

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: PSYCH 1B      Title: INTRO/RESEARCH METHODS  
Full Title: Introduction to Psychological Research Methods  
Last Reviewed: 11/27/2023

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable  
Grading: Grade Only  
Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP  
Also Listed As:  
Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**  
In this course, students will survey various psychological research methods with an emphasis on research design, experimental procedures, descriptive methods, instrumentation, and the collection, analysis, interpretation, and reporting of research data. Students will also examine research design and methodology through an anti-discriminatory and anti-racist lens, including: a review of research in a variety of the subdisciplines of psychology; applications in classroom experiments, surveys, and systematic and naturalistic observations; and explore the lived experiences of California Community College students.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**  
Course Completion of PSYCH 1A; AND Course Completion of MATH 15 OR PSYCH 9

**Recommended Preparation:**  
Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

**Limits on Enrollment:**

**Schedule of Classes Information:**  
Description: In this course, students will survey various psychological research methods with an emphasis on research design, experimental procedures, descriptive methods, instrumentation,

and the collection, analysis, interpretation, and reporting of research data. Students will also examine research design and methodology through an anti-discriminatory and anti-racist lens, including: a review of research in a variety of the subdisciplines of psychology; applications in classroom experiments, surveys, and systematic and naturalistic observations; and explore the lived experiences of California Community College students. (Grade Only)

Prerequisites/Corequisites: Course Completion of PSYCH 1A; AND Course Completion of MATH 15 OR PSYCH 9

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:

<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
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<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:
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<b>UC Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:
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### **CID:**

CID Descriptor: PSY 200	Introduction to Research Methods in Psychology
SRJC Equivalent Course(s):	PSYCH1B

### **Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Major Applicable Course

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Critically read psychological research and identify basic methodologies such as experiment, observation, and survey.
2. Develop clear research question(s) and hypothesis(es) and design.
3. Implement appropriate research methods following ethical standards to promote equity, justice, and inclusion.
4. Write a research paper using American Psychological Association (APA) format.

### **Objectives:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Explain the basic principles of the scientific method and how it can be used to promote equity and justice.
2. Critically evaluate research reports with an emphasis on identifying bias and promoting social justice.
3. Write a literature review by synthesizing a body of research findings that includes diverse perspectives and populations.
4. Develop and test hypotheses that address questions with an emphasis on diversity and inclusion.

5. Demonstrate knowledge of general research designs, experimental and non-experimental methods, and standard research practices while considering diversity and inclusion in the design of studies.
6. Select appropriate research designs that consider equity and social justice to test hypotheses.
7. Explain the ethical treatment of human and animal participants in research and the institutional requirements for conducting research, including the importance of equity and inclusion and the history of bias within psychological research.
8. Assess the generalizability of study results and how the historical emphasis on Western, Educated, Industrial, Rich, Democratic (WEIRD) samples limit psychological knowledge.
9. Demonstrate proficiency in APA style and writing research reports that address diversity and inclusion in a clear and sensitive manner.

## **Topics and Scope:**

### **I. Scientific Method**

- A. Understand steps involved in conducting empirical research
  1. Writing research questions
  2. Developing hypotheses based on existing research
  3. Design studies to test hypotheses
  4. Data collection and analysis

### **II. Evaluation of Research Reports**

- A. Case studies
- B. Meta-analyses
- C. Experimental studies
- D. Correlational studies
- E. Descriptive studies

### **III. Body of Research**

- A. Literature Review
- B. Identifying relevant articles
- C. Understand method(s) utilized
- D. Identifying biases and issues of social justice

### **IV. Develop and Test Hypotheses**

- A. Background research as basis for hypotheses development
- B. Appropriate use of Null (and Alternative), Directional, Non-Directional hypotheses
- C. Data collection and analysis

### **V. General Research Designs**

- A. Quantitative
  1. Descriptive
  2. Correlational
  3. Quasi-experimental
  4. Experimental
  5. Longitudinal
  6. Mixed designs
- B. Qualitative
  1. Case studies
  2. Archival
  3. Observational
  4. Ethnography
  5. Phenomenology
  6. Focus groups
  7. Grounded Theory
  8. Interviews

- C. Mixed methods
- D. Indigenous
- E. Other ways of knowing
- VI. Selecting Appropriate Research Designs
  - A. Matching research question to research design
  - B. Multiple research designs for a single research question
- VII. Ethics
  - A. Historical studies highlighting ethical boundaries
  - B. Issues of social justice and protected groups
  - C. Institutional Review Board (IRB)
  - D. Risk/Benefit analysis
- VIII. Generalizability of Results
  - A. Sample vs population
  - B. Types of samples
    - 1. Nonprobability sampling
      - a. convenience
      - b. snowball
    - 2. Probability sampling
      - a. random
      - b. stratified random
      - c. proportionate
      - d. cluster
  - C. Western, Educated, Industrial, Rich, Democratic (WEIRD) sample limitations
- IX. APA Style
  - A. Journal article structure
  - B. APA manuscript format
    - 1. literature review
    - 2. empirical report
  - C. In-text citations
  - D. Reference lists

### **Assignment:**

1. Read (25-35 pages per week) and recapitulate assigned material.
2. Homework and in-class assignments
3. Writing assignment(s) (1-3) including a research paper for a minimum of 1250 words each
4. Exam(s) (1-3) and final examination (1)
5. Oral presentations and/or group projects

### **Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:**

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Writing assignment(s)
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Writing 25 - 35%
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**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Homework and in-class assignments	Problem solving 10 - 20%
<b>Skill Demonstrations:</b> All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.	
None	Skill Demonstrations 0 - 0%
<b>Exams:</b> All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.	
Exam(s) and final examination	Exams 25 - 35%
<b>Other:</b> Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.	
Oral presentation and/or group projects	Other Category 10 - 20%

### **Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

Methods in Behavioral Research. 15th ed. Cozby, P. and Bates, S. McGraw-Hill. 2024.  
 Research Methods: A Process of Inquiry. 9th ed. Graziano, A. M. and Raulin, M. L. Pearson. 2020.  
 Research Methods in Psychology: Evaluating a World of Information. 4th ed. Morling, B. Norton. 2021.  
 American Psychological Association. Current edition. Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. Current year.

### **Open Educational Resources (OER):**

Research Methods in Psychology. 4th ed. Jhangiani, R. S. and Chiang, I-C.A. and Cuttler, C. and Leighton, D.C. <https://kpu.pressbooks.pub/psychmethods4e/> Creative Commons Attribution NonCommercial ShareAlike.