

PSYC207 Research Methods

Credits: 3 Semester: Fall Year: 2019

Meeting Days: MWF 11:15AM – 12:05PM

Location: ISE207

Contents

1. Instructor Information	3
2. Course Description.....	3
3. Learning Outcomes.....	4
Consume Research.....	4
Produce Research.....	4
4. Learning Resources	4
Required Learning Materials	4
Textbook	4
Technology	4
Canvas Use	4
Polleverywhere	4
Miscellaneous Materials	5
Articles	5
5. Learning Assessment.....	5
Full Grade Components	5
Comprehension Checks	5
In-Class Activities	5
Homework.....	6
Exams.....	6
Final Project.....	6
6. Course Calendar	7
7. Campus Resources.....	11
Counseling Services	11
Tutoring Services	11
Office of Disability Support Services.....	11
Writing Center	11
8. Course Policy Document.....	11
Late Work	11
Attendance.....	11
Academic Integrity	12
Harassment and Discrimination.....	12
Faculty Statement on Disclosures of Instances of Sexual Misconduct.....	12
Inclusion of Diverse Learning Needs.....	12
Non-Discrimination	12

1. Instructor Information

Instructor name	Megan Nadzan, M.A.
E-mail address	Mnadan@udel.edu
Social media	https://twitter.com/MNadzan?lang=en http://projectclose.com/people.html
Office location	317 Wolf Hall
Office hours	Mondays: 1:00PM – 2:00PM **If you cannot make this time, let me know and we can set up an alternate time
Seeing me for extra help	<p>I will respond to emails from students once per day, so you may not hear back from me for up to 24 hours. If you need help before an exam, be sure to e-mail me before 5PM the night before each exam. Keep in mind, some questions are best discussed in person. There is also a section on the course website where you can post anonymous questions that I will address in the next class (http://bit.ly/2KWrPrF).</p> <p>I want you to all succeed in my class. If you have any issues that may hinder your progress in this class, be sure to contact me ASAP. The sooner you tell me about an issue, the sooner we can develop an alternate plan for you.</p>
More about me	<p>I am trained as a social psychologist and my primary research interests lie in how social rejection can change the way people behave in various contexts. People's need to belong with others is as essential as the need to eat or drink. Hence, it is a powerful motive in many ways.</p> <p>When I am not doing research or teaching, I love hiking with my 2 German Shepherds. I also enjoy attending summer concerts and finding new small bands to support.</p>

2. Course Description

Understanding the flood of information regarding research around us can be a daunting task. This course provides the opportunity to develop your critical thinking skills, an essential tool for evaluating research. This course relies on real-world applications allowing you to use these skills beyond the classroom. Further, you will begin to understand how to generate studies to answer questions that you may have about human behavior. This course will prepare you for upper level psychology courses.

This will be a course that involves some lecture, but will be largely based around in class activities. The best way to learn this material is through practicing applying the concepts in a wide variety of scenarios. Along with in class activities, you will also practice this application through a final project and homework assignments.

3. Learning Outcomes

Consume Research

1. Explain the utility and function of the scientific method.
2. Distinguish between the different types of claims; Frequency, Association, Causal.
3. Identify the type of support necessary for each claim.
4. Distinguish between the 4 big validities (construct, external, internal, and statistical) and evaluate how study designs address these concerns or not.
5. Evaluate if empirical journal article is accurately supporting the claim being made. Be able to identify what to add if the claim was not accurately supported.
6. Accurately interpret the results of bar and line graphs.
7. Develop graphs by hand that accurately reflect results of a study.

Produce Research

8. Propose a study that could, in theory, be executed, considering the limitations and decisions that a typical researcher must make. Utilizing correct APA formatting.
9. Utilize constructive feedback as a process to learn.

4. Learning Resources

Required Learning Materials

Textbook

Morling, B. (2017). *Research methods in psychology: Evaluating a world of information* (3rd Ed.). New York, NY: W. W. Norton & Co.

Technology

Canvas Use

In this class, Canvas, UD's online learning management system, will be used for all course activities and communication channels. All assignments will be posted through the Canvas course site unless otherwise directed.

Information on how to use Canvas is available through the [Canvas Student Guide](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701): (<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701>)

Canvas is accessible via MyUD or directly at <http://www.udel.edu/canvas>.

Polleverywhere

I will be using a platform for quizzes/feedback during class called polleverywhere. In order to respond, you need to have a cellphone or computer for class.

