



Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2024	Instructor Name:	Nicole Rodiles
Course Title & #:	Psy 212/Research Methods	Email:	nicole.rodiles@imperial.edu
CRN #:	21186	Webpage (optional):	
Classroom:	ONLINE	Office #:	203G
Class Dates:	2/12-6/7	Office Hours:	Tuesday: 11-12pm ONLINE Wednesday: 11-12:00pm
Class Days:	ONLINE	Office Phone #:	760-355-6142
Class Times:		Emergency Contact:	760-791-4915
Units:	3	Class Format/Modality:	Face to Face

Course Description

This course introduces research methodologies used in the behavioral sciences. It emphasizes an appreciation of the scientific method, the development of research skills, knowledge of research ethics, and the evaluation of scientific research. Students conduct library research, design and implement research projects using appropriate methodologies and controls, analyze and interpret data using a statistical computer program, and write research reports using the APA format.

Course Prerequisite

Psy 214 Stats for Psychology

Updated

Measurable Course Objectives:

1. *Compare and contrast different research methods and sampling techniques*
2. *Explain how controls are used to reduce threats of internal validity, external validity, and measurement validity*
3. *Discuss the characteristics and benefits of the scientific method, and explain the logic behind hypothesis testing*
4. *Design and conduct empirical research project(s)*
5. *Utilize library research and evaluate the reliability of sources*
6. *Critically read, extract information, evaluate, and summarize research in behavioral sciences*

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. *Evaluate and summarize relevant peer reviewed scientific articles.*
2. *Develop a research design to evaluate a hypothesis.*
3. *Communicate background, results and implications of research using APA style.* Textbook:

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Gravetter, F.J. & Forzano, L.B. (2018). Research Methods for the Behavioral Sciences, (6th Ed.). Cengage. ISBN: 978-1-337-61331-6

OER - Cuttler, Carrie, Jhangiani, R.S.& Leighton, D.C. (2019). Research Methods in Psychology, (4th Ed.). Kwantlen Polytechnic University. ISBN 13: 9781999198107



Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

This course will consist of a combination of lectures, assigned readings, classroom/ group work, individual projects and performance on quizzes and exams.

Participation. You will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of the assigned reading by actively participating in class discussions.

Research Assignments. You will be provided with and/or asked to conduct a literature search for various research articles that align with the various types of research designs discussed in your textbook.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

You will be provided with critical thinking questions in which to analyze and evaluate the article. Questions are to be answered in the following format: double-spaced, size 12 font, and 1 inch margins. Each research assignment will be worth 25 points. Late research assignments will be accepted up to one class period of the due date.

APA Research Paper Structure. You will produce a draft(s) of each component in an APA style research paper for practice purposes. We will discuss the structure for each section in class and use research articles and/or data to prepare for your final paper. The draft for each section will be worth 10 points. No drafts will be accepted after the Research Paper due date.

Research Paper

There will be a research paper due at the end of the semester in which you will work individually or with a partner to demonstrate your ability to design a research project, collect data, and write up the results of the research in the correct APA format. The paper will include a Title Page, an Abstract, an Introduction (literature review) of the research topic, a Method section, a Results section, a Discussion section, and a Reference page. Graphs, charts and figures can also be included. The paper will be worth 100 points. Late research papers will result in a loss of 10 points each day after the due date.

Research Presentation

We will have a poster session at the end of the semester. You will present your research study and results on a poster in the classroom. Students and guests will have a chance to read your research and ask questions or make comments. We will go over the procedures for making a poster in class. The poster and presentation will be worth 50 points.

Chapter Outlines/Quizzes

For each chapter of your text, unless otherwise noted, you will be asked to produce a typed outline. This outline should include the main points of each chapter. Each class period that we start a new chapter, I will be giving a quiz on that chapter in class. You will be allowed to use your chapter outline while taking the quiz. Thus, it is up to you to produce a detailed outline of the chapter that will assist you in taking the quiz. After you take the quiz, we will grade the quiz in class and I will give you points for both the outline and the quiz. Since I will be throwing out the one lowest score for quizzes, no make-up quizzes will be given. Each outline will be worth 20 points. Each quiz will be worth 20 points.

Exams

Four (2) exams will be given. Exams could consist of multiple choice, fill in the blank, short answer and essay questions from the class material. No make-up exams will be given unless you have called me PRIOR to the exam and let me know you will not be able to take the exam. If you contact me prior to the exam, you will have one week to make-up the exam. Each exam will be worth 100 points.

Updated



Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

Course Policies

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 by the instructor.

A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online 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 continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped.

For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.

Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

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.

Updated



Other Course Information

Policies:

- 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 by the instructor.
- 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 in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting 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 "cite a source" correctly, 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 that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.



Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing 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 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) using a commercial term paper service.

Counseling/Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee.

- [Student Health Center](#). A Student Health Nurse is available on campus. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6128 in Room 1536 for more information.
- [Mental Health Counseling Services](#). Short-term individual, couples, family, and group therapy are provided to currently enrolled students. Contact the IVC [Mental Health Counseling Services](#) at 760-355-6196 in Room 2109 for more information.

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and to due process of law. For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC [General Catalog](#).

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. The IVC [Library Department](#) provides numerous [Information Literacy Tutorials](#) to assist students in this endeavor.



