



## Basic Course Information

Semester:	<b>FALL 2024</b>	Instructor Name:	<b>Brenda Estrada</b>
Course Title & #:	<b>PSY 212: Research Methods in Psychology</b>	Email:	<b>Brenda.estrada@imperial.edu</b>
CRN #:	10317	Webpage (optional):	<b>Imperial.edu</b>
Classroom:	<b>411</b>	Office #:	<b>Zoom</b>
Class Dates:	<b>August 12- December 7th</b>	Office Hours:	<b>Wednesdays (10:30-12:00) via Zoom Thursdays by appointment</b>
Class Days:	<b>Monday-Wednesday</b>	Office Phone #:	
Class Times:	8:00 am-9:25 am	Emergency Contact:	<b>760-997-6048</b>
Units:	3.00	Class Format:	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 evaluations 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(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

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

## 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.

## Course Objectives

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

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.

7. Analyze research data using a statistical package, demonstrating knowledge of statistics by selecting the appropriate descriptive statistics, inferential statistics, graphs, and tables to evaluate, explore and communicate findings.
8. Write college-level scientific research papers using APA writing style (e.g., abstract, introduction, methods, participants, materials, procedure, results discussion, reference section).
9. Explain ethical issues pertaining to behavioral science research with animal and human subjects.

### 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

### Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

#### **This class is strictly online via Face-to-Face**

The syllabus serves as a chronological guide to the class and may change without notice.

**Method of evaluation:** Written assignments.

**Instructional Methodology:** Audio, visual, demonstration and discussion

**Modules Section (Canvas):** Each module represents a small chunk of related information. Within each module, there will be tasks for you to perform such as watch videos ,view PowerPoint slides. The modules will become available sequentially as you move through the course.

**Research study:** Students will be required to conduct an APA-style research study on a psychological issue. This assignment will necessitate teamwork, with each study conducted by pairs of students. The research study will be structured into Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, with each chapter having its specific due date. Detailed information and guidelines will be provided throughout the course. A guideline will be provided.

**Annotated Bibliography-Mid Term Assignment (Individual assignment):** Students will be required to complete an annotated bibliography on their chosen topic. This is an individual assignment. Additional information and instructions will be provided in class and through Canvas. A guideline will be provided.

**Final PowerPoint and Research Paper:** Students are required to submit their complete final paper by December 2nd and present their findings in a PowerPoint presentation. A guideline will be provided.

## Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Weekly discussions (15):	150 points
Annotated Bibliography	40 pts
Mid-Term Assignment Chapter 2:	50 pts
Chapter 1 assignment :	25 pts
Chapter 3 assignment:	25 pts
Chapter 4 & 5 assignment:	50 pts
Final presentation:	100 pts
Final research study:	100 pts

TOTAL: 540 points

## Course Policies

### Attendance:

- 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.

### 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 while class is in session. 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.

Online Netiquette:

- What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.
- Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette...
  1. Identify yourself
  2. Include a subject line
  3. Avoid sarcasm
  4. Respect others' opinions and privacy
  5. Acknowledge and return messages promptly
  6. Copy with caution
  7. Do not spam or junk mail
  8. Be concise
  9. Use appropriate language
  10. Use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning
  11. Use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks].

## Academic Honesty

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.



## 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. 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. •

- 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. 1. 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 counseling services are available for currently enrolled students. Services are provided in a confidential, supportive, and culturally sensitive environment. Please contact the IVC Mental Health Counseling Services at 760- 355-6310 or in the building 1536 for appointments or more information.

## 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

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 1 August 12 - 14	Syllabus & Introduction Meet and Greet Discussion via Canvas due on 8/24 at 11:59 PM.  Chapter 1 Introduction, Acquiring Knowledge, and the Scientific Method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Meet and Greet Discussion due on August 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas.</li> </ul>
Week 2 August 19- 21	Chapter 2 Research Ideas and Hypotheses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research Ideas and Hypotheses class activity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly discussion due on August 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas.</li> </ul>
Week 3 August 26- 28	Chapter 3 Defining, and Measuring Variables <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APA Writing review</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly discussion due on Sept 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas.</li> </ul>
Week 4 Sep 2- 4 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 4 Ethics in Research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research Topic Established 9/4</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly discussion due on Sept 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas.</li> </ul>

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 5 Sep 9- 11 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 5 Selecting Research Participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of annotated bibliography</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly discussion due on Sept 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas.</li> </ul>
Week 6 Sep 16-18 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 6 Research Strategies and Validity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly discussion Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas</li> <li><b>Annotated bibliography due on 9/22 at 11:59 PM via Canvas</b></li> </ul>
Week 7 Sep 23-25 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 7 The experimental Research Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly discussion Sept 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas</li> </ul>
Week 8 Sep 30- Oct 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Chapter 8 Experimental Designs: Between Subjects Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly discussion Oct 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas</li> <li><b>Mid-term: Chapter 2 (Literature Review) assignment due on Oct 6<sup>th</sup> at 11: 59 PM via Canvas.</b></li> </ul>
Week 9 Oct 7- 9 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 9 Experimental Designs: Within Subjects Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly discussion Oct 3<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas</li> </ul>
Week 10 Oct 14-16 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 10 The nonexperimental and Quasi Experimental Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly discussion Oct 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas</li> <li><b>Chapter 1 (Introduction to the study) assignment due on Oct 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas</b></li> </ul>

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 11 Oct 21-23 <sup>rd</sup>	Chapter 11 Factorial Designs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly discussion Oct 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas</li> </ul>
Week 12 Oct 28-30 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 12 The Correlational Research Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly discussion Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas</li> </ul>
Week 13 Nov 4- 6 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 13 The Descriptive Research Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research: Group work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly discussion Nov 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas</li> <li><b>Chapter 3 (Methodology) assignment due Nov 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas</b></li> </ul>
Week 14 Nov 11- 13 <sup>th</sup>	Research: Group work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly discussion Nov 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas</li> </ul>
Week 15 Nov 18-20 <sup>th</sup>	Research: Group work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly discussion due Nov 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas</li> <li><b>Chapter 4 (Data Analysis and Results) Chapter 5: (Summary and conclusion) due on Nov 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM via Canvas</b></li> </ul>



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Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 16 Nov 25-27 <sup>th</sup>	Thanksgiving Break Nov 25-30 <sup>th</sup> – NO CLASSES	
Week 17 Dec 2- 4 <sup>th</sup>	Final Research Paper due Final PowerPoint due • Presentations will commence on December 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Final Research Paper &amp; Final PowerPoint due December 2<sup>nd</sup> via Canvas.</b>

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