

Bellevue College

Fundamentals of Psychological Research: PSYC 209 5441 HYA

Fall 2016 Syllabus

Course Basics

Instructor: Jessica Urschel, Ph.D.

Office: D200A

Office Hours: MW 12:30-1:20p

Email: Jessica.urschel@bellevuecollege.edu

Item #: 5441

Credits: 5

Class Time: MW 8:30a-10:30a

Location: A138

Course Information

Description

This course covers theories, techniques, and applications of psychological research methodology. Students will explore a variety of approaches, ranging from case studies to independent groups, repeated measures, complex designs, quasi-experimental designs, and single-case experiments. Topics include data analysis, report writing, and factors affecting research results.

The first half of the class is primarily devoted to learning about research designs and appropriate statistical analyses. This portion of the class includes article assignments, objectives, exercises, and in-class unit exams to reinforce the material. In the second half of the class, students will use the material that they have learned to write an APA style research report on a topic of their choosing. There are several smaller assignments designed to help students write their final research proposals (see course grade section for more description).

Prerequisite: PSYC& 100.

Outcomes

After completing this class, students should be able to:

- Explain the scientific process and the research methods psychologists and behavioral scientists use in the study of human behavior.
- Apply relevant research and statistical terms, concepts, and principles used in the study of human behavior.
- Evaluate and compare various research methods and designs used to guide and develop research investigations.
- Prioritize and apply ethical principles in the conduct of research.
- Write a research proposal adhering to the style of the American Psychological Association

Grading

Course Format

The course will be comprised of 3 units of material and corresponding exams before turning towards completion of the research proposal.

Course Grade

- Your course grade will be wholly determined by the total number of points you accumulate on the assignments described in the course grade table on the next page.
- There will be no extra credit assignments offered at the end of the semester (i.e., objectives points are the only form of extra credit).
- I will not round up final grades; for example, 449.5/500 (89.9%) is a B+ in all cases.

Course Grade

Assignment	Mode of Submission	Points	% of Grade
Syllabus Review Quiz	Canvas	5	1%
In-class Exams (3 @ 60pts each)	In class	180	36%
Article Assignments (5 @ 15pts)	Canvas	75	15%
Unit Objectives (3 @ 20pts)	In class OR Canvas	60	12%
Topic Selection & Literature Review	Canvas	15	3%
Outline 1 – Introduction & Method	Canvas	25	5%
Outline 2 – Results, Discussion, & References	Canvas	25	5%
Peer Review Assignment	Canvas	10	2%
Final Paper	Canvas	100	20%
Proof of course evaluation	Canvas	5	1%
TOTAL		500	100%

The College Grading Policy is located on page 10 of the Course Catalog: [Grading Policy](#)

The course letter grade is related to the point total as follows:

Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
Minimum %	93%	90%	87%	83%	80%	77%	73%	70%	67%	63%	60%	0%
Minimum Points	465	450	435	415	400	385	365	350	335	315	300	0-299

Syllabus Review Quiz

You should always consult the syllabus first when you have a question about the class. Chances are, an associated policy is outlined here, and I strictly adhere to my policies. To make sure you have read and understood the policies for this course, you will take a 10-question syllabus review quiz on Canvas as your first assignment. Be sure to understand all policies, but especially those in bold on this document.

In-Class Unit Exams

Each unit will culminate in an in-class 60-point exam. These exams will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. These exams will be administered in class.

- **You will need to buy 3 Scantron sheets from the bookstore to take exams.**
- **Because of unfortunate past incidents, you will not be able to begin the exam if you arrive after another student has already turned in his or her exam. To avoid the risk of missing the exam, be on time!**
- **Because of unfortunate past incidents, students will not be able to leave the room during an exam.** This includes restroom breaks. Yes, I know this policy is rough, but it is also necessary. Please plan accordingly.
- If you are concerned about your ability to understand exam questions due to a language barrier, you may use a translation dictionary or an electronic translator **without internet access. If this applies to you, speak with me immediately. I must approve your device before you may use it on an exam.**

Article Assignments

In the second unit of the course, we will cover several types of research designs. Students will read, summarize and analyze 5 assigned psychology research articles during this unit (questions listed below). These assignments are designed to give you experience with research designs, peer-reviewed journals, and research in psychology, as well as give you some ideas for your research paper. See the course syllabus for due dates. You are encouraged to start early on assignments and to ask questions if you encounter problems.

You will submit electronic copies of all assignments through Canvas (either via text box, .doc, .docx, or .pdf file). Please double-check Canvas to make sure your assignment has been uploaded before the due date. "I thought I uploaded it" or "my internet wasn't working" are not valid excuses. Feedback will be provided and returned electronically as soon as possible. **I will NOT accept article assignments submitted via email or printed copy.**

Instructions: **Paraphrase all material;** make sure responses are in your own words. Do not simply write what the authors wrote.

