

Research Methods in Psychology
Psychology 100
Summer 2024

Class Meetings: July 29 – August 30

Lecture: Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:00-12:30; J Baskin Engr 152

Section A: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00-10:30; Cowell Acad 216

Section D: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00-12:30; Cowell Acad 216

Section E: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00-12:30; Crown Clrm 202

Professor: Benjamin Storm

Zoom Office Hours: Tuesdays, 12-1, or by appointment

Zoom Link: <https://ucsc.zoom.us/j/92972039424?pwd=pgEFwUSbUvTErzhrg0OOLcyGILRKmn.1>

In Person Office Hours: By appointment (just let me know and we'll set it up)

Email: storm@ucsc.edu

Lecture TA: Vera Umansky (they/them)

Zoom Office Hours: Tuesdays, 9-10, 11-12, or by appointment

Zoom Link: <https://ucsc.zoom.us/j/5076894971?pwd=6pUirjuEUEHH3LXCfqKZUayzCzZW7J.1>

In Person Office Hours: By appointment

Email: vumansky@ucsc.edu

Section A: Melissa Chen

Zoom Office Hours: Fridays, 9-10, or by appointment

Zoom Link: <https://ucsc.zoom.us/j/7721354327?pwd=ekJtZ0JkTE10Rkp5SkpsaWc0NG9IUT09>

In Person Office Hours: By appointment

Email: mchen249@ucsc.edu

Section D: Audrey Morrow

Zoom Office Hours: Tuesdays, 1-2, or by appointment

Zoom Link: <https://ucsc.zoom.us/j/5064694137?pwd=Qmo4T3M0MXQyVEJWRkp0Qm1qbTdoZz09>

In Person Office Hours: By appointment

Email: aumorrow@ucsc.edu

Section E: Jexy An Nepangue, MS

Zoom Office Hours: Thursdays, 1:30-2:30, or by appointment

Zoom Link: <https://ucsc.zoom.us/j/99491803017?pwd=CEdHPcq6gI8BO0kDHCdLVzQ2wOYHcZ.1>

In Person Office Hours: By appointment (just email me and we'll set it up)

Email: jnepangu@ucsc.edu

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. We are happy to meet in person or via zoom. Just let us know and we'll set it up!

Official 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 60 students (20 students per section). Sections will begin Week 1 (starting July 30). All prerequisites will be enforced.

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

Course Information

PSYC 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, but you will not get the same learning experience watching online as you will by being in class in person. You are expected to attend all sections in person. 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.

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

If you have questions about lecture attendance or the material covered in lecture, please contact the Professor or lecture TA. If you have questions about section assignments or section attendance, please contact your section TA.

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 basic methodological approaches and considerations in the scientific study of psychology. Second, the course will give you the opportunity to experience first-hand what it is like to conduct psychology 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 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 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 discipline. 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, so please plan accordingly. Combining 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, it will be 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.

Examinations

Midterm (20%). The midterm will be held on Monday, August 12th. It will be administered remotely on canvas and consist of 60 multiple-choice questions covering all material from the course, including lectures, readings, and discussion sections. There will be no lecture on the day of the midterm. Instead, we encourage you to spend the time you would have spent in lecture preparing for the midterm and taking the midterm. You will be allowed to use all course materials on the midterm, but you must take it alone and without help from others.

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 class time. The exam is designed to be finished in less than two hours, but

you will have an unlimited amount of time to complete it. Just make sure to turn it in before midnight.

By default, a missed midterm will be marked as a zero. 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.

Final Exam (30%). The final exam will be administered in person on August 28. The exam will consist of 90 multiple-choice questions and students will have a total of 180 minutes to complete it (9 am - 12 pm). It will be cumulative and cover all material from the course. Unlike the midterm, the final exam is not open book/notes, but you will be allowed to bring one 8x11 sheet of paper with your own notes (front and back) to the final exam.

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 writing assignments are shown in bold.

Wednesday, July 31 – Journal Article
Monday, Aug 5 – Study Idea and Annotated Bibliography
Wednesday, Aug 7 – Response Paper
Monday, Aug 12 – Experiments & Hypothesis Testing (E-HT) #1
Wednesday, Aug 14 – **Draft Introduction**
Monday, Aug 19 – Experiments & Hypothesis Testing (E-HT) #2
Wednesday, Aug 21 – **Draft Method Section**
Thursday, Aug 29 – **Final Paper**

Assignments/Section Attendance (15%). Activities and homework will be assigned throughout the course to help you prepare to write your papers and expand upon the methods and concepts covered in the text and lectures. 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 assignments seriously. They are designed to help you prepare for the exams and develop your ideas for the papers. All assignments must be completed individually (not with others in your group).

