

Research Methods in Psychology  
Psychology 100  
Summer 2018

Class Meetings: July 30 - August 31

Lecture: Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:00-12:30  
Location: Earth & Marine B206

Section: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30-11:00  
Location: Specified by section below

Professor: Benjamin Storm, Ph.D.

Office hours: Wed, 12:30-2:00  
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Lecture

TA: Itzel Aceves

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Location: E&M B206 (outside)  
Email: [eacevesa@ucsc.edu](mailto:eacevesa@ucsc.edu)  
Section A (Soc Sci 1, 149)

TA: Veronica Hamilton

Office hours: Thu, 11:30-12:30  
Location: SS2, 302A  
Email: [vhamilto@ucsc.edu](mailto:vhamilto@ucsc.edu)  
Section B (Soc Sci 2, 167)

TA: Chris Karzmark

Office hours: Wed, 12:40-1:40  
Location: SS2, 206  
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Section C (Soc Sci 1, 153)

TA: Nick Santer

Office hours: Wed, 2:30-3:30  
Location: SS2, 445  
Email: [nsanter@ucsc.edu](mailto:nsanter@ucsc.edu)  
Section D (Hum & Soc Sci 350)

TA: Sean Stone

Office hours: Wed, 1:00-2:00  
Location: SS2, 445  
Email: [semstone@ucsc.edu](mailto:semstone@ucsc.edu)  
Section E (Soc Sci 2, 141)

\*Please visit us!!! The professor and TAs will be more than happy to meet with you to answer any questions you might have about the course or about psychology research in general. Feel free to drop by during office hours or if that doesn't work just send us an email to set up an appointment.

LSS Small Group Tutor: Tyler Bartholome ([twbartho@ucsc.edu](mailto:twbartho@ucsc.edu)). Learning Support Services (LSS) aims to promote educational equity for all UC Santa Cruz undergraduate students by fostering interactive, peer-based academic communities through Small Group Tutoring, Modified Supplemental Instruction, and Drop-In Services. This year, LSS will provide small group tutoring sessions. For more information, please see: <https://lss.ucsc.edu/programs/small-group-tutoring/index.html>

The Required Textbook: Goodwin and Goodwin, *Research in Psychology: Methods and Design*, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, Wiley. The book is available at the Bay Tree Bookstore and can also be rented or purchased online (often for a cheaper price). You are also encouraged to purchase or borrow the APA Publication Manual, though many of the resources available in the manual are also available online. A copy of the textbook will be held on reserve at

the McHenry library. Additional readings, class materials, and homework assignments will be made available on canvas.

### Course Description:

The course provides an introduction to research methods used to investigate human psychology. It emphasizes critical thinking, designing and conducting research, analyzing and interpreting data, and writing a professional research report. (Formerly course 3)

Prerequisites: Entry Level Writing and Composition requirements; Applied Mathematics and Statistics 2 or 3 or 6; Mathematics 3 or higher level Mathematics course; and course 2 or Applied Mathematics and Statistics 5 or 7/7L.

### 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. Assuming we have five sections, the maximum enrollment for the class will be 120 students (24 students per section). Unfortunately, no exceptions to this capacity can be made. Note that sections will begin Tuesday, July 31.

### Basic Course Information:

Psych 100 is designed to give you initial exposure to research methods in psychology. The course has three main goals. First, it will give you a basic understanding of some of the most important methodological approaches and considerations in the study of psychological science. Second, you will be given the opportunity to experience first-hand what it is like to conduct psychological research. Specifically, you will learn to formulate a testable hypothesis, design a study to test that hypothesis, analyze and interpret the results of your study, and communicate the results of your study in a manner that is appropriate for the discipline. 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 covering the methods most frequently used to address psychological questions. Thus, if you become a research psychologist yourself, you should find this course to be a valuable and informative introduction into how scientific research is conducted in psychology. That said you should find what you learn about research in this course to be transferable to the practice of good research in any domain. Moreover, regardless of whether one's future career path involves direct participation in research activities, everyone needs to be able to evaluate the results of research, and this course will help you to be a more informed and critical evaluator of research.

The course is highly work-intensive. Because it is a 7-credit course the workload is going to be greater than a typical course, something which is only going to be exacerbated by the rapid pace of summer session. In fact, according to university guidelines, combining across in-class and out-of-class activities, you should expect to devote up to 42 hours per week to the class (6 hours per credit). We are telling you this because we want you to take the class seriously from the start. If you fall behind early you will find it difficult to catch up, and you could end up failing the course. Attend all of the lectures and sections, keep up with the readings, and turn in all 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 motivation as well.

