

Psychology 100: Research Methods in Psychology  
Summer 2023

Class Meetings: July 31 - September 1

Lecture: Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:00-12:30; Thim Lecture 003

Section A: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00-10:30; N. Sci Annex 102  
Section B: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00-12:30; N. Sci Annex 102  
Section C: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:00-2:30; N. Sci Annex 102  
Section D: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:00-4:30; N. Sci Annex 102  
Section E: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00-10:30; N. Sci Annex 103  
Section F: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00-11:30; N. Sci Annex 103

Professor: Benjamin Storm, Ph.D. (he/him)

Office Hours: Wed, 1:00-2:00, or by appt.  
Location: SS2, Room 258 (zoom available by request)  
Email: [storm@ucsc.edu](mailto:storm@ucsc.edu)

Teaching Assistant (A): Margie Martinez (she/her)

Office Hours: Thu, 11:00-12:00, or by appt.  
Location: SS2, Room 203 (zoom available by request)  
Email: [mgsmartinez@ucsc.edu](mailto:mgsmartinez@ucsc.edu)

Teaching Assistant (B): Jexy An Nepangue (she/her)

Office Hours: Thu, 1:00-2:00, or by [appt](#) upon request.  
Location: SS2, Room 415 (or through [zoom](#), passcode: 545541)  
Email: [jnepangu@ucsc.edu](mailto:jnepangu@ucsc.edu)

Teaching Assistant (C): Miguel Lopezzi

Office Hours: Tue, 10:45-11:45, or by appt.  
Location: Zoom: [932 3316 5595](#) (passcode: 689460)  
Email: [mlopezzi@ucsc.edu](mailto:mlopezzi@ucsc.edu)

Teaching Assistant (D): Moira Davis

Office Hours: Tue, 10:00-11:00, or by appt.  
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Email: [mondavis@ucsc.edu](mailto:mondavis@ucsc.edu)

Teaching Assistant (E): Jade Moore

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Teaching Assistant (F): Wei Dou (she/her)

Office Hours: Thu, 12:45-1:45, or by appt.  
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Email: [wdou@ucsc.edu](mailto:wdou@ucsc.edu)

### Course Description:

An introduction to research methods used to investigate human psychology. The course emphasizes critical thinking, designing and conducting research, analyzing and interpreting data, and writing a professional research report.

Prerequisites: Entry Level Writing and Composition requirements; AM 3 or AM 6, or MATH 3 or higher level Mathematics course (MATH 4, MATH 11A, or AM 11A/ECON 11A), or mathematics placement (MP) score of 300 or higher, or AP Calculus AB exam score of 3 or higher; and PSYC 2, or STAT 5, or STAT 7 and STAT 7L.

### Enrollment Information:

To take the class, you must be enrolled in lecture and an associated section. You must attend the section in which you are enrolled. The maximum enrollment for the class is 120 students (20 students per section). Unfortunately, no exceptions can be made to this capacity. Sections will begin Week 1.

The Required Textbook: Beth Morling (2020). *Research Methods in Psychology: Evaluating a World of Information*. W.W. Norton & Company. 4th Edition.

The book is available at the Bay Tree Bookstore and can also be rented or purchased online. If you have the 3rd edition, it should be okay. You are also strongly encouraged to purchase or borrow the APA Publication Manual, though many of the resources available in the manual are also available online. Additional readings, class materials, and homework assignments are available on canvas. If you need any of these materials in a different format, let me know, and I will make them available to you.

Course materials are posted on Canvas, <http://canvas.ucsc.edu>.

For help using Canvas, please visit:

Canvas help pages: <https://guides.instructure.com/m/4212>

Canvas tech support from the FITC: [canvas.help@ucsc.edu](mailto:canvas.help@ucsc.edu)

### Course Information:

Psych 100 is designed to give you introductory exposure to research methods in psychology. We will use a lecture format, but I encourage active questioning and discussion.

All lectures and sections will take place in person unless otherwise specified by the instructor or TA. Attendance is required. Lectures will be captured and made available on canvas. You are expected to attend all sections. If you know that you will miss a section, or if you do miss a section, email the TA to let them know and to request an excused absence (you do not need to provide evidence or personal information).

Course grades will be determined based on your performance on the writing assignments, section activities, and multiple-choice examinations.

