

Introduction to Research in Psychology (Spring 2021): PSCH 242 – 35518

Prerequisites: Grade of C or better in PSCH 100 / Credit Hours: 3 / 9-9:50 am

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

OH: W, 1-2pm

Cesar Riano

criano2@uic.edu

OH: F, 10-11am

Devante Sloan

dsloan2@uic.edu

OH: M, 1-2pm

Andriana Christofalos

achris29@uic.edu

OH: T, 12-12:45pm

Friday Discussion Sections:

8:00 am - 8:50 am	Online/Synchronous	Cesar
9:00 am - 9:50 am	Online/Synchronous	Cesar
11:00 am – 11:50 am	Online/Synchronous	Sushi
1:00 pm – 1:50 pm	Online/Synchronous	Sushi
3:00 pm - 3:50 pm	Online/Synchronous	Devante
5:00 pm - 5:50 pm	Online/Synchronous	Andriana

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 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: 1/11/2021-4/30/2021 *Outline subject to change with advanced notice

-- week 1--

January 11: Course Overview

January 13: Scientific Approach; Philosophy of Science
Reading: 1-18

January 15: No Sections

-- week 2--

January 18: Martin Luther King, Jr., Day. No classes.

January 20: Variables
Reading: 46-54

January 22: 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--

January 25: Hypotheses and Prediction
Reading: 55-59

January 27: Scientific Writing; Expressing Ideas and Reducing Bias in Language

**January 29: Synchronous Discussion Section 1: Overview (10 pts)
Written Assignment 1 Posted - Scientific Writing**

-- week 4--

February 1: Ethics

Reading: 64-67

February 3: Informed Consent

Reading: 67-73

February 5: Written Assignment 1 Due on Blackboard (BB) by 6pm (10 pts)

-- week 5--

February 8: Experimental Method and Causality

Reading: 82-94

February 10: Experimental Method and Causality cont.

Reading: 94-98

**February 12: Synchronous Discussion Section 2: Experimental Designs (10 pts)
Written Assignment 2 Posted - Ethics**

-- week 6--

February 15: In-Text Citations +

February 17: Plagiarism

February 19: Written Assignment 2 Due on BB by 6pm (10 pts)

-- week 7--

February 22: EXAM 1 Posted

February 24: EXAM 1 Due on BB by 4pm (50 pts)

**February 26: Synchronous Discussion Section 3: Abstract and Introduction (10 pts)
Written Assignment 3 Posted - Introduction**

-- week 8--

March 1: Reliability

Reading: Chapter 135-138

March 3: Validity

Reading: Chapter 131-137

March 5: Written Assignment 3 Due on BB by 6pm (10 pts)

-- week 9--

March 8: Observations

Reading: 175-182

March 10: Observations cont., Sampling

**March 12: Synchronous Discussion Section 4: Coding System (10 pts)
Written Assignment 4 Posted – Observation**

-- week 10--

March 15: Method and Results

March 17: Discussion and References

March 19: Written Assignment 4 Due on BB by 6pm (10 pts)

--Spring Break--

-- week 11--

March 29: Statistics for Research

March 31: Statistical Significance

April 2: Synchronous Discussion Section 5: Stats Review (10 pts)

-- week 12--

April 5: Surveys and Questionnaires

Reading: 188-200

April 7: Cross-Sectional and Quasi-Experiments cont.

Reading: 109-114

April 9: Written Assignment 5 Posted - Questionnaire

-- week 13--

April 12: Cross-Sectional and Quasi-Experiments

Reading: 104-109

April 14: Qualitative and other Methods

Reading: 242-248

April 16: Written Assignment 5 Due on BB by 6pm (10 pts)

-- week 14--

April 19: Qualitative and other Methods cont.

Reading: 248-257

April 21: Flex Day

April 23: No Sections

-- week 15--

April 26: EXAM 2 Posted

April 28: EXAM 2 Due on BB by 4pm (50 pts)

April 30: No Sections – Course Completed!