### Evaluation

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

**IMPORTANT.** To pass the class you must earn a satisfactory overall score (70% or better) on both the Test portion of the class and the Writing/Section portion of the class. Specifically, you must earn a 70% or better averaging across the final exam and quizzes, and you must earn a 70% or better averaging across the writing and section activities. If you do not pass one of the components you will not pass the class regardless of how well you do on the other component.

### Tests (50%)

Quizzes (25%). There will be three quizzes: August 6<sup>th</sup>, August 13<sup>th</sup>, and August 20<sup>th</sup>. Each quiz will take place from 9:05-9:45 in the morning, consist of 25 multiple-choice questions, and cover all material from the course including lectures, readings, and discussion sections. The first quiz will focus on material covered week 1; the second quiz will focus on material covered week 2; and the third quiz will focus on material covered week 3. The quizzes will begin promptly at 9:05 and class will resume at 10:00.

Only two of the three quizzes will count towards your final grade. In other words, your lowest score will be dropped. Because of this policy there will be no early, late, or makeup quizzes allowed, regardless of the reason for missing a quiz. Students who miss a quiz (even for a very good reason) will need to drop the quiz they miss and have the other two quizzes count towards their final grade. I'm sorry, but there will be no exceptions to this rule. If you know you will miss more than one of the three quizzes you should not take the class.

Do not be tempted to skip the first quiz or fail to prepare for it. You do not want to put yourself in a situation where you must do extraordinarily well on the last two quizzes to do well in the class. Instead, think of the third quiz as an important back-up opportunity to help you raise your grade after taking the first two quizzes. That said you should also take the third quiz seriously even if you do very well on the first two quizzes. Preparing for and taking a test can help you do better on a future test of the same material, such as a final exam.

Students will be allowed to bring one 8x11 sheet of paper to each quiz. You can write/type anything you want on both sides of the paper as long as it is your own writing/typing. Also be sure to bring a green scantron (#882-E) and at least two sharpened pencils.

Final Exam (25%). The final exam will be cumulative and cover all material from the course. It will consist of 75 multiple-choice questions and be administered on the final day of lecture, August 29<sup>th</sup>. Students will once again be allowed to bring a single 8x11 sheet of paper to the final exam. Also be sure to bring a green scantron (#882-E) and at least two sharpened pencils.

### Research/Section Activities (50%)

The second portion of your final grade will be determined by your performance on the following components: attendance/participation, homework/assignments, a preliminary paper, and a final research report.

Activities/Homework (15%). Activities and homework will be assigned throughout the session to help you become more familiar with the methods and concepts covered in the course. Grading will be credit/half-credit/no-credit. Late assignments will not be accepted for credit. Take the homework assignments seriously. Do not copy your classmate's answers. You might get the points but you will be robbing yourself of the opportunity to learn.

Preliminary Paper (10%). Students will work with their group to select a topic, review relevant literature, and develop a specific research question or hypothesis. Each student will prepare their own individual APA-style preliminary paper, consisting of an introduction, a method section, and a reference section. An extensive writing guide will be made available on canvas. The preliminary paper is due by 9am on Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. Late papers will be accepted, but points will be deducted (10% if the paper is even a minute late; 30% if the paper is more than 24 hours late; 50% if the paper is more than 48 hours late).

Final Research Report (25%). Each student will write an APA-style research report as if prepared for possible publication in a professional psychology journal. The paper will include a title page, an abstract, an introduction, a method section, a results section, a general discussion, a table/figure, and a reference section. Portions of the final paper will include revised sections from the preliminary proposal (i.e., the introduction and method section), but significant revisions will be necessary. An extensive writing guide will be made available on canvas. You must turn in your paper by 9am on Friday, August 31<sup>st</sup>. Late papers will be accepted, but points will be deducted (10% if the paper is even a minute late; 30% if the paper is more than 24 hours late; 50% if the paper is more than 48 hours late). Students who do not turn in a final paper by 9am on Monday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> will fail the class.

Please turn in both papers using the canvas submission system. If the system isn't working then you should turn in your paper via email to your TA.

Attendance/Participation. You are expected to be an active participant during section discussions and activities. The most important thing for you to do is attend your section. Missing one section is the equivalent of missing a week worth of sections during the regular year, and with the way the course is structured it will be extremely difficult for you to catch up. Thus, you are expected to show up on time for every section of the session. If you miss a section meeting (or if you arrive late or leave early), up to two points will be deducted from the Research/Section Activities portion of your final grade. Note however that missing a section is likely to make things difficult for you in many ways beyond losing the points. Your TA will also have the ability to deduct points if you engage in any type of disrespectful behavior during section, either towards the TA or towards other students in the class. Please treat each other with respect and help us create a safe and productive learning environment.

