



Research Methods in Psychology

PSY3110:002

Special Course Expectations During COVID-19

Attendance

Students must perform a daily health assessment, based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC guidelines](#)), before coming to campus each day, which includes taking your temperature. Students who are symptomatic/sick should not come to class and should contact the Main Campus Health Center at 419-530-3451. *Absences due to COVID-19 quarantine or isolation requirements **are** considered excused absences.* Students should notify their instructors and these absences may not require written notice.

Face Coverings

All students must wear face coverings while on campus, except while eating, alone in an enclosed space, or outdoors practicing social distancing. NO students will be permitted in class without a face covering. This is a zero-tolerance policy. If a student does not wear a mask, they will be asked to put one on or leave the class. If they refuse these requests, class will be immediately dismissed, and the student referred for disciplinary action under the student code of conduct.

If you have a medical reason that prevents you from wearing a face covering due to a health condition deemed high-risk for COVID-19 by the CDC, you should submit a request for an accommodation through the Student Disability Services Office (SDS) by completing the [online application](#). Students will need to provide documentation that verifies their health condition or disability and supports the need for accommodations. If a student is already affiliated with SDS and would like to request additional accommodations due to the impact of COVID-19, they should contact their accessibility specialist to discuss their specific needs.

Social Distancing

Students should practice social distancing inside and outside the classroom. Please follow signage and pay attention to the seating arrangements. Do not remove stickers or tape from seats and/or tables, this is there to provide guidance on the appropriate classroom capacity based on the recommended 6 feet of social distancing between individuals. Please be conscious of your personal space and respectful of others. Also be cognizant of how you enter and exit the room; always try to maintain at least 6 feet of distance between yourself and others.

Desks and Work Spaces

Students will need to sanitize their desks and/or work space before class with the University provided sanitizing spray and paper towels on their desks. Students should sit in the same seat for every class. This will allow for contact tracing if someone in the class should become sick.

Special Notes

It is important to note that based on the unpredictability of the COVID-19 virus, things can change at any time so please be patient and understanding as we move through the semester. I also ask that you keep me informed of concerns you may have about class, timely completion of course work/assignments, and/or health concerns related to COVID.

Meeting Times

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11:30AM – 1:20PM

University Hall 5150F

This course has been designated as a hybrid or “rolling” class, meaning that half of the class will attend in-person on Tuesdays and the other half will attend in-person on Thursdays. When not physically present in class, you will attend remotely via Blackboard Collaborate Ultra (see details below). In person attendance will be as follows:

Tuesdays: Last names beginning with A – L

Thursdays: Last names beginning with M - Z

Contact Information

Professor: Keith Edmonds

Email: Keith.edmonds@rockets.utoledo.edu

Office: University Hall 6510

Office Hours via Zoom (see below): Wednesdays and Fridays 9:30AM - 11:00AM; or by appointment

Graduate Teaching Assistant: Samuel Oswald

Email: Samuel.oswald@rockets.utoledo.edu

Office: University Hall 6508

Office Hours via Zoom (see below): Wednesdays and Thursdays 1:30PM - 2:30PM; or by appointment

Office Hours

All office hours will be held online. We may be reached through Zoom. In order to utilize Zoom you will be asked to download a connection. This program is free, available for Mac and PC, is safe, and developed and monitored by a reputable company. Visit <https://zoom.us/download> for details. Ensure you keep up to date with any version changes as security is continuously updated. The way in which online office hours will work is described below:

During our office hours (listed below) we will be available to meet electronically via Zoom. You can contact us using the links below. If you wish to schedule a meeting, please contact us at least 24 hours in advance and we will book you for that time. These 30-minute

timeslots will ensure that our time is devoted only to you and your concerns.

Please note: If you cannot meet with us at these scheduled times, we will make alternate arrangements as times permit. We will do our best to accommodate your needs. Our webcams will be **on**. For ease in conversation we suggest you set your webcams on as well.