1. (2pts) Citation in APA style (6th edition)
2. (2pts) Name AND briefly describe the experimental design. Be sure to describe each condition (or level or phase) in the study.
3. Describe the participants. How many were there? Who were they? How were they recruited?
4. Describe the setting. Where did this study take place?
5. What materials were used to complete the study? In other words, what would you need to obtain in order to replicate this study?
6. Describe the researchers' method of data collection. How did they collect data and for how long?
7. List the independent variable(s):
8. List the dependent variables(s):
9. Describe the results of this study.
10. What is the practical significance of this article? In other words, how can we use these results to better our everyday lives?
11. (2pts) Describe two ways you could extend this study. Look to the discussion section for ideas, but please take time to come up with some on your own.

Unit Objectives

On Canvas, under **Files**, you will find the course files organized by unit with every Powerpoint presentation and accompanying chapter objectives for the quarter.

For the three unit exams, you will need to submit your completed unit objectives either through Canvas or in class for 20 points towards your course grade. These cannot be turned in late without medical or legal documentation.

Research Proposal

You will propose a psychological empirical research study as the final project for this course. You may choose to propose an extension of an experiment from the articles we have discussed in class or choose a topic of your own. You will need to understand and summarize additional research articles on your own to complete an introduction, methods, expected results, and discussion section in APA style. Further instructions on the Topic Selection Assignment, Outlines (2), and Final Proposal Rubric, as well as an APA style template can be found on the Canvas course website. Substantial class time will be devoted to discussing concepts in terms of your own research proposals.

Late Policy

Article assignments and research proposal assignments may be turned in late. Ten percent will be deducted for each day late (up to 24 hours = -10%, 24 to 48 hours = -20%, etc.). **Remember, objectives and the final research proposal may not be turned in late without medical or legal documentation.**

Make Up Exams

Please be advised that if you miss a unit exam, you will receive a 0 unless there is legal or medical documentation to explain your absence. **Exams may be taken early with at least one week's notice and with written documentation for the upcoming absence.**

Required Text

Shaughnessy, J., Zechmeister, E., & Zechmeister, J. (2011). Research methods in psychology (9th ed.). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill. ISBN 978-0078035180

Available here for free! <https://steladhima.files.wordpress.com/2014/03/john-j-shaughnessy-eugene-b-zechmeister-jeanne-s-zechmeister-research-methods-in-psychology-2012.pdf>

American Psychological Association (2010). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. ISBN 978-1433805615

Links to supplemental articles required to complete article assignments will be posted on Canvas by the first day of the corresponding unit.

Tips for Success

- **Attend all classes. It is your responsibility to obtain and learn material for classes you miss.**
- Read all material before coming to class. **Complete the chapter learning objectives before class.**
- PowerPoint slides will be available online. **Download the day's material before class.**
- Take advantage of office hours or email if you have questions about the material.
- Google SAFMEDs. Make flash cards of key terms, be able to name terms when given a description, and vice versa.
- Form a study group with other students in the class (but make sure to complete assignments independently).
- Go to Psychology Tutoring in the Academic Success Center (D204) if you need additional help with writing or revising your writing assignments.

Important Notes About Technology Use

This is a hybrid course. Plan to check the Canvas website every day we have class. I will be posting class material (e.g., syllabus, Powerpoints, announcements, readings, assignments, and links to articles) regularly on the Canvas course website. If you don't have a home computer with Internet access, an open computer lab is available in N250. You will have plenty of time to complete assignments. Excuses such as "my internet wasn't working," "I couldn't make it to the computer lab this morning," or "I thought I uploaded my assignment" will not be accepted.

You are required to create a BC student network account [here](#). The student network account may be created any time after you receive your student identification number (SID) and personal identification number (PIN). For students enrolled in credit classes, the SID and PIN are issued after you apply for admissions. For students enrolled in classes through BC Continuing Education, the SID and PIN are established after you register for a class. Continuing Education students may contact the Continuing Education office directly to request this identification information. Once you have your student network account, go to the Bellevue College website and click Canvas under Student Links to log into the course website. Our course homepage can be accessed from the Courses dropdown menu on the left side of the page.

Classroom Learning Atmosphere

Affirmation of Inclusion

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

Classroom Etiquette

Basic respect for each other is expected of all students and the instructor. In accordance with this there are a few class rules:

1. **During class all cell phones and text-messaging devices must be turned off or left outside the classroom.**
2. **If you must come late or leave early, minimize disruption by sitting near the door, removing outerwear and getting your needed course materials ready before coming into the room.**
3. **Intentional, disruptive activities including (but not limited to): texting, holding private conversations with your neighbors, and using computers for purposes unrelated to the course will cost you 1 point for each occurrence. I will**

not give warnings. If I have to ‘call you out’ in class or wait for you to finish your conversation or put away your phone, you will definitely lose one participation point, but you may lose one point even if I don’t ‘call you out’ in class. I will enter this into the grade feedback on Canvas.