If you are absent or miss an assignment due to a medical, psychological, or legal reason, you may request an approved absence or extension. To do this, you must see your TA (or Professor Storm) in person in their office. You may email us to request an appointment, but please do not send an explanation of your excuse by email. Although absences or late work may be approved, students will not be excused for more than a total of two missed sections. If a medical or personal emergency leads to missing more than two sections, the student may need to arrange for a withdrawal from the course through their College Advising Office.

Attendance will also be taken in lecture on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Points will be deducted if you are absent, late, or leave early, on that day as well.

Dates	Topic (Reading)	Assignments Due
July 30	Intro to Psychological Science (Ch. 1, 3)	
July 31	Intro to Section	
August 1	Sampling, Measurement, and Data Analysis (Ch. 4)	
August 2	Discuss Response Papers, Create Research Groups	Response Paper #1
August 6	<b>Quiz #1</b> (9am) Intro to Experiments (Ch. 5, 6)	
August 7	Hypothesis Testing/Critical Evaluation #1 Group Brainstorming	Journal Article Assignment

August 8	Experimental Designs (Ch. 7, 8)	
August 9	Hypothesis Testing/Critical Evaluation #2 Writing Introduction/Method Sections	HT/CE #1 Annotated Bibliography
August 13	<b>Quiz #2</b> (9am) Correlational Research and Surveys (Ch. 9)	
August 14	Work in Groups to Design Studies	HT/CE #2 APA Style
August 15	Observational Research and Quasi-Experimental Designs (Ch. 10, 11)	<b>*Prelim Paper:</b> Due Saturday, Aug 18 <sup>th</sup> at 9:00am
August 16	Work in Groups to Design Studies	Group Proposal (one per group)
August 20	<b>Quiz #3</b> (9am) Ethics in Psychological Research (Ch. 2)	
August 21	Feedback on Preliminary Papers Prepare for Data Collection	Response Paper #2
August 22	Data Collection Day!	
August 23	Coding and Analyzing Data Writing Results/Discussion Sections	
August 27	Publishing/Professional/Career Review Session for Final Exam	
August 28	Coding and Analyzing Data Writing Results/Discussion Sections	
August 29	<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>*Final Report:</b> Due Friday, Aug 31 <sup>st</sup> at 9:00am
August 30	No Section Meeting (TAs will be available to meet with you by appointment)	

## Research Participation (Extra Credit)

Students can earn up to two extra credit points by completing research hours (or alternative assignments) by 5pm on Friday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

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

- 1) Go to the E-Link 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.

**IMPORTANT:** You can earn extra-credit points by either participating in studies (surveys or experiments) 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 E-link. 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 5pm on the Friday of the last week of instruction. Do not wait until the last week to sign up.

**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 studies (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 emailed directly to your instructor 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).

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 2017 or 2018 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.

### Additional Information:

DRC 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 submit your Accommodation Authorization Letter from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to me privately during my office hours or by appointment, preferably within the first week of the session. At that time, I would also like us to discuss ways we can ensure your full participation in the course. I encourage all students who may 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).

Academic Integrity: Academic integrity is the cornerstone of a university education. Academic dishonesty diminishes the university as an institution and all members of the university community. It tarnishes the value of a UCSC degree. All members of the UCSC community have an explicit responsibility to foster an environment of trust, honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility. All members of the university community are expected to present as their original work only that which is truly their own. All members of the community are expected to report observed instances of cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty in order to ensure that the integrity of scholarship is valued and preserved at UCSC. In the event a student is found in violation of the UCSC Academic Integrity policy, they may face both academic sanctions imposed by the instructor of record and disciplinary sanctions imposed either by the provost of their college or the Academic Tribunal convened to hear the case. 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, students and instructors should refer to the Academic Integrity page at the Division of Undergraduate Education.

Title IX: 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. Faculty and Teaching Assistants are required under the UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment to inform the Title IX Office should they become aware that you or any other student has experienced sexual violence or sexual harassment.

Distribution of Lecture Notes: Please note that students may be disciplined for selling, preparing, or distributing course lecture notes for any commercial purpose, whether or not they were the person taking the notes. The unauthorized sale of lecture notes (and handouts, readers or other course materials) is a violation of campus policies, state law, and may also constitute copyright infringement subject to legal action.