Keith Edmonds	
Wednesdays 9:30AM – 11:00AM	https://zoom.us/j/4712104317
Fridays 9:30AM – 11:00AM	
Samuel Oswald	
Wednesdays 1:30PM – 2:30PM	https://zoom.us/j/3358570642
Thursdays 1:30PM – 2:30PM	

Course Description

This course introduces you to the primary methods of research in scientific psychology. Topics include developing research ideas, searching and reviewing scientific literature, designing and executing empirical studies, analyzing data, and writing in APA style. Specific topics to be covered include correlational and experimental research designs, validity, reliability, and execution of the scientific method. This course will also allow you to understand research reports in social science publications and in the press. It will also help you design and conduct your own research.

Course Prerequisites and Corequisites:

Grade of C- or better in PSY2100 Statistical Methods

Course Goals and Learning Objectives

Research Methods in Psychology is designed for students to develop a deep understanding and appreciation for psychological research by designing, conducting, and evaluating their own empirical research. At the completion of this course, students should be able to:

G.1. Characterize the nature of psychology as a discipline

- L0.1. Describe what makes psychology a scientific discipline
- L0.2. Identify the primary objectives of psychology
- L0.3. Distinguish major theoretical perspectives in psychology
- L0.4. Compare psychological assumptions with those of other disciplines

G.2. Establish an awareness of human diversity and ethics

- L0.1. Identify diversity at both individual and cultural levels
- L0.2. Give examples of social and cultural factors that affect psychological processes
- L0.3. Explain how individual and cultural factors impact the interpretability and generalizability of research findings
- L0.4. Recognize ethical violations in psychological research

G.3. Develop an understanding of the research process

- LO.1. Describe the research process from inception to completion
- LO.2. Define common methods, procedures, and research terms
- LO.3. Justify and distinguish different research methodologies
- LO.4. Apply concepts and theories to different research methodologies
- LO.5. Critique research methodologies

G.4. Demonstrate effective critical thinking skills

- LO.1. Evaluate the quality of information and research
- LO.2. Recognize common fallacies in thinking and judgment
- LO.3. Avoid being swayed by emotion or authority
- LO.4. Construct effective arguments using research
- LO.5. Use scientific skepticism when evaluating claims

G.5. Formulate, conduct, and evaluate basic research studies

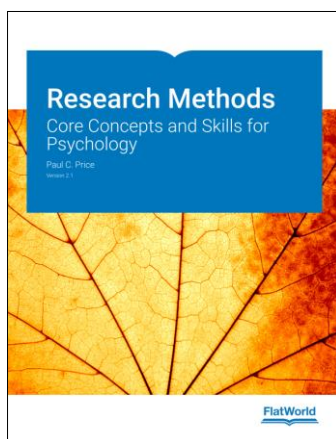
- LO.1. Review, interpret, and understand prior research literature
- LO.2. Integrate information from different sources to support ideas and form hypotheses
- LO.3. Develop new research ideas and design/conduct empirical research
- LO.4. Analyze and interpret basic statistical results
- LO.5. Write an APA style empirical research report
- LO.6. Give a well-organized research presentation

G.6. Demonstrate ability to collaborate effectively with others

- LO.1. Demonstrate ability to complete projects within reasonable time frames
- LO.2. Solicit and integrate diverse viewpoints
- LO.3. Manage conflicts appropriately and ethically
- LO.4. Develop relevant workplace skills

Required Textbook and Technology

Textbook



The required textbook for this course is: **Price, P.C. (2020). *Research Methods: Core Concepts and Skills for Psychology, 2.1. FlatWorld. ISBN (Digital): 978-1-4533-3551-2***

How to purchase:

You can purchase online access directly from the publisher (<https://students.flatworldknowledge.com/course/2593285>) for \$30; downloadable text or hard copy for \$50. You will need the version 2.1 (2020) because we will also be using the homework function (for quizzes) via the online access (<https://practice.flatworldknowledge.com/c/HW-2F32A9>).

Technology

Blackboard/Blackboard Collaborate Ultra

This course uses Blackboard (<https://blackboard.utdl.edu>) to house announcements, a copy of the syllabus, a link to the textbook, assignments, handouts, grades, and other interesting and useful resources. You should check it at least a few times per week.

