

Research Methods in Psychology
Psychology 100
Summer 2020

Class Meetings: July 27 - August 28

Lecture: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 9:00-11:30
Psych 100 Zoom Lecture Room
Meeting ID: 983-2055-3971 (Password: 100100)
All lectures will be recorded and posted on Canvas

Professor: Benjamin Storm, Ph.D.

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Teaching Assistant: Audrey Morrow (Section D)

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Office Hours: Mon 11:30-12:30; Wed 11:30-12:30
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*Please visit us!!! The professor and TAs are more than 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. Without synchronous sections, you are encouraged to meet with your TA during their office hours to discuss assignments, get feedback on papers, etc.

LSS Small Group Tutoring. 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>

Psych 100 MSI Learning Assistant: Amy Bezek (abezek@ucsc.edu)

Required Textbook: Goodwin and Goodwin, *Research in Psychology: Methods and Design: 8th Edition*, Wiley. The book is available at the Bay Tree Bookstore and can also be rented or purchased online (often for a lower price). If you have an earlier edition, it will likely be okay, but note that the chapters move around a bit. 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 will be available on canvas. If you need any of these materials in a different format, please let me know, and I will send them to you.

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 6, or Math 3 or higher level Mathematics course; 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. Although we will not have synchronous section meetings, you will be expected to work with your primary TA throughout the session. This will include reviewing the course material, getting help and feedback on your homework assignments, and preparing and revising your research papers. 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.

Course Information:

Psych 100 is designed to give you initial exposure to research methods in psychology. We will use a lecture format, but I encourage active questioning and discussion to the extent possible in a large class using Zoom.

Lectures will take place on zoom during the regularly scheduled time blocks of Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 9-11:30 am. They will be recorded and made available on canvas via YuJa. You are welcome to attend the live lectures and or watch the videos later. Students will not be penalized, or lose the opportunity for points, by not attending the live lectures. In this way, I hope to

offer the advantages of a synchronous format, while also allowing anyone to take the class asynchronously.

The examinations will need to be completed on the dates specified, but you will be able to complete them at any time during the day as long as they are completed and submitted by 11:59 pm. There will no lecture on exam dates, and you are encouraged to take them during the regularly scheduled time blocks.

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, you will be given the opportunity to experience first-hand 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 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-unit 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 unit). 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, keep up with the readings, and turn in all assignments on time. Note that the preliminary and final papers will be some of the most challenging writing assignments you have ever written, and you will be expected to put them together in a matter of a week or two. Your TA will be there to help you along the way, but you will need to get started early. 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

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 Examination portion of the class and the Research portion of the class. Specifically, you must earn a 70% or better overall across the

examinations, and you must earn a 70% or better overall across the research 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. In other words, the highest grade you will be able to receive is a C-.

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

Examinations (50%)

Midterms (30%). There will be two midterms: August 7, and August 21. Each midterm will consist of 45 multiple-choice questions and cover all material from the course, including lectures, readings, and homework assignments. The first midterm will focus on material covered July 27 - Aug 5; the second midterm will focus on material covered Aug 10 - Aug 19.

You will be able to take each midterm at any point during the day (it will be available from 12:01 am through 11:59 pm), and you will be allowed to use all of the course materials, but you must take the midterm alone and without help from others. You will be allowed up to two attempts to take each midterm, with only your highest score counting towards your final grade.

Final Exam (20%). The final exam will be cumulative and cover all material from the course. It will consist of 60 multiple-choice questions and be administered on the final day of the class, August 28. As with the midterms, you will be allowed to take the exam at any point during the day (it will be available from 12:01 am until 11:59 pm). You will be allowed to use all of the course materials, but you must take the exam alone and without help from others. You will be allowed up to two attempts to take the exam, with only your highest score counting towards your final grade.

Make-up exams will be given only when absolutely necessary, and no early exams will be possible. If you know you will miss an exam, or if you do miss it, email Professor Storm as soon as possible to let him know.

Research/Assignments (50%)

The other portion of your grade will be determined by your performance on the following components: homework/assignments, a preliminary paper, and a final paper. Extensions may be possible under rare circumstances (e.g., medical, psychological, or legal). To request an extension, please email your TA directly. Keep in mind that the deadlines are there for your benefit and to keep you on track to finish the session and do well in the class.

Homework Assignments (12.5%). Activities and homework will be assigned throughout the session to help you become more familiar with the methods and concepts covered in the course. Late assignments will be accepted for half credit

up until 24 hours following the due date. After that, no credit will be possible. Take the homework assignments seriously. Do not copy your classmates. Even if you get the points, you will be robbing yourself of the opportunity to learn.

