Introduction Sections

September 30: Plagiarism

October 2: Written Assignment 2 Due on BB by 6pm - Abstract (10 pts)

-- week 7--

October 5: In-Text Citations
EXAM 1 Posted

October 7: EXAM 1 Due on BB by 4pm (50 pts)

October 9: Synchronous Discussion Section 3: Plagiarism (10 pts)
Written Assignment 3 Posted

-- week 8--

October 12: Reliability
Reading: Chapter 135-138

October 14: Validity
Reading: Chapter 131-137

October 16: Written Assignment 3 Due on BB by 6pm - Introduction (10 pts)

-- week 9--

October 19: Statistics for Research

October 21: Statistical Significance

October 23: Synchronous Discussion Section 4: Statistics for Research (10 pts)
Written Assignment 4 Posted

-- week 10--

October 26: Observations
Reading: 175-182

October 28: Observations cont., Sampling

October 30: Written Assignment 4 Due on BB by 6pm - Observations (10 pts)

-- week 11--

November 2: VOTE!

November 4: Method, Results, Discussion and References

November 6: No Sections

-- week 12--

November 9: Cross-Sectional and Quasi-Experiments
Reading: 104-109

November 11: Cross-Sectional and Quasi-Experiments cont.
Reading: 109-114

**November 13: Synchronous Discussion Section 5: Sections of a Manuscript (10 pts)
Written Assignment 5 Posted**

-- week 13--

November 16: Surveys and Questionnaires
Reading: 188-200

November 18: Qualitative and other Methods
Reading: 242-248

November 20: Written Assignment 5 Due on BB by 6pm - Questionnaires (10 pts)

-- week 14--

November 23: Qualitative and other Methods cont.
Reading: 248-257

November 25-27: Thanksgiving

-- week 15--

**November 30: Flex Day
EXAM 2 Posted**

December 2: EXAM 2 Due on BB by 4pm (50 pts)

December 4: No Sections – Course Completed!