Additionally, we will be using Blackboard Collaborate Ultra (BCU) for remote learning (when not physically present in class; see above for details). BCU is a web conferencing tool that allows faculty to synchronously communicate online with students anywhere in the world. The program is browser-based and does not require a separate launcher application. BCU can be accessed via Blackboard (housed in the Blackboard course menu under 'Start Here'). It works best with Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox browsers.

If you encounter technical difficulties with Blackboard or BCU, contact the [UT Online Help Desk](#) at (419) 530-8835 or utdl@utoledo.edu. The Help Desk offers extended hours in the evenings and on weekends to assist students with technical problems. When calling after hours, leave a detailed message, including your Rocket Number and phone number, and an Online Learning staff member will respond on the next business day.

Technical questions related to on-campus Internet access, virtual labs, hardware, software, personal website hosting, and UTAD account management can be directed to UT's [IT Help Desk](#) at (419) 530-2400 or ithelpdesk@utoledo.edu.

Microsoft Office 365

We will be using Microsoft office products (e.g., Word, Excel, PowerPoint) frequently in the course. The University of Toledo provides a license to access Microsoft Office 365 to registered students for free. This cloud-based software ensures access to university email as well as the latest versions of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and more. To download Microsoft Office 365, go to <https://www.utoledo.edu/it/office365/>.

Course Elements and Grading

Attendance (100 Points)

Attendance in the course is mandatory (both in person and online) but due to COVID-19 attendance will be rather flexible. Attendance is worth a total of 100 points. **You are allowed two unexcused absences from the class that can be used for any reason (no need to contact me but you will still be responsible for learning the material and turning in assignments).** Specifically, the percentage of lectures you attend will be the number of points you earn. For example, if you attend 90% of the lectures (not including the two "freebies"), you will earn 90 points for attendance. "Attending" a lecture means being there for the entire time. If you miss a significant portion of a lecture, you may be given partial or no attendance credit for that class period. Excused absences will be granted when necessary. Any work missed for an excused absence must be made up within one week. Contact me for extended absences; if you are ill for long periods (more than four

weeks), consider petitioning for a medical withdrawal. Attendance points cannot be made up by completing other assignments.

Class Cancellations:

Although it is unlikely that lectures will be cancelled, it is always a possibility. If I need to cancel class, I will send an email to your UT Rockets email address via a Blackboard announcement.

CITI Ethics Training (50 Points)

Any involvement in research at UT first requires completion of the University of Miami's established Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) program online. This program can be accessed through UT's website: <https://www.utoledo.edu/research/rsp/irb/training.html>. Specifically, the Social and Behavioral version of the course should be selected which is most appropriate for the discipline of psychology. This course may take 3-4 hours to complete (but not necessarily in one sitting). And the course should be completed after research ethics is discussed in class. A completion certificate should be downloaded and provided to the Instructor by the due date listed on the course schedule below. Completion of the training is worth 50 points. Completion of the CITI training is mandatory and must be completed before beginning your research project.

Exams (300 Points)

There will be three exams, each worth 100 points toward your final grade. Each exam will consist of 50 multiple-choice items, each worth 2 points each. All exams will be distributed online via Blackboard and should be taken from home. Because it is impossible to make online exams closed-book, you will be allowed to use your notes, PowerPoints, book, and internet. That said, you are not allowed to work with other students. This would not be effective anyways, as the questions for exams are drawn and randomized from a larger test bank (they will be in a different order for each student). Allowing open-books will likely make the exams significantly easier, so to compensate for this (and to remove the possibility of printing the exam), questions will be presented one-by-one. You will have two hours to complete each exam. Exams will cover the material from class lectures and the course textbook. Keep in mind that some questions will require you to apply learned information to real world situations, consistent with the learning outcomes of the course. Exam 3 (during finals week) will not be comprehensive.

You will always have one week (Monday at 8:00AM – Sunday at 11:59PM) to complete the exams. Late exams will NOT be accepted.

You will be allowed to retake one exam at the end of the semester during finals week.

Some things to consider:

- You can choose whichever exam you would like to retake.
- You may only retake one exam.
- Your highest grade will be kept. If you do worse on the retake it will not hurt your grade.

- Exam 3 will be held during finals week; thus, you will likely be extra busy so plan accordingly.

