

**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**PSY 3110-001 Research Methods in Psychology**  
**Fall 2014**  
**12:00 – 1:40 pm MW, UH 5150F**

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Office Hours: MW 2:00 - 3:00 pm  
T 10 am – 12 pm  
Also, by chance &  
by appointment

Teaching Assistant: Ryan Corser  
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Required Text: Zechmeister, J.S., et al. (2001). *Essentials of research methods in psychology*. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill.

Colman, A., & Pulford, B. (2009). *A crash course in SPSS for Windows*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing.

Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). (2009). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

All three are available for purchase at the *Student Union Bookstore*. We will also be using: McClelland, G. (1999). *Seeing statistics* ([www.seeingstatistics.com](http://www.seeingstatistics.com)). Duxbury Press. This is an interactive, internet book and is currently available w/o purchasing a site license.

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is quite simple: to give you head-knowledge about and hands-on experience with research methods in psychology. The goal is that you leave with an understanding of how to design, analyze, and effectively communicate good research in psychology.

Attendance:

You are expected to attend class (i.e., attendance is mandatory) and to be an active participant in a research group. Most students find that the more they put into the course, the more they get back in return.

## Evaluation:

There are no exams in this course. However, we will have regular quizzes, and you will be required to write 2 APA publication-style research papers. In addition, you will be given and expected to complete a number of assignments throughout the semester. These assignments are intended to “exercise” some of the skills that I think are important for you to learn. Because it is not possible to complete all of your experiments and assignments in class, you should expect to devote extra time outside of class.

Final course grades will be determined by applying the following weights to the scores that you receive:

Paper 1	20%
Paper 2	20%
Oral Presentation	10%
Assignments	30%
Quizzes	15%
Attendance & Participation	5%

## Important Dates:

In addition to the due dates for papers and assignments (which will be announced in class), there are some other dates to keep in kind: M 9/1, M 10/13, and W 11/26. There is no class on these dates.

## Late Assignments & Papers:

Assignments and papers are due on the due date (in class, unless announced otherwise). Late work will be accepted but with a substantial penalty unless prior arrangements have been made with me and/or the TA. The penalty for all late work is one letter grade for each class session late. If an assignment is due on a Monday, for example, and you turn in the assignment after class (later that day), you will lose one letter grade. Try to turn everything in! It is better to hand something in late (for a reduced grade) than to not hand it in at all (for a zero).

## Course Withdrawal, Academic Honesty, and Student Behavior:

Please consult the University Catalog for more detail on these policies. There are two things I will highlight though: 1) academic dishonesty (including plagiarism) will not be tolerated, and there will be severe consequences if I see either, and 2) be polite and respect others, even if you disagree with their opinions.

### **Tentative Course Schedule (PSY 3110)**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Topic(s)</b>	<b>Assigned Reading</b>
1	Aug 25 & 27	Intro Sci Method Terminology	Chp 1 & 10
2	Sept 3	Research Process Oper Defn	Chp 2
3	Sept 8 & 10		
4	Sept 15 & 17	Overview of Measurement & Statistics	Chp 4 & Appendix A
5	Sept 22 & 24		
6	Sept 29 & Oct 1	Reading & Writing Reports	Appendix B
7	Oct 6 & 8	Survey Design	Chp 5
8	Oct 15	Survey Issues	
9	Oct 20 & 22		
10	Oct 27 & 29	Regression Analysis	Reg Reading
11	Nov 3 & 5	Basic Exp Designs Sampling	Chp 6
12	Nov 10 & 12	Complex Designs & Interactions	Chp 7
13	Nov 17 & 19		
14	Nov 24	Ethics	Chp 3
15	Dec 1 & 3	Parametric/Nonparametric Statistics	
16	Dec 8 & 10		
17	Mon, Dec 15 (12:30 – 2:30 pm) – Oral Presentations		