Miscellaneous Materials

Articles

I will also be using articles in various in-class activities to highlight certain concepts. I am trained as a social psychologist; thus I use many articles that pertain to various topics such as prejudice, racism, social rejection, social cognition, prosocial/antisocial behaviors, and romantic relationships. Some topics are socially charged issues and I am not presenting them because I agree or disagree with the particular topic. We are merely analyzing the specific study to see how well they supported the claim they were trying to make.

5. Learning Assessment

Full Grade Components

Grades in this course will be based on comprehension checks, in-class activities, homeworks, exams, and a final project. Good performance on each assignment and exam is important to your overall success in this course. Final grades are non-negotiable and are based on your total (non-rounded) percentage points in the class. Grade changes will be made only to correct clerical errors. Your total points will be based on the following components:

Exam #1	20%	} Best 2 out of 3 grades will be used
Exam #2	20%	
Exam #3	20%	
Exam #4 Final	20%	

In-class activities	5%	} Lowest 2 grades will be dropped from each category
Comprehension Checks	5%	
Homeworks	5%	
Final Project	25%	

Comprehension Checks

The comprehension checks will help you understand where the gaps in your knowledge are about the material. These will be multiple choice quizzes that you will take in the beginning of class. We will discuss the answers directly following the quiz. Your grade on these checks are based solely on completion, not correctness. Further, they will be examples of the types of questions that could be on the exams. However, these questions are meant to get your feet wet with the material. So do not be surprised if these questions are easier than a majority of the types of questions you'll see on your in-class activities, homeworks, or exams. These cannot be made up for credit and must be done in class.

In-Class Activities

In-class activities will give you hands on experience with the material in some way. These are to deepen your understanding of the material so that you can practice integrating concepts on your own. Often I will introduce a topic to you in lecture form, then we will move onto an in-class activity. These activities encourage you to problem solve on your own to gain a deeper understanding of the concepts and to promote independent learning. I expect you to take the information that you read in the textbook and learned from the lecture and extend it in the in-class activity. Thus, these activities will be difficult because they require you to not only apply information, but to bridge the connections between the concepts on your own. These cannot be made up for credit and they will be graded based on completion in class.

Homework

The homeworks are meant to give you practice with open ended questions that could be on the exams. Further, they are to serve as an extra practice and study materials for the exam. You must have your homework present and completed in class to receive credit for it. You cannot turn in a homework past it's due date for credit.

Exams

Exams are semi-cumulative, in other words, some topics repeat throughout the whole semester. They will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. Makeup exams will only be provided in the case of university excused absence. You must provide a university written approval excusing your absence before you schedule a makeup exam.

Exam 4 - Exam 4 is a comprehensive final that will cover all topics from the course. No alternate date will be scheduled. It is your responsibility to look up the date of your final exam schedule and make sure you can attend.

Final Project

Your final project will require you to assess an empirical paper on criteria that we have discussed in class. Then you will propose a new study based off of the empirical article that you evaluated. You will turn in portions of your project throughout the semester to receive feedback. Then you will turn in the full project at the end of the semester. The specifics of this assignment will be elaborated on in class.

Grading Scale

Students will be assigned the following letter grade based on the calculation coming from the course assessment section.

Note: You need a C- or higher for the major

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Grade cutoff</u>
A	93% – 100%
A-	90% – 92.99%
B+	88% – 89.99 %
B	83% – 87.99 %
B-	80% – 82.99 %
C+	78% – 79.99 %
C	73% – 77.99 %
C-	70% – 72.99 %
D+	68% – 69.99 %
D	63% – 67.99 %
D-	60% – 62.99 %
F	Below 59.49

6. Course Calendar

**Schedule and readings are subject to change

Class Date	Theme/Topic	In-Class Activities	Reading/Assignments Due
Wed. 8/28	Introductions Ch 1 – What is scientific reasoning?	Comp. Check – CH1 Introduce the scientific method Introduce final project Assign teams	Chapter 1
Fri. 8/30	Ch 2 – Understanding sources of information	Comp. Check – CH2 Practice finding/reading research articles HW 1 Assigned – find a pop press and journal article	Chapter 2
Mon. 9/2	Labor Day – No Class		
Wed. 9/4	Ch 2 – Understanding sources of information	Distinguishing popular press from journal article APA formatting and Plagiarism	HW 1 – Due
Fri. 9/6	Ch 3 – 3 claims	Comp. Check – CH3 HW 2 Assigned	Chapter 3
Mon. 9/9	Ch 3 – 4 validities		
Wed. 9/11	Ch 3		HW 2 – Due
Fri. 9/13	Ch 5 Measurement and reliability	Comp. Check – CH5 HW 3 Assigned	Chapter 5