Please note that the biggest mistake students make with open-book exams is not studying! If you do not study, you will not do well. It is impossible to look up the answers to all 50 questions in 2 hours. You should continue to study as if this were a closed-book test. This will allow you to answer most questions without using outside resources.

Quizzes (90 Points)

There will be 10 10-item multiple-choice quizzes throughout the semester. These quizzes will become available via the textbook homework portal (<https://practice.flatworldknowledge.com/c/HW-2F32A9>) starting on Mondays at 8:00 AM and will be due on Sundays at 11:59 PM. The quizzes will cover any reading assigned, along with important concepts from the previous week of lecture. You will have two attempts at each quiz. **Your lowest quiz score will be dropped so that your final grade is based on your best nine quizzes.** Late quizzes will NOT be accepted.

In-Class Assignments (100 Points)

Class time will typically consist of a combination of lecture and in-class assignments (worth between 5-10 points each). These include activities such as generating research questions, practicing data analyses using Excel, and searching for empirical literature. In-class assignments will be discussed extensively as they come up and will usually be due at the end of the class period, unless otherwise specified.

Research Paper (450 Points)

This class is a Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) course. During the course you will be working to produce a complete APA-style research paper. This paper will be broken down into several smaller graded assignments that we will work on throughout the semester. Short descriptions of the assignments, due dates, and point values are listed below. All assignments will be discussed extensively in lecture and details can also be found on Blackboard. Note that *most* assignments (unless otherwise specified) are to be turned in electronically through Blackboard by Sundays at 11:59 PM (except for the PowerPoint presentation and final paper).

Late Research Paper Assignments:

Late assignments will be discounted by 5% of the points possible regardless of the reason (including computer malfunctions) when turned in after the due date. The next calendar day the assignment will be discounted by 10%, the second calendar day by 15%, and so on. You may turn in assignments early and then replace them with revised versions until the due date.

APA-Style Research Paper Assignment	Due Date	Points
1. Research question and reference list loosely based on one of the 3 seed articles	9/27 11:59 PM	50
2. Introduction section for your semester project	10/11 11:59 PM	100
3. Revised Introduction and Method section for your semester project	10/25 11:59 PM	50
4. Results and Discussion section for your semester research project	11/15 11:59 PM	100
5. PowerPoint presentation based on your semester project	11/19 11:30 AM	50
6. Complete and revised APA-style research paper based on your semester research project	12/3 5:00 PM	100

Extra Credit (45 Points)

Roughly halfway through the semester, there will be opportunities for extra credit. Specifically, to earn extra credit you will be asked to read and critique three peer-reviewed research articles (each worth 15 points). Article critiques must be at least 2 pages long and can be articles used in your APA-style research paper (i.e., these will be chosen by you). Critiques typically consist of a short summary of the article, presentation of the research question, and a discussion of the adequacy of the researchers' sample, methodology, results, and interpretation. More information about extra credit will be provided during lecture.

Grading

Assignments are graded as they are submitted and will be available for you to review shortly after the due date. Exams will be automatically graded in Blackboard and scores will be displayed immediately. We will provide feedback on your APA-style research paper assignments. Always review this feedback and use it to guide your work on subsequent assignments (it is usually obvious when students did not revise subsequent drafts and doing so will negatively impact your grade).

Below is a grading breakdown for each component of the class.

Assignment	Total Points Possible
Attendance	100 (9.17%)
CITI Ethics Training	50 (4.59%)
Exams	300 (27.52%)
Quizzes	90 (8.26%)
In-Class Assignments	100 (9.17%)
APA-Style Research Paper	450 (41.28%)
Total	1090

Letter Grades:

A	> 93%	C	73-76%
A-	90-92%	C-	70-72%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%
B	83-86%	D	63-66%
B-	80-82%	D-	60-62%
C+	77-79%	F	< 60%

Note that I only round grades that are X9.XX%. For example, if you finish the course with an 89.01%, I will round it to a 90%.