Preliminary Paper (12.5%). 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 predicted results section, a discussion section, a reference section, and a table/figure. An extensive writing guide is available on canvas. The preliminary paper is due by 11:59 pm on Wednesday, August 12. Late papers will be accepted, but points will be deducted (10% if even a minute late; 20% if more than 24 hours late; 30% if more than 48 hours late; 100% if more than 96 hours late).

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 proposal. You must turn in your paper by 11:59 pm on Wednesday, August 26. Late papers will be accepted, but points will be deducted (10% if even a minute late; 20% if more than 24 hours late; 30% if more than 48 hours late; 100% if more than 96 hours late).

Dates	Topic (Textbook Reading)	Assignments Due
July 27	Introduction to the Class; Psych Science (1-29; 60-92)	
July 29	Measurement (93-109)	APA Style (you do not need to turn in)
July 31	Statistics and Hypothesis Testing (110-128)	Journal Article
Aug 3	Experimental Research: Part 1 (129-188)	Annotated Bibliography
Aug 5	Experimental Research: Part 2 (189-218)	HT/CE #1
Aug 7	Midterm #1	
Aug 10	Writing Workshop	
Aug 12	Factorial Designs (219-254)	Preliminary Paper
Aug 14	Correlational Research (272-290)	HT/CE #2
Aug 17	Quasi-Experimental Designs (313-342)	Response Paper
Aug 19	Survey/Observational Research (255-271, 291-312)	
Aug 21	Midterm #2	
Aug 24	Publishing; Research Ethics (30-59)	
Aug 26	Grad School; Final Exam Q&A	Final Paper
Aug 28	Final Exam	

*All assignments must be turned in by 11:59 pm on the day they are due

Research Participation. The Psychology Department provides an opportunity for students in this course to gain up to **two extra credit points** by participating in psychology research projects (surveys or experiments) for **two hours**, or by completing an alternative assignment (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 5pm on the Friday of the last week of instruction (**Friday, August 28**).

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). 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. 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 2019 or 2020 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.

Important Summer Session Remote 2020 Deadlines:

Session 2:

Drop: Monday, August 3

Request for “W”: Friday, August 14

Summer is unique. **You will not be dropped for non-attendance or non-payment.** You must drop yourself. Dropping before the deadline results in a full-tuition reversal/refund. Withdraw posts a W for the grade and full tuition is charged (no refund).

For all dates and deadlines, including ‘change of grade option’ (P/NP) and grades due, here is the summer academic calendar: <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.

DRC Remote Accommodations:

The Disability Resources Center reduces barriers to inclusion and full participation for students with disabilities by providing support to individually determine reasonable academic accommodations. Operations continue via remote appointments. If you have questions or concerns about exam accommodations or any other disability-related matter, email the DRC Schedulers at drc@ucsc.edu for an appointment.

Academic Dishonesty

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.

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

Students may be disciplined for selling, preparing, or distributing course lecture materials for any commercial purpose, whether or not they were the person taking the notes. The unauthorized sale of lecture notes and handouts, readers, quiz questions, or other course materials, is a violation of campus policies, state law, and may also constitute copyright infringement subject to legal action.

Title IX:

The university cherishes the free and open exchange of ideas and enlargement of knowledge. To maintain this freedom and openness requires objectivity, mutual trust, and confidence; it requires the absence of coercion, intimidation, or exploitation. The principal responsibility for maintaining these conditions must rest upon those members of the university community who exercise most authority and leadership: faculty, managers, and supervisors.

The university has therefore instituted a number of measures designed to protect its community from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other related prohibited conduct. [Information about the Title IX Office](#), the [online reporting link](#), applicable campus resources, reporting responsibilities, the [UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment](#), and the UC Santa Cruz Procedures for Reporting and Responding to Reports of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment can be found at titleix.ucsc.edu.

The Title IX Office is actively responding to reports and requests for consultation. If you are not currently working with someone in the office and want to make a report/request a consult, you can expect the fastest response by using our [online reporting link](#).

For more information please visit the [Title IX Operations under Covid-19](#) page.

Basic Needs, Counseling, and Psychological Services

Any student experiencing difficulty affording or accessing nutritious food, or who does not have a safe, stable place to live, is urged to contact Slug Support at 831-459-4446 or deanofstudents@ucsc.edu. A comprehensive listing of food and housing resources on campus and in Santa Cruz is available at basicneeds.ucsc.edu.

If you are feeling highly stressed, anxious, or depressed, please avail yourself to help from Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at the Student Health Center (831-459-2628). The CAPS web page also provides information about seeing a therapist and lists various crisis numbers: <http://caps.ucsc.edu>.