Mon. 9/15	Ch 5 Measurement and reliability		HW 3 - Due
Wed. 9/18	Ch 5 Measurement and reliability		
Fri. 9/20		Practice finding and evaluating research article Exam review	
Mon. 9/23		EXAM# 1 (Ch 1, 2, 3, 5)	
Wed. 9/25	CH 6 Survey Questions	Comp. Check – CH6	3 research articles are due
Fri. 9/27	CH 7 Participant selection	Comp. Check – CH7 HW 4 Assigned	Chapter 7
Mon. 9/30	CH 8 Bivariate correlational designs	Comp. Check – CH8	Chapter 8
Wed. 10/2	CH 8 Bivariate correlational designs		HW 4 — Due Chapter 8
Fri. 10/4	CH 8 Bivariate correlational designs		
Mon. 10/7	Ch9 Multivariate correlational designs	Comp. Check – CH9 HW 5 Assigned	Chapter 9
Wed. 10/9	Ch9 Multivariate correlational designs		
Fri. 10/11	No Class – Fall Break		

Mon. 10/14	Ch9 Multivariate correlational designs		HW 5 Due Final Project Part 1 Due
Wed. 10/16	Ch9 Multivariate correlational designs		
Fri. 10/18	Ch9 Multivariate correlational designs	Exam review	
Mon. 10/21		Exam# 2 (Ch 6, 7, 8, 9)	
Wed. 10/23	Ch 10 Experimental designs	Comp. Check – CH10 Homework 6 assigned	Chapter 10
Fri. 10/25	Ch 10 Experimental designs		
Mon. 10/28	Ch 10 Experimental designs	Homework 7 Assigned	Receive Final Project part 1 Feedback HW 6 Due
Wed. 10/30	Ch 11 Confounding and obscuring variables	Comp. Check – CH 11	Chapter 11
Fri. 11/1	Ch 11 Confounding and obscuring variables		
Mon. 11/4	Ch 11 Confounding and obscuring variables		Final Project Part 2 due HW 7 Due
Wed. 11/6	Ch 12 Complex experiments	Comp. Check – CH 12	Chapter 12
Fri. 11/8	Ch 12 Complex experiments	Homework 8 Assigned	
Mon. 11/11	Ch 12 Complex experiments		

Wed. 11/13	Ch 12 Complex experiments		HW 8 Due
Fri. 11/15	Ch 13 Quasi Experiments	Comp. Check – CH 13	Chapter 13
Mon. 11/18	Ch 13 Quasi Experiments		Receive Final Project part 2 Feedback
Wed. 11/20	Ch 14 Real world	Comp. Check – CH 14	Ch 14
Fri. 11/22		Exam Review	
Mon. 11/25	Thanksgiving Break – No classes		
Wed. 11/27			
Fri. 11/29			
Mon. 12/2		Exam 3 (CH 10, 11, 12, 13, 14)	
Wed. 12/4		Review for Final	
Fri. 12/6	READING DAY (LAST DAY OF CLASSES – 12/5)		Final Project Due
12/9 – 12/14	Final TBD		

**Schedule and readings are subject to change

7. Campus Resources

Counseling Services

During the semester, if you are experiencing personal difficulties that are interfering with your day to day functioning, please visit the UD counseling center. These services are covered by the Student Health Fee that all full-time matriculated students pay. Feel free to call them to set up an appointment at (302) - 831 - 2141 or visit their website: <https://sites.udel.edu/counseling/> .

Tutoring Services

If you want to seek additional help beyond the classroom and my help, please visit The Office of Academic Enrichment. They detail a variety of tutoring services on their website listed here: <http://www.ae.udel.edu/tutoring-services/>

Office of Disability Support Services

If you need academic accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS). Documentation must be provided as a rationale as to why reasonable accommodations must be made. Please visit their website for more information: <https://sites.udel.edu/dss/>

Writing Center

If you would like one-on-one help with writing services please visit the writing center. You can schedule an appointment by visiting their website: <https://www.writingcenter.udel.edu/>

8. Course Policy Document

Late Work

In-class activities, comprehension quizzes, and homeworks may not be made up for points. Extensions for assignments will not be granted for most circumstances. If you turn your project in late, there will be penalties (see the assignment). If you add the course late, you must see me ASAP. I will allow you a week to make up missed homework assignments if you added the class late.