Classroom Etiquette and Netiquette

Communication

Communication with me is most reliable by email. Keep in mind that I am here to help and will respond to emails as quickly as possible (usually within 24 hours if not earlier). Please note that I will not respond to emails received after 5:00 PM until the next morning (and emails over the weekend on Monday morning). If there are assignments that are due during or upon return of a holiday, please plan accordingly to work on assignments in a manner that will give you enough time to email me with questions and receive a response within a reasonable time frame before the assignment due date. You should check your university email daily for messages about the course. If you are having difficulty with the course concepts, please let me know so that I can review those topics in class or post explanations on Blackboard. If you find something confusing, others probably do too. Before you email me, please double-check the syllabus.

When you contact me, please address the email professionally. Begin your email with a greeting, state exactly what you need help with in a concise manner, then close the email with an appropriate signature.

Electronics

Cell phones, laptops, and other electronics should be used for note taking and participating in class only. Cell phones should be put away during class meetings. If you are using your cell phone, laptop, or other electronics for something other than class assignments, I will address the issue with you directly and in certain cases (e.g., Internet use is distracting others) I may ask you to leave the class. If you receive an emergency call, please leave the room quietly to take the phone call. It is important not to disrupt other students' learning environment.

Respect

Respect is a must in this course. Please respect me and your fellow classmates, their questions, their responses, their views, and personal attitudes. Some course materials are

presented to get you thinking about how you would respond, react, and/or your attitudes about various sensitive subjects/situations. I expect you all to participate during class.

Food

Due to COVID-19, eating in class is not permissible. I understand that you may want to eat during class; hectic schedules can make it difficult to find time to eat and sometimes a coffee or snack can be helpful for staying awake or simply staying fueled during the day. As such, **we will take a short break in the middle of class so people can eat a snack outside or in the hall away from others.** If you must eat during the class period, please step outside or into the hall quietly.

Student Resources

Academic Honesty

Cheating will not be tolerated. The first instance of cheating will result in a zero (0) for the assignment or exam and a note in your college file. A second instance will result in an F grade for the course and a note in your college file. A low grade that results from cheating will not be deleted if you retake the course for a higher grade. Cheating includes (but is not limited to) ***use of non-permitted resources*** for exams or assignments (e.g., passing off someone else's work as your own). Plagiarism (use of another person's words without citing a reference to assign credit to them) is also cheating; always use your own words in all assignments. See [the university's policy on academic honesty](#).

If you have questions as to what counts as plagiarism, there are resources online that can help clarify or you can ask me. If you're unsure if something is plagiarism, it would be in your best interest to check before turning in an assignment to avoid receiving a 0 for unintentional plagiarism.

- Plagiarism (use of another person's words without citing a reference to assign credit to them) is cheating; always use your own words in all assignments. Copying and pasting large paragraphs from someone else's work can still be considered plagiarism even if you put quotes around it and cite them.
- Submitting the work of another student (past or present) who has taken this course as your own is also a form of plagiarism and is considered cheating. Using a past or present student's work as the basis for your own work is also considered cheating. I understand that it can be confusing as to what exactly counts as plagiarism when it comes to citing other's work. We will discuss this more in class.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Please read [The University's Policy Statement on Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability Americans with Disability Act Compliance](#).

The University of Toledo is committed to providing equal opportunity and access to educational experiences through the provision of reasonable accommodations. For

students who have an accommodations memo from Student Disability Services, correspond with me as soon as possible to discuss your disability-related accommodation needs for this course. For students not registered with Student Disability Services who would like information regarding eligibility for academic accommodations due to barriers associated with a potential disability, please contact the [Student Disability Services Office](#).

Resources Related to Sexual or Gender-based Violence and Harassment

The University of Toledo cares greatly about the health and well-being of our students, staff, and faculty, and takes all sexual or gender-based violence and harassment very seriously. If you have experienced sexual assault, sexual harassment, intimate partner violence, and/or stalking and want a confidential place to obtain support and information, please contact the Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness on the main campus in Health and Human Services Room 3017. You can call 419.530.2497 during regular business hours and 419.530.3431 for 24-hour assistance from a trained advocate. In-person, walk-in appointments are also available Monday-Thursday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM. The Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness provides free and confidential advocacy and counseling services to students, faculty, and staff. The YWCA H.O.P.E. Center also can be accessed as an off-campus confidential resource at 419.241.7273. Faculty, teaching assistants, and other university employees are mandated reporters of any incidents of sexual or gender-based violence or harassment. Thus, any disclosures of sexual or gender-based violence or harassment on or off campus made to faculty or teaching assistants, or other university employees must be forwarded to the Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Office will then contact you regarding your rights, your option to participate in the investigation, interim safety measures and/or academic accommodations, and the need to proceed with an investigation (even if none is requested). Your participation in the process is voluntary. You may call 419.530.3152 to file a complaint or visit the following website for more information and resources: <http://www.utoledo.edu/title-ix/>. Policies relating to Title IX can be found at: <http://www.utoledo.edu/title-ix/policies.html>.