### Grading Scale:

98-100% = A+ 88-89.9% = B+ 78-79.9% = C+ 62-67.9% = D  
92-97.9% = A 82-87.9% = B 70-77.9% = C 60-61.9% = D-  
90-91.9% = A- 80-81.9% = B- 68-69.9% = D+ 0-59.9% = F

## Course Goals:

The course has three main goals. First, it will give you a basic understanding of some of the core methodological approaches and considerations in psychology research. Second, it will give you the opportunity to gain a new perspective on what it is like to conduct psychology research. Finally, we hope it will provide you with a new sense of intellectual excitement for the power and potential of scientific research to answer some of the biggest questions we have about ourselves.

As an introductory research methods course in psychology, we will focus on some of the methods most frequently used to address psychological questions. Thus, if you become a research psychologist, you should find this course to be a valuable and informative introduction to how scientific research is conducted in psychology. That said you should find what you learn to be transferable to the practice of good research in any domain. Regardless of your future career path, everyone needs to be able to evaluate research, and this course will help you to be a more informed and critical evaluator of research.

The course is work-intensive. Because it is a 7-credit course, the workload is going to be greater than a typical course. In fact, combining across in-class and out-of-class activities, you should expect to devote approximately 30 hours per week to the class. We are telling you this because we want you to take the class seriously from the start. If you fall behind, you may find it difficult to catch up, and you could end up failing the course. Attend all the lectures and sections, keep up with the readings, and turn in assignments on time. We want everyone to do well in the course, and we will work with you to help make that happen, but you will need to put in the necessary time and work as well.

Visit us!!! The professor and TAs are happy to meet with you to answer any questions you have about the course or about psychology research in general. Feel free to drop by during office hours or, if that doesn't work, send us an email to set up an appointment. You are encouraged to meet with your TA to discuss the assignments, get feedback on papers, etc.

## Examinations

Midterm (20%). There will be a midterm on August 14. The midterm will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions covering all material from the course, including lectures, readings, discussion sections, and course materials. The midterm will focus on material covered weeks 1-2. You will be able to take the midterm at any point in the day (12:01 am – 11:59 pm), but we strongly encourage you to take it during the regularly scheduled timeblock (9:00 am – 12:30 pm).

You will be allowed to use all course materials on the midterm, but you must take it alone and without help from others. You will be allowed up to two attempts to take the exam (with no time limit on a given attempt, and with only your highest score counting towards your final grade). By default, a missed midterm will be marked as a zero in the gradebook. A make-up midterm will be given only when absolutely necessary. If you know you will miss the midterm, or if you do miss it, please email Professor Storm as soon as possible to let him know. The earlier we know, the more options we will have.

There will be no lecture on the date of the midterm. Instead, we encourage you to spend the time you would have spent in lecture preparing taking (and then re-taking) the midterm. The 3.5 hour timeblock should be sufficient to take the exam twice with a delay in-between.

Final Exam (30%). The final exam will be administered in person on August 30. The exam will consist of 75 multiple-questions and be designed to be completed in less than 120 minutes (9 am - 11 am). It will be cumulative and cover all material from the course. Unlike the midterm, the final exam is not open book/notes. That said you will be allowed to bring one 8x11 sheet of paper with your own notes to the final exam (front and back is fine).

By default, a missed final exam will be marked as a zero in the gradebook. It will not be possible to take the final exam online, and make-up exams will be given only when absolutely necessary. If you know that you are going to miss the final exam, or if you do miss the final exam, please email Professor Storm as soon as possible to let him know. The earlier we know, the more options we will have.

### Research/Section

The other half of your grade will be determined by your performance on homework and writing assignments. All assignments will be due by 11:59 pm on the dates shown below. Major research paper assignments are shown in bold.

Wednesday, Aug 2 – Journal Article  
Monday, Aug 7 – Study Idea and Annotated Bibliography  
Wednesday, Aug 9 – Response Paper  
Thursday, Aug 17 – **Preliminary Paper**  
Monday, Aug 21 – Experiments & Hypothesis Testing (E-HT) #1  
Wednesday, Aug 23 – Experiments & Hypothesis Testing (E-HT) #2  
Thursday, Aug 31 – **Final Paper**

Section Assignments/Attendance (15%). Activities and homework will be assigned throughout the course to help you prepare to write your paper and to expand upon the methods and concepts covered in lecture. Late assignments will be accepted for half credit up until 48 hours after they are due. After that, no credit will be possible. Take the section assignments seriously. They are designed to help you prepare for the examinations and develop your ideas for the research paper. Points will also be deducted for every unexcused absence in section. A maximum of two section absences can be excused.

