



Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2023	Instructor Name:	Robert Wyatt
Course Title & #:	PSY 212: Research Methods	Email:	Robert.wyatt@imperial.edu
CRN #:	10545	Webpage (optional):	www.imperial.edu
Classroom:	ONLINE	Office #:	1714
Class Dates:	08/14 – 12/08	Office Hours:	12:00 – 2:00 (Mon & Tues)
Class Days:	ONLINE	Office Phone #:	760-355-6491
Class Times:	ONLINE	Emergency Contact:	Alicia (760-355-6144)
Units:	3.0	Class Format/Modality:	ONLINE

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 subdisciplines of psychology.

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

PSY 101 and (PSY 214 or MATH 119) with a grade of "C" or better.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify and evaluate the various types of research methods used in psychology.
2. Write a research proposal and literature review in correct APA format.
3. Perform a literature search using electronic databases that provide psychological journal articles

Course Objectives

1. describe the basic research approaches and design methods required in behavioral sciences.
2. summarize behavioral science abstracts
3. analyze behavioral science studies to identify methodological flaws and/or unfounded conclusions.
4. identify appropriate elementary statistical techniques for use in quantitative studies.
5. conduct a review of relevant research literature.
6. explain ethical issues pertaining to research with animal and human participants.
7. construct a pilot study.
8. write a research report, using acceptable APA formatting.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Cozby, P.C., Bates, S. 2012. Methods in Behavioral Research . 11th McGraw-Hill. ISBN: 9780078035159



Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

ASSIGNMENT	DESCRIPTION	POINTS POSSIBLE
Test 1	Chapters 1 – 3 will be covered. 50 questions. Multiple Choice.	100
Test 2	Chapters 4 – 6 will be covered. 50 questions. Multiple Choice.	100
Test 3	Chapters 7 – 9 will be covered. 50 questions. Multiple Choice.	100
Test 4	Chapters 10 – 12 will be covered. 50 questions. Multiple Choice.	100
Test 5	Chapters 13 – 14 will be covered. 50 questions. Multiple Choice.	100
Discussion 1	A question from chapters 1 – 3 will be asked. 1 paragraph answer must be given.	50
Discussion 2	A question from chapters 4 – 6 will be asked. 1 paragraph answer must be given.	50
Discussion 3	A question from chapters 7 – 9 will be asked. 1 paragraph answer must be given.	50
Discussion 4	A question from chapters 10 – 12 will be asked. 1 paragraph answer must be given.	50
APA Report	An APA-style literature review will be turned in by the end of semester	500
TOTAL	There is a total of 11 assignments due for this class.	1,200

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

Course Policies

Academic Honesty: Do not cheat. That means, do not have anyone do the work for you, do not use artificial intelligence (AI), or anything of such nature. Failure to follow IVC's Academic Honesty rules and regulations will result in getting an "F" in the course and further disciplinary actions as deemed necessary by the Vice President of Academic Services will follow.

Classwork: You will be given 4 tests throughout this semester. You will also answer 5 questions throughout the semester that are correlated with your assigned readings. You will also be turning in an APA-style literature review of a topic of your choosing. All coursework will be done on CANVAS.

Late Work: I am NOT accepting late work. The reason is that you will have the whole month to complete the assigned exam and discussion for that month. When you complete them is up to you, just as long as they are completed by the due date.



IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

This is a tentative overview of the readings, assignments, tests, and/or other activities for the duration of the course.

Date or Week	Topic	Assignment	Due Date
Week 1 August 14 - 18	Syllabus Chapter 1: Scientific Understanding of Behavior		
Week 2 August 21 - 25	Chapter 2: Where to Start		
Week 3 Aug. 28 – Sept. 1	Chapter 3: Ethics in Behavioral Research	Test 1 Discussion 1	08/31
Week 4 September 4 – 8	Chapter 4: Fundamental Research Issues		
Week 5 Sept. 11 - 15	Chapter 5: Measurement Concepts	Discussion 2	09/17
Week 6 Sept. 18 - 22	Chapter 6: Observational Methods		
Week 7 Sept. 25 – 29	Chapter 7: Survey Research	Test 2	09/30
Week 8 October 2 – 6	Chapter 8: Experimental Design		
Week 9 Oct. 9 – 13	Chapter 9: Conducting Experiments	Discussion 3	10/15
Week 10 Oct. 16 – 20	Chapter 10: Complex Experimental Designs		
Week 11 Oct. 23 – 27	Chapter 11: Single, Quasi & Developmental Research		
Week 12 Oct. 30 – Nov. 3	Chapter 12: Understanding Research Results – Part I	Test 3	10/30
Week 13 November 6 – 10	Chapter 13: Understanding Research Results – Part II		
Week 14 Nov. 13 – 17	Chapter 14: Generalization	Discussion 4	11/19
Week 15 Nov. 20 - 24	Fall Break: No class or coursework due		
Week 16 Nov. 27 – Dec. 1	How to write an APA paper	Test 4	11/29
Week 17 December 4 - 8	Review	Test 5 Report	12/04 12/06