Disagreeing with the instructor, and engaging in passionate, intellectual discussion are not disruptive behaviors as long as they are done with basic respect. If you feel that your rights have been violated, please contact me immediately. Appropriate action will be taken. Respect is important in three other class rules:

1. Students and teaching staff will not silence the views of others they do not agree with in this class.
2. No one may threaten or intimidate others involved in this course with violence or threats of violence.
3. Harassment, sexual and otherwise, will not be tolerated in this class.

Email Communication

Please use standard professional guidelines for all written communication, including using a formal greeting, writing in complete sentences, and signing your name. **Your email should do one of the following:**

1. Ask a short, clarifying question whose answer cannot be found in the syllabus.
2. Request to meet at a time other than during my scheduled and posted office hours, and include at least two days and times you are available for this meeting.
3. Request additional feedback on a graded assignment. Include: a) the question, b) your answer, c) the feedback you have already received, and d) any follow-up questions.

Great email:

Hi Jessica,

I missed our PSYC& 209 class today, and after reading the book and discussing the objectives with Abed, I still have questions about multiple baseline designs that I would like to talk to you about. I have class during your office hours, but I am free Mondays and Wednesdays after 2:30 PM. Please let me know when you are available.

Thank you,

Troy

Terrible email:

Hey jess so i missed class cuz i felt bad. did i miss anything important?? O ya can I turn in that homework now??? I forgot! Haha! Thx!!!! ;) -t

Religious Holidays

Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or any other assignments as a consequence of their religious observance should be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent, preferably at the beginning of the term. Students who are absent on days of examinations or class assignments should be offered an opportunity to make up the work without penalty (if they have previously arranged to be absent), unless it can be demonstrated that a makeup opportunity would constitute an unreasonable burden on a member of the faculty. Should disagreement arise over what constitutes an unreasonable burden or any element of this policy, parties involved should consult the department chair, or Dean.

College Anti-Discrimination Statement (Title IX)

Bellevue College does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity; color; creed; national origin; sex; marital status; sexual orientation; age; religion; genetic information; the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability; gender identity or veteran status in educational programs and activities which it operates. For further information and contacts, please consult College Anti-Discrimination Statements.

Procedures & Guidelines of the Social Sciences Division

Bellevue College’s Affirmation of Inclusion: Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at BC, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect. The college’s “Affirmation of Inclusion” is in line with the principle of free speech in a free society: we have the right to

express unpopular ideas as long as we don't show disrespect for reasonable people who might believe otherwise. In this course, you will be expressing ideas through the medium of the course site as well as face to face in the classroom. In that case, these expectations refer to the courtesy with which you communicate with one another in the classroom and on the course website. Part of this respect involves professional behavior towards the instructor, colleagues, and the class itself.

Plagiarism and Other Conduct Policies: Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty that occurs when students use information or material from outside sources and do not properly cite those sources. This is grounds for disciplinary action. It is your responsibility to understand plagiarism and its consequences. Plagiarism occurs if:

1. You do not cite quotations and/or attribute borrowed ideas as references.
2. You fail to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks.
3. You do not write summaries and paraphrases in his/her own words and/or doesn't document his/her source.
4. You turn in work created by another person.
5. You submit or use your own prior work for a current or past course, or work from one current course in another course without express permission from your professors. This may also be considered academic dishonesty.

Consequences: If you have plagiarized or engaged in other forms of academic dishonesty, you will likely fail the assignment and possibly the course, despite points earned through other work. Acts of academic dishonesty are reviewed for disciplinary action. If you are new to writing then please come talk to me during office hours and/or visit the Writing Center. Their website is <http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/asc/writing/> and they are located in D204.

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing: Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: Plagiarizing material from the internet and posting rude or personal attacks in discussions. When you are in doubt about any behavior, please consult your instructor. In addition, you may wish to review the general applicable rules of cyberspace, such as in the Core Rules of Netiquette. The instructor reserves the right to remove posted messages, and downgrade assessments as a result of these types of behaviors. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Vice President of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Vice President of Student Services.
http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050_Student_Code.asp

Incomplete vs. F: If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). It is the student's responsibility for maintaining contact and adhering to the agreed-upon actions. Canvas class sites, and material, may not be directly accessible after the end of the quarter so it is important to make arrangements before the quarter ends. The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F"). There is a standard form that instructors have access to in their instructor's grade briefcase.

