

**Basic Course Information**

Semester	<b>Summer 2015</b>	Instructor's Name	<b>Donnye Ross</b>
Course Title & #	<b>Research Methods in Psychology/PSY 212</b>	Instructor's Email	<a href="mailto:Don.ross@imperial.edu">Don.ross@imperial.edu</a>
CRN #	<b>30127</b>	Webpage (optional)	
Room	<b>202</b>	Office	Gym
Class Dates	<b>June 24 – July 30</b>	Office Hours	By appointment only
Class Days	<b>Monday &amp; Thursdays</b>	Office Phone #	760-355-6165
Class Times	<b>12:30 PM - 2:40 PM</b>	Who students should contact if emergency or other absence	<a href="mailto:Donross02@hotmail.com">Donross02@hotmail.com</a>
Units	<b>3.0</b>		

**Course Description**

*This course surveys various psychological research methods with an emphasis on research design, experimental procedures, descriptive methods, instrumentation, and the collection, analysis, interpretation, and reporting of research data. Research design and methodology will be examined through a review of research in a variety of the sub disciplines of psychology. (CSU, UC)*

**Student Learning Outcomes**

**Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:**

1. *Identify and evaluate the various types of research methods used in psychology.*
2. *Apply research methods and design experiments to answer questions about psychology.*
3. *Compare and contrast the four types of reliability and the four types of validity.*

**Course Objectives**

**Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:**

1. *Describe the scientific approach to learning about behavior and contrast it with pseudoscientific research.*
2. *Define and give examples of the four goals of scientific research: description, prediction, determination of cause, and explanation of behavior.*
3. *Discuss how a hypothesis differs from a prediction.*
4. *Describe the different sources of ideas for research, including common sense, observation, theories, past research, and practical problems.*
5. *Summarize the ethical principles in the APA ethics code concerning research with*

*human participants.*

6. *Define variable and describe the four categories of variables: situational, response, participant, and mediating variables.*
7. *Describe the properties of the four scales of measurement: nominal, ordinal, interval, and ratio.*
8. *Compare quantitative and qualitative methods of describing behavior.*
9. *Discuss reasons for conducting survey research.*
10. *Describe a matched pairs design, including reasons to use this design.*
11. *Describe ways to control participant expectations and experimenter expectations.*
12. *Define factorial design and discuss reasons a researcher would use this design.*
13. *Define cohort effect.*
14. *Discuss how a partial correlation addresses the third-variable problem.*
15. *Define power of a statistical test.*
16. *Distinguish between narrative literature reviews and meta-analyses.*

### Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

*Cozby, P.C., Bates, S (2012). Methods in Behavioral Research (11<sup>th</sup> ed.). McGraw-Hill: New York*  
*ISBN: 9780078035159*

### Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

**Groups:** You will be assigned to groups of five people. Together, you will complete a group project assignment, worth 100 points. More information about this assignment will be given at a later date. I would also like you to sit together during class. During many classes you will work together as a group to answer discussion questions.

**Quizzes:** 4 quizzes will be given after the lecture on the last day of the week. No late quizzes will be accepted. Each quiz will be worth 25 points.

**Exams:** Two exams will be given. Exams will consist of multiple-choice questions.

**Class participation and attendance:** At the beginning of each class, attendance will be taken (roll call). If a student must arrive late or leave early, the instructor should be notified so that the student is not penalized unfairly. It is the student's responsibility to let the instructor know when they are in class, particularly if they miss the roll call. Class participation will be measured by presence, active interest and involvement in discussions, exercises and presentations.

### Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Journals:	4 @ 25 pts = 100 pts	375-450 points = A
Project	100 pts	300-374 points = B
Midterm:	50 pts	225-299 points = C
Quizzes	4 @ 25 pts = 100 pts	150-224 points = D
Final Exam:	100 pts	149 and below = F
Total: 450 pts		

### Attendance

A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. **It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class.** See General Catalog for details.

Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose has 3, unexcused absences may be dropped.

### Classroom Etiquette

Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class unless otherwise directed by the instructor.

Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed.

Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the General Catalog.

Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

### Academic Honesty

Plagiarism is to take and present as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to correctly 'cite a source', you must ask for help.

Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials, or assisting others in using materials, which are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General School Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment ;(c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment, (e) use of a commercial term paper service.

### **Additional Help – Discretionary Section and Language**

Blackboard support center: <http://bbcrm.edusupportcenter.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=8543>

Learning Labs: There are several ‘labs’ on campus to assist you through the use of computers, tutors, or a combination. Please consult your college map for the Math Lab, Reading & Writing Lab, and Learning Services (library). Please speak to the instructor about labs unique to your specific program

Library Services: There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the learning center, study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

### **Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)**

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. If you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations, the DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313

### **Student Counseling and Health Services**

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee. We now also have a fulltime mental health counselor. For information see <http://www.imperial.edu/students/student-health-center/>. The IVC Student Health Center is located in the Health Science building in Room 2109, telephone 760-355-6310.

### **Student Rights and Responsibilities**

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at [http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762](http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762)

### **Information Literacy**

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to help students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Students can access tutorials at <http://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/divisions/arts-and-letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/>

Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus – Research Methods in Psychology

Psychology 112

**Anticipated Class Schedule / Calendar**

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Assignments
June 24 - 30	Course Introduction and Class expectations Scientific understanding – Start - Ethics	CH 1 CH 2 CH 3 JOURNAL1 Group assignment Quiz 1
July 1 - 9	Fund research issues - Measurement - Observational	CH 4 CH 5 CH 6 JOURNAL 2 Quiz 2
July 13 -16	Survey Research – Experimental Design	CH 7 CH 8 JOURNAL 3 Quiz 3
July 20 - 23	Conducting Experiments – Complex – Single – Case, Quasi- experimental	CH 9 CH 10 CH 11 Quiz 4 JOURNAL 4 Group Project
July 27 - 30	Understanding Research Results - Generalization	CH 12 CH 13 CH 14 JOURNAL make up Final Exam

\*\*\*Tentative, subject to change without prior notice\*\*\*