eTutoring Services

The Ohio eTutoring Collaborative, in partnership with The University of Toledo, now provides online tutoring support for all UT students. eTutoring Services are offered in a wide array of subjects including Writing, Math, Calculus, Statistics, Accounting, Biology, Chemistry, and Anatomy and Physiology.

Learn more at [Etutoring](#)

Counseling Center

Completing a course in psychology may result in more awareness of mental health issues. [The Counseling Center](#) is the university's primary facility for personal counseling, psychotherapy, and psychological outreach and consultation services. The Counseling Center staff provides counseling (individual and group), mental health and wellness programming, and crisis intervention services to help students cope with the demands of college and to facilitate the development of life adjustment strategies.

The Writing Center

Successful completion of this course includes an APA-style research paper. We will work on this throughout the semester and you will receive feedback from me and the TA. However, you may benefit from additional academic writing support. [The Writing Center](#) provides tutoring for writers in all disciplines working on various types of writing projects.

Course Schedule:

Week	Dates	Topic	Reading	Assignment	Due
1	8/18	Overview/Syllabus	1.1-1.4		
	8/20	Psychology and Science/APA Style	11.1-11.2		
2	8/25	Basic Concepts	2.1-2.3	Quiz 1	8/30
	8/27	Descriptive Statistics Review	12.1-12.2		11:59PM
3	9/1	Non-Experimental Research	7.1-7.2	Quiz 2	9/6
	9/3	Survey Research	9.1-9.3		11:59PM
4	9/8	Experimental Research	6.1	Quiz 3	9/13
	9/10	Simple Experiments	6.3		11:59PM
5	9/15	Research Ethics	3.1-3.3	Exam 1	9/20
	9/17	No Class - Exam 1			11:59PM
6	9/22	Between-Subjects Experiments	6.2	Quiz 4	9/27
	9/24	Within-Subjects Experiments	6.2	Research Question/References	
7	9/29	Quasi-Experiments	7.3	CITI Training	10/4
	10/1	Internal and External Validity		Quiz 5	11:59PM
8	10/6	Complex Experiments	8.1; 8.3	Introduction Section	10/11
	10/8	Factorial Designs	8.2	Quiz 6	11:59PM
9	10/13	Single-Subjects Research	10.1-10.2	Quiz 7	10/18
	10/15	Case Studies	10.3		11:59PM
10	10/20	Qualitative Research	7.4	Method Section	10/25
	10/22	Psychological Measurement	5.1; 5.3	Quiz 8	11:59PM
11	10/27	No Class - Exam 2		Exam 2	11/1
	10/29	Reliability and Validity of Measurement	5.2	Data Collection	11:59PM
12	11/3	Inferential Statistics	13.1	Data Analysis	
	11/5	Null Hypothesis Testing	13.2-13.3	Quiz 9	11/8
13	11/10	Specific Null Hypothesis Tests		Results and Discussion	11/15
	11/12	Publication and Replication	11.3; 14.1		11:59PM
14	11/17	Meta-Analysis and Open Science	14.2-14.3	PowerPoint Presentation	11/19
	11/19	PowerPoint Presentations			11:30AM
15	11/24	No Class		Quiz 10	11/29
	11/26	Thanksgiving Break - No Class			11:59PM
16	12/1	No Class - Exam 3 and Final APA-		Exam 3	12/3
	12/3	Style Paper		Final Paper	5:00PM

Subject to Change:

This syllabus and schedule are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances. If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to check on announcements made on Blackboard while you were absent.