F Grade: Students who do not withdraw by the deadline and fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule: Final examinations may involve proctored on-campus arranged exams or may be administrate completely online at the discretion of the instructor and in keeping with the stated policies provided in the course syllabus. Please refer to the syllabus at the start of the quarter for additional details and contact the instructor directly for any clarifications. A student who is not in compliance with the scheduled format may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be in compliance with any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

Withdrawal from Class: Academic Year: College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course. Check the [enrollment calendar](#) for additional details. As with most enrollment deadlines, it is the student's responsibility to be aware of these dates and act accordingly.

Hardship Withdrawal (HW): Hardship Withdrawal indicates a withdrawal request made because of extenuating circumstances after the official withdrawal period is over. The student must contact the instructor to request this withdrawal option, or the faculty member may initiate the contact. No points are calculated into the grade-point average. Students may also contact the enrollment Services Office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students Who Require Disability Accommodations: Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) <http://bellevuecollege.edu/drc/>. The office is located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110 email drc@bellevuecollege.edu). Students will need to establish their eligibility for

accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter or contact your online instructor directly by email. Students who require accommodation in a course should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Centre, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

If you are a student with a documented autism spectrum disorder, there is an additional access program available to you. Contact Autism Spectrum Navigators. Email and phone number are on the web page. ASN is located in the Library Media Center in D125.

The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by Skype: the address is DRCatBC (NOTE: There is no @ sign...it is actually DRCatBC). Please visit our website at Disability Resource Center for application information into our program and other helpful links.

Course Schedule

Day/Date	Topics & Readings	Assignments Due
M 9/19	Syllabus Review & Course Introduction Ch 1 Introduction pp. 3-24	Obtain textbook & read syllabus thoroughly
W 9/21	Ch 2 Scientific Method pp. 28-54	Ch 1 & 2 objectives
M 9/26	Ch 3 Ethical Issues pp. 58-86 Ch 4 Measurement pp. 115-116 (Box 4.4), 122-126	Ch 3 & 4 objectives Syllabus Quiz due @ 11:59pm
W 9/28	Research Questions Exam Review	Research Questions objectives
M 10/3	Exam 1	Objectives due in class or online @ 11:59pm
W 10/5	Ch 6 Independent group designs pp. 185-207 Parts of an Article: Read Cuddy et al. (2015) and be ready to ask questions related to the article and assignment	Ch 6 objectives Cuddy et al. draft assignment
M 10/10	Ch 6 Independent group designs pp. 207-221	Ch 6 objectives Cuddy et al. (2015) article assignment due at 11:59pm
W 10/12	Ch 7 Repeated measures designs pp. 226-235, 244-245	Ch 7 objectives
M 10/17	Ch 8 Complex designs pp. 250-276	Ch 8 objectives Ybarra et al. (2008) article assignment due at 11:59pm Hansen, Stevens & Coast (2001) article assignment due at 11:59pm
W 10/19	Ch 9 Single case designs pp. 281-306, Kazdin reading on Canvas	Ch 9 & Kazdin objectives
M 10/24	Topic selection & literature search	Come prepared: Bring 2-3 possible research questions (or 1 that you are very sure about!) Tittlebach et al. (2007) article assignment due at 11:59pm Kazbour & Bailey (2010) article assignment due at 11:59pm
W 10/26	Exam Review	Topic Assignment due @ 11:59pm
M 10/31	Exam 2	Objectives due in class or online @ 11:59pm
W 11/2	Ch 13 Communication in Psychology pp. 422-441	Ch 13 objectives
M 11/7	Data Analysis I Ch. 11 pp. 350-352, 355-379	Ch 11 objectives Outline #1: Introduction & Methods due @ 11:59pm
W 11/9	Data Analysis II Ch. 12 pp. 384-418	Ch 12 objectives
M 11/14	Data Analysis III	Ch 12 objectives
W 11/16	Exam Review	
M 11/21	Exam 3	Objectives due in class or online @ 11:59pm
W 11/23	NO CLASS MEETING Sign up for individual meetings: 8:30-10:20a, 12:30-1:20p	Outline #2: Expected Results, Discussion, & References due @ 11:59pm

M 11/28	Peer Review	Bring 2 hard copies of your draft to class
W 11/30	Writing Workshop	Peer Review Assignment due @ 11:59pm
M 12/5	NO CLASS MEETING Faculty Professional Development Day	No day or evening credit classes. Offices open.
W 12/7	NO CLASS MEETING Sign up for individual meetings: 7:30-9:20a, 11:20-1:20p	Final Research Paper due on Canvas @ 11:59pm Upload your proof of course evaluation completion to Canvas by 11:59pm <u>No late work accepted after 11:59pm</u>