Preliminary Paper (10%). Students will select a topic, review relevant literature, develop a specific research question or hypothesis, and design a study to investigate that question or hypothesis. Each student will write an APA-style research proposal consisting of a title page, an abstract, an introduction, a method section, a results and discussion section, a reference section, and a table/figure. An extensive writing guide is available on canvas, as well as resources for writing in APA style. The preliminary paper is due by 11:59 pm on Thursday, August 17. Late papers will be accepted, but 10% will be deducted for each day they are late. No papers will be accepted for credit after Tuesday, August 22.

Final Paper (25%). The final paper should be a significant revision of the preliminary paper, with substantial changes based on what you learned in lecture and from the readings since turning in your preliminary paper, and in response to your TA's comments on the preliminary paper. The final paper is due by 11:59 pm on Thursday, August 31. Late papers will be accepted, but 10% will be deducted for each day they are late. No papers will be accepted for credit after Sunday, September 3.

More about the Preliminary and Final Papers. Coming up with a new research idea is one of the most difficult and yet rewarding challenges a researcher will face. There are many ways to come up with a research idea. You might, for example, try to replicate and extend upon a published finding, test the assumptions of a theoretical account of a particular psychological

phenomenon, or try to better understand the qualitative experience of people in a specific situation. On the one hand, we want to give you flexibility in designing your research. On the other hand, we want you to design your study in a way that will put you in a strong position to write an effective paper and receive a good grade in the class. Your TA will help you through the process as you design your study and develop your paper.

Your goal is to design a study in a way that is appropriate for answering your research question. This may involve designing an experiment, constructing a survey, or developing some other methodological approach discussed in class or the textbook. In previous years, students worked in groups to collect data. Due to various factors, however, students will be working independently this summer and writing research proposals. One upside of this plan is that you will have more flexibility in deciding the type of study that you will propose and the populations from which you can sample.

More information about the writing assignments along with an extensive writing guide, grading rubrics, and other materials are available on canvas. Also see pp. 523-559 in the text for a detailed description of how to write a research report and an example of an APA-style manuscript.

#### Important Summer Session 2023 Deadlines:

Add: Thursday, August 3

Drop: Monday, August 7

Request "W" Grade: Sunday, August 20

For all dates and deadlines: <https://summer.ucsc.edu/studentlife/index.html>

For questions about dropping, requesting a W grade for a course, or withdrawing from the summer quarter, email [summer@ucsc.edu](mailto:summer@ucsc.edu).

#### DRC Remote Accommodations:

UC Santa Cruz is committed to creating an academic environment that supports its diverse student body. If you are a student with a disability who requires accommodations to achieve equal access in this course, please affiliate with the DRC. I encourage all students to benefit from learning more about DRC services to contact DRC by phone at 831-459-2089 or by email at [drc@ucsc.edu](mailto:drc@ucsc.edu). For students already affiliated, make sure that you have requested Academic Access Letters, where you intend to use accommodations. You can also request to meet privately with me. I would be happy to discuss how we can implement your accommodations in this course to ensure your access and full engagement in this course.