VETERAN'S CENTER

The mission of the IVC Military and Veteran Success Center is to provide a holistic approach to serving military/ veteran students in three key areas: 1) Academics, 2) Health and Wellness, and 3) Camaraderie. The Center also serves as a central hub that connects military/veteran students, as well as their families, to campus and community resources. The goal is to ensure a seamless transition from military to civilian life. When campus reopens, the Center is in Building 600 (Office 624), telephone 760-355-6141.

EXTENDED OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM and SERVICES (EOPS)

The Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOPS) offers services such as priority registration, book grants, transportation assistance, individualized counseling, tutoring, and community referrals to eligible students. Our staff is available to assist and support students in navigating personal, psychological, academic, and/ or career- related issues through empathy, cultural-competence, and a commitment to equity and social justice. Also under the umbrella of EOPS is the CARE (Cooperative Agency Resources for Education) Program, designed to serve single parents and assist with addressing issues that are particular to this population. Students that are single parents receiving TANF/CashAid assistance may qualify for our

CARE program. For additional information about the EOPS or CARE Programs please contact our Program Office 760.335-6407 and/or visit our Program website www.imperial.edu/students/eops for eligibility criteria and application procedures. We look forward to serving you! - EOPS/CARE Staff



STUDENT EQUITY PROGRAM

The Student Equity & Achievement Program strives to improve Imperial Valley College's success outcomes, particularly for students who have been historically underrepresented and underserved. The college identifies strategies to monitor and address equity issues, making efforts to mitigate any disproportionate impact on student success and achievement. Our institutional data provides insight surrounding student populations who historically, are not fully represented. SEA addresses disparities and/or disproportionate impact in student success across disaggregated student equity groups including gender, ethnicity, disability status, financial need, LGBTQIA+, Veterans, foster youth, homelessness, and formerly incarcerated students. The SEAP program also houses IVC's Homeless Liaison, Foster Youth Liaison, Formerly Incarcerated Liaison, and Military Affiliated Liaison, who provide direct services and referrals to students in need. SEA strives to empower students experiencing insecurities related to food, housing, transportation, textbooks, and shower access. We recognize that students who struggle meeting their basic needs are also at an academic and economic disadvantage, creating barriers to academic success and wellness. We strive to remove barriers that affect IVC students' access to enrollment, education, degree and certificate completion, and the ability to transfer to a university. SEA also provides outreach at local Imperial County high schools to ensure graduating seniors are successfully matriculated into the college and have a strong support system. Please visit us online for assistance at <https://imperial.edu/students/student-equity-and-achievement/> or call us at 760-355-6465 or when campus reopens, visit Building 401.

What if I cannot afford food, books, or need other help?

We have many resources that are available to you. Please tell us what you need by submitting your request(s) here: <https://imperial.edu/students/student-equity-and-achievement/>



IVC Student Resources

Student Success

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

- **[Canvas Support](https://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/distance-education/for-students/canvas/)**. <https://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/distance-education/for-students/canvas/>
The Canvas Support Site provides a variety of support channels available to students 24 hours per day.
- **[Learning Services](#)**. There are several learning labs on campus to assist students through the use of computers and tutors. Please consult your [Campus Map](#) for the [Math Lab](#); [Reading, Writing & Language Labs](#); and the [Study Skills Center](#).
- **[Library Services](#)**. There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the [Study Skills Center](#), study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

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. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313. Please contact them if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Counseling/Health Services

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Students Rights

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Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

*****Subject to change without prior notice*****

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 1 2/12	Syllabus & Introduction	Chapter 1
Week 2 2/19	Chapter 1 Introduction, Acquiring Knowledge and the Scientific Method	Chapter 1
Week 3 2/26	Information Literacy & APA Style	Chapter 2
Week 4 3/4	Research Ideas and Hypotheses	Chapter 3
Week 5 3/11	Defining and Measuring Variables	Chapter 4
Week 6 3/18	Ethics in Research Exam 1 Thought Paper 1	Chapter 5
Week 7 3/25	Selecting Research Participants	Chapter 6
4/1	Easter Break! Enjoy!	Chapter 7
Week 8 4/8	Research Strategies and Validity	Chapter 7
Week 9 4/15	The Experimental Research Strategy Exam 2	Chapter 8

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Week 10 4/22	Research Paper	
Week 11 4/29	Research Paper	
Week 12 5/6	Research Paper	
Week 13 5/13	Research Paper	
Week 14 5/20	Presentations	
Week 15 5/27	Presentations	
Week 16 6/3		

Week 5 4/22	Exam 1 Thought Paper 1	Chapters 1-4
Week 6 4/29	Short Term and Working Memory	Chapter 5
Week 7 5/6	Long Term Memory	Chapter 6
Week 8 5/13	Everyday Memory and Errors	Chapter 8
Week 9 5/20	Exam 2 Thought Paper 2	Chapters 5, 6 & 8
Week10 5/27	Conceptual Knowledge	
Week11 6/3	Visual Imagery	Chapter 9
Week 12 10/30	Language	Chapter 10
Week 13 11/6	Exam 3 Thought Paper 3	Chapters 9-10
Week 14 11/13	Problem Solving & Creativity	Chapter 12
11/20	Fall Break! Happy Thanksgiving!	
Week 15 11/27	Judgements, Decisions & Reasoning	Chapter 13
Week 16 12/4	Review Final	Chapters 12-13

Updated