Attendance

Absences on religious holidays listed in University calendars is recognized as an excused absence. Nevertheless, students are urged to remind the instructor of their intention to be absent on a particular upcoming holiday. Absences on religious holidays not listed in University calendars, as well as absences due to athletic participation or other extracurricular activities in which students are official representatives of the University, shall be recognized as excused absences when the student informs the instructor in writing during the first two weeks of the semester of these planned absences for the semester.

Academic Integrity

Please familiarize yourself with UD policies regarding academic dishonesty. To falsify the results of one's research, to steal the words or ideas of another, to cheat on an assignment, to re-submit the same assignment for different classes, or to allow or assist another to commit these acts corrupts the educational process. Students are expected to do their own work and neither give nor receive unauthorized assistance. Complete details of the university's academic integrity policies and procedures can be found at <http://www1.udel.edu/studentconduct/policyref.html> Office of Student Conduct, 218 Hulliher Hall, (302) 831-2117. E-mail: student-conduct@udel.edu

Harassment and Discrimination

The University of Delaware works to promote an academic and work environment that is free from all forms of discrimination, including harassment. As a member of the community, your rights, resource and responsibilities are reflected in the non-discrimination and sexual misconduct policies. Please familiarize yourself with these policies at <http://www.udel.edu/oei> . You can report any concerns to the University's Office of Equity & Inclusion, at 305 Hulliher Hall, (302) 831-8063 or you can report anonymously through UD Police (302) 831-2222 or the EthicsPoint Compliance Hotline at <http://www1.udel.edu/compliance>. You can also report any violation of UD policy on harassment, discrimination, or abuse of any person at this site: <http://sites.udel.edu/sexualmisconduct/how-to-report/>

Faculty Statement on Disclosures of Instances of Sexual Misconduct

If, at any time during this course, I happen to be made aware that a student may have been the victim of sexual misconduct (including sexual harassment, sexual violence, domestic/dating violence, or stalking), I am obligated to inform the university's Title IX Coordinator. The university needs to know information about such incidents in order to offer resources to victims and to ensure a safe campus environment for everyone. The Title IX Coordinator will decide if the incident should be examined further. If such a situation is disclosed to me in class, in a paper assignment, or in office hours, I promise to protect your privacy--I will not disclose the incident to anyone but the Title IX Coordinator. For more information on Sexual Misconduct policies, where to get help, and how to reporting information, please refer to www.udel.edu/sexualmisconduct. At UD, we provide 24-hour crisis assistance and victim advocacy and counseling. Contact 302-831-1001, UD Helpline 24/7/365, to get in touch with a sexual offense support advocate.

For information on various places you can turn for help, more information on Sexual Misconduct policies, where to get help, and reporting information please refer to <http://www.udel.edu/sexualmisconduct>

Inclusion of Diverse Learning Needs

Any student who thinks he/she may need an accommodation based on a disability should contact the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) office as soon as possible. The DSS office is located at 240 Academy Street, Alison Hall Suite 130, Phone: 302-831-4643, fax: 302-831-3261, DSS Website (<http://www.udel.edu/DSS/>). You may contact DSS at dssoffice@udel.edu

Non-Discrimination

The University of Delaware does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, genetic information, marital status, disability, religion, age, veteran status or any other characteristic protected by applicable law in its employment, educational programs and activities, admissions policies, and scholarship and loan programs as required by Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and other applicable statutes and University policies. The University of Delaware also prohibits unlawful harassment including sexual harassment and sexual violence.

For inquiries or complaints related to non-discrimination policies, please contact:
Director, Institutional Equity & Title IX Coordinator- Susan L. Groff, Ed.D. groff@udel.edu, 305 Hulliher Hall Newark, DE 19716 (302) 831-8063

For complaints related to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and/or the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact: Director, Office of Disability Support Services, Anne L. Jannarone, M.Ed., Ed.S. - ajannaro@udel.edu
Alison Hall, Suite 130, Newark, DE 19716 (302) 831-4643 OR contact the U.S. Department of Education - Office for Civil Rights (<https://wdcrobcop01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm>)