

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:**  
This course surveys 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. Research design and methodology will be examined through a review of research in a variety of the subdisciplines of psychology and applications in classroom experiments, surveys, and systematic and naturalistic observations.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**  
Course Completion of PSYCH 1A

**Recommended Preparation:**  
Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent and Course Eligibility for MATH 15

**Limits on Enrollment:**

**Schedule of Classes Information:**  
Description: This course surveys 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. Research design and methodology will be examined through a review of research in a variety of the subdisciplines of

psychology and applications in classroom experiments, surveys, and systematic and naturalistic observations. (Grade Only)

Prerequisites/Corequisites: Course Completion of PSYCH 1A

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent and Course Eligibility for MATH 15

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: |
|---------------|----------------------|------------|-----------|

|                      |              |            |           |           |
|----------------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>CSU Transfer:</b> | Transferable | Effective: | Fall 1981 | Inactive: |
|----------------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|

|                     |              |            |           |           |
|---------------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>UC Transfer:</b> | Transferable | Effective: | Fall 1981 | Inactive: |
|---------------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|

### **CID:**

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

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

Major Applicable Course

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Outcomes and Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the characteristics of the scientific method, and distinguish between nonexperimental and experimental, qualitative and quantitative research methods.
2. Summarize sources of research ideas, devise research problems, and formulate hypotheses for these research problems.
3. Evaluate ethical dilemmas among human and animal research subjects according to the APA Code of Ethics.
4. Discriminate between independent and dependent variables when conducting research experiments.
5. Define validity and propose methods for controlling the variables to reduce threat of invalidity in a research experiment.
6. Understand the fundamentals of descriptive statistics, statistical significance tests, and correlation and effect size.
7. Explain the use of randomization, matching, and counterbalancing techniques for the purpose of achieving research constancy.
8. Compare and contrast different research approaches such as correlational research, surveys, and observational studies.
9. Differentiate among the different types of single-case designs and identify the situations in which each of the designs would be appropriate.
10. Design and implement a research project using descriptive statistics for data analysis.
11. Write a comprehensive research report using the APA format.
12. Demonstrate knowledge and skills in the following areas:

- a. naturalistic observations
- b. surveys
- c. correlational research
- d. experiments (one-way and/or two-way designs)
- e. factorial design experiments

### Topics and Scope:

1. Introduction to Psychological Research
2. Explanation in Scientific Psychology
3. Exploring Psychological Research Literature
4. Observation and Survey in Psychological Research
5. Qualitative and Quantitative Research
6. Statistical Tests
7. Correlation/Relational Research
8. Basics of Experimentation
9. Validity and Reliability in Research
10. Experimental Design Methodology
11. Complex Design Methodology
12. Small-n Experimentation Methodology
13. Quasi-Experimentation Methodology
14. Conducting Ethical Research
15. Interpreting the Results of Research
16. Presenting Research Results
17. Writing an APA Research Paper

### Assignment:

1. Read approximately 25-35 pages per week, and recapitulate assigned material in the textbook, and if applicable, supplements.
2. Take 2-3 exams and one final exam on lectures, reading, concepts, and terminology.
3. Write approximately a 1,250--word paper(s) for the purpose of learning research skills, enhancing course knowledge, and improving critical thinking and writing skills.
4. 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.

|                                |
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| Research paper(s) and essay(s) |
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|                     |
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| Writing<br>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 |
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|                             |
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| Problem solving<br>10 - 20% |
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**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple choice, true/false, fill-in, , essay, and short answers

Exams  
25 - 35%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Oral presentation, group projects

Other Category  
10 - 20%

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

Methods in Behavioral Research, 11th Ed., Cozby, Paul; Bates, Scott. McGraw-Hill: 2011

Research in Psychology: Methods and Design, 7th Ed., Goodwin, C. James; Goodwin, Kerri, A. Wiley: 2012

Research Methods: A Process of Inquiry, 8th Ed., Graziano, Anthony, M.; Raulin, Michael, L. Pearson: 2013

Research Methods for the Behavioral Sciences, 4th Ed., Gravetter, Frederick, J.; Forzano, Lori-Ann B. Wadsworth Cengage Learning: 2012