

U550-225 Research Methods in Psychology

Course Format: Online

Course Author/s: Melissa Gregg, PhD.

Course credits: 3

Prerequisites: A passing grade in Elementary Statistics U3600-246 or the equivalent college level statistics course.

Course Description: This course covers the major experimental and non-experimental methodologies used in Psychological research. It covers the major steps in the research process including literature searches, forming research questions, ethics, and methodology selection. This course incorporates hands-on research experience that provides you with an opportunity to collect data, analyze and interpret data, and report your results.

Required Course Materials

- Jhangiani, R. S., Chiang, I. A., Cuttler, C., & Leighton, D. C. (2019). [Research Methods in Psychology \(4th ed.\)](https://dx.doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/HF7DQ). Pressbooks. doi:<https://dx.doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/HF7DQ> etext ISBN: 978-1-9991981-0-7
 - This is a free, open resource textbook

Optional/Recommended Course Materials

- Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association

Course Learning Objectives

- Demonstrate basic knowledge of the major steps in psychological research, including literature searches, forming research questions, research design, data collection, analysis, interpretation, and dissemination
- Describe the major research methodologies in psychology, including observational, correlational, and experimental methods
- Evaluate the quality of research by others cautiously and analytically
- Compose an APA formatted research report

Course Overview

MODULE #	MODULE TOPIC	EVALUATED ACTIVITIES
1	The Science of Psychology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing assignment • Module Quiz
2	Overview of the Scientific Method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing assignment • Module Quiz
3	APA Crash Course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lab 1 • Module quiz
4	Research Ethics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing assignment • Module quiz
5	Psychological Measurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing assignment • Module quiz
6	Non-Experimental Research:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lab 2 • Module quiz

	Observational Research	
7	Non-Experimental Research: Correlational and Survey Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lab 3 • Module quiz
8	Non-Experimental Research: Qualitative Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing assignment • Module quiz
9	Experimental Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lab 4 • Module quiz
10	Quasi-Experimental Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing assignment • Module quiz
11	Factorial Designs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing assignment • Module quiz
12	Single-Subject Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing assignment • Module quiz

Evaluation Methods

Your final grade will be based on your performance on the following:

- 1) Module Quizzes (70%)
- 2) Writing Assignments (10%)
- 3) Labs (20%)

Module Quizzes (70%)

Quizzes are a combination of multiple-choice, True/False, and short answer questions. You will have one attempt at each quiz.

Writing Assignments (30%)

Multiple short assignments will be given throughout the semester to aid in understanding the course material.

Labs (20%)

The best way to really learn how to do research is to actually do research. Since conducting actual research isn't always feasible, the course includes labs to simulate a hands-on component. There will be 4 lab assignments in the course (details provided in the course content):

- Lab 1 – APA Format/Literature Research
- Lab 2 - Observational Research
- Lab 3 - Correlational Research
- Lab 4 - Experimental Research

Exam Method: There are no exams in this course

Grading Scale

The following grading scale is used to evaluate all course requirements and determine your final grade:

A = 93–100	B = 83–87.9	C = 70–77.9	D = 60–69.9
AB = 88–92.9	BC = 78–82.9		F = Below 60

Pass/Fail Option

Students who enroll in an Independent Learning (IL) course under the pass/fail option will receive a final grade of S in place of a final grade equivalent to an A, AB, B, BC, or C and a final grade of U in place of a final grade equivalent to a D or F.