Week 1	Topic (Reading)	Assignment Due
Jul 31	Intro to the Course and Psychological Science (Chapters 1, 2)	
Aug 1	Intro to Section; Finding Journal Articles	
Aug 2	Validity, Measurement, and Statistics (Chapters 3, 5, pp. 467-522)	Journal Article (Aug 2 at 11:59 pm)
Aug 3	Discuss Journal Articles; Lit Review and Annotated Bibliography; Generating Research Ideas	
Week 2	Topic (Reading)	Assignment Due
Aug 7	Observations, Surveys, and Sampling (Chapters 6, 7)	Annotated Bibliography (Aug 7 at 11:59 pm)
Aug 8	Discuss Response Papers; Developing Research Ideas	
Aug 9	Correlational Research (Chapter 8)	Response Paper (Aug 9 at 11:59 pm)
Aug 10	Writing a Research Proposal (intro, method, predicted results and discussion)	
Week 3	Topic (Reading)	Assignment Due
Aug 14	<b>Midterm - Canvas</b>	APA Style (no need to turn it in)
Aug 15	Section Study Exercise	
Aug 16	Experimental Research (Chapters 10, 11)	
Aug 17	Experiments; E-HT #1; Last-Minute Questions About Preliminary Papers	<b>Preliminary Paper (Aug 17 at 11:59 pm)</b>
Week 4	Topic (Reading)	Assignment Due
Aug 21	Experimental Research; Factorial Designs (Chapters 12, 13)	E-HT #1 (Aug 21 at 11:59 pm)
Aug 22	Factorial Designs; E-HT #2; General Feedback About Preliminary Papers	
Aug 23	Quasi-Experiments; Research Ethics (Chapters 4, 14)	E-HT #2 (Aug 23 at 11:59 pm)

Aug 24	No Formal Section (Extended Office Hours to Give Students Feedback on Preliminary Papers)	
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>Topic (Reading)</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>
Aug 28	Publishing; Grad School; Review Session	
Aug 29	Peer Review Exercise	
Aug 30	<b>Final Exam - In Person</b>	
Aug 31	No Formal Section (Extended Office Hours to Help Students Complete Final Papers)	<b>Final Paper (Aug 31 at 11:59 pm)</b>

**Research Participation.** The Psychology Department provides an opportunity for students in this course to gain extra credit by participating in psychology research projects (surveys or experiments) for up to **two hours**, or by completing up to two alternative assignments (see below).

Follow these easy steps to sign-up for research projects:

- 1) Go to the Sona website at <https://ucsc.sona-systems.com>
- 2) If you are enrolled in the class at the start of the quarter, then an account should already be created for you. To log in for the first time, click “Forgot Password?” to retrieve the pre-set password. For those who added the class late, or for some reason the system won’t let you log in, you may need to click “Request Account.” Only request a new account if the “Forgot Password” link isn’t working.
- 3) **Always enter your UCSC email address.** You will receive your password via email.
- 4) Log in and follow the instructions to complete the Prescreening Questionnaire. Your responses on this questionnaire will determine your eligibility for different studies.

**IMPORTANT:** You can earn research credits points by either participating in studies (in-lab experiments or online surveys) or writing papers (the alternative assignment). Studies are posted throughout the quarter. Plan ahead and complete them as soon as possible. Check online often for new studies. If you know you cannot make it, and if the time until the study is more than 24 hours, you can cancel on Sona. If you fail to show up for a study, or fail to cancel in time, you will be marked as having an “unexcused no-show.” If you accumulate three unexcused no-shows, you will be prevented from signing up for more experiments. All participation must be completed by Friday of the last week of instruction.

**What if you can’t find studies?** Although some studies may be available right at the start of the quarter, there may not be enough for everyone. Please be patient, researchers will post new studies throughout the quarter. There is usually a big spike in hours during the last couple weeks. If you are concerned about the availability of hours, please don’t email your instructors or TAs, instead email the pool administrator so that they can try to address the issue directly ([ucscresearchpool@gmail.com](mailto:ucscresearchpool@gmail.com)). This is also the best email to use if other issues arise during the quarter. If you participated in a study but didn’t receive credit after two days, please start by emailing the researchers directly. If the researchers don’t respond, then send an email to the pool administrator. Rest assured, however, that all pending timeslots will be given credit at the end of the quarter before a report is sent to your professor.

**Alternative assignment:** If you prefer to not participate in research projects (or if you are under the age of 18) you may substitute up to **two papers**, each critically evaluating a psychology research article. If you are doing the alternative written assignments, they must be submitted via canvas by the last day of instruction. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the research pool administrator at [ucscresearchpool@gmail.com](mailto:ucscresearchpool@gmail.com). Please note that plagiarized papers will result in a No Pass.

Each paper should be 1-2 pages (double spaced, 12-point, times new roman) and critically evaluate a psychology research article (addressing the questions shown below). You will need to find articles published in 2022 or 2023 in one of the following journals: (a) *Psychological Science*; (b) *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*; (c) *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*; (d) *Developmental Psychology*.