Students are expected to attend every section. Up to 2% will be deducted for every unexcused absence. A maximum of two section absences can be excused by your TA. Email your TA directly to request an excused absence. Note that you will still be responsible for all material and activities covered in the section that you miss.

Research Papers (35%). One of the main goals of the class is for you to develop a research idea, conduct a research study, and write an APA style research report (as might be prepared for publication in an academic journal). Students will select a topic, review relevant literature, develop a research question or hypothesis, design a study to investigate that question or

hypothesis, collect data with other students as participants, and write an APA-style research report. Although research projects will likely be conducted in groups, all writing assignments must be completed individually.

The major writing assignments include a **Draft Introduction (6%)**, a **Draft Method (9%)**, and a **Final Paper (20%)**.

The final paper will include a title page, an abstract, an introduction, a method section, a results section, a discussion section, references, and at least one table or figure. The Final Paper should include significant revisions of the drafts of the introduction and method, with substantial changes based on what you learned in class and in response to the feedback from your TA. Students will receive substantial feedback on the draft papers to help them prepare their final paper.

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. Late papers will be accepted, but 10% will be deducted for each day they are late (papers more than three days late will not receive any credit). Students will not be able to pass the course unless they turn in both draft papers and a complete version of the final paper.

Important Summer Session 2024 Deadlines:

Add: Thursday, August 1

Drop: Monday, August 5

Request "W" Grade: Sunday, August 18

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.

DRC Accommodations

UCSC 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. 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 during my office hours or by appointment, as soon as possible. I would like us to discuss how we can implement your accommodations in this course to ensure your access and full engagement in this course.

| Week 1 | | |
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| Week 1 | Topic (Reading) | Assignment Due |
| July 29 | Introduction to the Course and Psychological Science (Chapters 1, 2) | APA Style (you do not need to turn this in) |
| July 30 | Introduction to Section; Create Groups; Finding Journal Articles; Brainstorming Research Ideas | |
| July 31 | Validity, Measurements, Observations, and Surveys (Chapters 3, 5, 6) | Journal Article (July 31 at 11:59 pm) |
| Aug 1 | Discuss Journal Articles; Develop Research Ideas; Annotated Bibliography; Work in Groups | |
| Week 2 | | |
| Week 2 | Topic (Reading) | Assignment Due |
| Aug 5 | Sampling and Correlations (Chapters 7, 8) | Annotated Bibliography (Aug 5 at 11:59 pm) |
| Aug 6 | Writing an Introduction; Work in Groups | |
| Aug 7 | Experiments (Chapters 10, 11) | Response Paper (Aug 7 at 11:59 pm) |
| Aug 8 | Discuss Response Papers; Work in Groups | |
| Week 3 | | |
| Week 3 | Topic (Reading) | Assignment Due |
| Aug 12 | Midterm | E-HT #1 (Aug 12 at 11:59 pm) |
| Aug 13 | TA approval of studies; Work in Groups | |
| Aug 14 | Factorial Designs and Quasi-Experiments (Chapters 12, 13) | Draft Introduction (Aug 14 at 11:59 pm) |

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| Aug 15 | Writing a Method Section; Finalize Plans for Data Collection | |
| Week 4 | Topic (Reading) | Assignment Due |
| Aug 19 | Data Collection | E-HT #2 (Aug 19 at 11:59 pm) |
| Aug 20 | Feedback on Draft Introduction; Data Coding and Analysis | |
| Aug 21 | Statistics, Ethics, and Publishing (pp. 467-522; Chapters 4, 14) | Draft Method Section (Aug 21 at 11:59 pm) |
| Aug 22 | Data Coding and Analysis; Writing a Results Section | |
| Week 5 | Topic (Reading) | Assignment Due |
| Aug 26 | Guest Lecture; Grad School Information Session; Final Exam Q/A | |
| Aug 27 | Feedback on Method Sections; Writing a Discussion Section | |
| Aug 28 | Final Exam | |
| Aug 29 | No Formal Section: Final Paper Q&A | Final Paper (Aug 29 at 11:59 pm) |

Psychology Department Undergraduate Advising

Declared Cognitive Science and Psychology majors are added to the psychugrads@ucsc.edu alias and will receive emails from Psychology Advising (psyadv@ucsc.edu). You should read these emails carefully, as they contain important information about enrollment, undergraduate opportunities, and other topics. In addition, you can find answers to common questions, an enrollment help page, and information on advising availability at <https://psychology.ucsc.edu/undergraduate/advising/index.html>. We also post many announcements from other campus departments and organizations on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/UCSCPpsychologyDepartment>.

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.