- 1) What were the basic questions or hypotheses under investigation?
- 2) How did the researchers test their hypotheses?
- 3) What did the researchers find and how were these findings interpreted?
- 4) Are you convinced? Why or why not? Explain.



## **Academic Integrity**

All members of the UCSC community benefit from an environment of trust, honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility. You are expected to present your own work and acknowledge the work of others in order to preserve the integrity of scholarship.

Academic integrity includes:

- Following exam rules and using only permitted materials during an exam
- Keeping what you know about an exam to yourself
- Incorporating proper citation of all sources of information
- Submitting your own original work

Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Accessing exam materials without permission, or disclosing exam content during or after you have taken an exam
- Copying/purchasing any material from another student, or from another source, that is submitted for grading as your own
- Plagiarism, including use of Internet material without proper citation
- Using cell phones or other electronics to obtain outside information during an exam without explicit permission from the instructor
- Submitting your own work in one class that was completed for another class (self-plagiarism) without prior permission from the instructor.

Violations of the Academic Integrity policy can result in dismissal from the university and a permanent notation on a student's transcript. For the full policy and disciplinary procedures on academic dishonesty, refer to the Academic Misconduct page at the Division of Undergraduate Education. Note that AI chatbots like Bard and ChatGPT will use text from sources without citation. If you include such text as your own writing, it will be considered plagiarism.

## **Distribution of Course Materials (Lecture Notes, Slides, Videos, Quizzes, etc.)**

The materials in this course are the intellectual property of their creators. As a student, you have access to many of the materials in the course for the purpose of learning, engaging with your peers, completing assignments, etc. You have a moral and legal obligation to respect the rights of others by only using course materials for purposes associated with the course. For instance, you are not permitted to share, upload, stream, sell, republish, share the login information for, or otherwise disseminate any of the course materials, such as: video and audio files, assignment prompts, slides, notes, syllabus, simulations, datasets, discussion threads. Conversely, any materials created solely by you (e.g., your videos, essays, images, audio files, annotations, notes) are your intellectual property and you may use them as you wish.

## **Title IX / Care Advisory**

The Title IX Office is committed to fostering a campus climate in which members of our community are protected from all forms of sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, sexual violence, and gender-based harassment and discrimination. Title IX is a neutral office committed to safety, fairness, trauma-informed practices, and due process.

Title IX prohibits gender discrimination, including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. If you have experienced sexual harassment or sexual violence, you can receive confidential support and advocacy at the Campus Advocacy Resources & Education (CARE) Office by calling 831-502-2273. In addition, Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS) can provide confidential, counseling support, 831-459-2628. You can also report gender discrimination

directly to the University's Title IX Office, 831-459-2462. Reports to law enforcement can be made to UCPD, 831-459-2231 ext. 1. For emergencies call 911.

### **Principles of Community**

The University of California, Santa Cruz expressly prohibits students from engaging in conduct constituting unlawful discrimination, harassment, or bias. I am committed to providing an atmosphere for learning that respects diversity and supports inclusivity. We need to work together to build this community of learning.

I ask all members of this class to be open to and interested in the views of others, consider the possibility that your views may change over the course of the term, be aware that this course asks you to reconsider some "common sense" notions you may hold, honor the unique life experiences of your colleagues, appreciate the opportunity that we have to learn from each other, listen to each other's opinions and communicate in a respectful manner, keep confidential discussions that the community has of a personal (or professional) nature, and ground your comments in the texts we are studying.

### **Basic Needs, Counseling, and Psychological Services**

Counseling and Psychological Services. Many students at UCSC face personal challenges or have psychological needs that may interfere with their academic progress, social development, or emotional wellbeing. The university offers a variety of confidential services to help you through difficult times, including individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, consultations, online chats, and mental health screenings. These services are provided by staff who welcome all students and embrace a philosophy respectful of clients' cultural and religious backgrounds, and sensitive to differences in race, ability, gender identity and sexual orientation.

<https://caps.ucsc.edu/>

Slug Support Program. College can be a challenging time for students and during times of stress it is not always easy to find the help you need. Slug Support can give help with everything from basic needs (housing, food, or financial insecurity) to getting the technology you need during remote instruction.

To get started with SLUG Support, please contact the Dean of Students Office at 831-459-4446 or you may send us an email at [deanofstudents@ucsc.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@ucsc.edu).