

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG
Department of Psychology
Psychology PSYC-2102-001
Introduction to Research Methods
Summer 2024

Course Section Information

Instructor: Mohammad Soleyman Nejad
Email: m.nejad@uwinnipeg.ca
Office hours: By appointment, 4L44

Voluntary Withdrawal Date: July 23, 2024

Note: Withdrawing before this deadline does not result in a fee refund.

Course Delivery: Live lectures will be held on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9:00-11:00:

- Centennial Hall 4CM13

The first and last lectures will be held on June 21st and August 1st respectively.

Calendar Description (6 hrs Lecture, 3 hrs Lab)

This lab course introduces basic research designs. Topics include observation and measurement, reliability and validity, balanced coverage of experimental and non-experimental design strategies, control of extraneous variables, generalizability, and research communication. The lab component provides an opportunity to apply knowledge to research experiences that sample from representative areas of psychology. This course is required for Majors and Honours students in Psychology.

Restrictions: Students may not hold credit for this course and PSYC-2100

Requisite Courses: PSYC-2101, STAT-1301 (or the former STAT-1201), STAT-1501 or STAT-1601 - Must be completed prior to taking this course. PSYC-2102L (lab) - Must be taken at the same time as this course.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this course students should be able to:

- Develop a research question, hypothesis, and describe an approach that could be used to test that hypothesis
- Describe the different approaches that can be used for sampling and the pros and cons of each
- Compare and contrast the different research strategies and designs that are used
- Understand the different ethical issues that arise in the conduct of research

Course Materials:

1) Required Textbook:

Gravetter, F. J., & Forzano, L. A. B. (2018). *Research methods for the behavioral sciences*. Cengage learning.

2) Slides and class notes

Course Requirements and Grading

Your final grade will be calculated from the following components:

- Term Test (20%) on July 10th
- Final Exam (55%) TBD
- Attendance (5%)
- Lab (20%) see lab outline for details

Term Test and Final Exam Information

All tests and exams will:

- be conducted in person and are closed book.
- Include material from both lectures as well as the reading outlined below (even if not covered in the lectures).
- Consist of a mixture of multiple choice, true or false, fill-in-the-blank, matching, and/or short answer questions.
- Term tests will not be cumulative and are held during the lecture period.
- The final exam is cumulative and the date will be declared soon.
- The students are authorized to only bring a pencil, eraser, and scientific calculator to the exam. The examinees are also required to bring a photo ID to the exam session.

Policy regarding missed assessments

Students are responsible for being aware of test times. Students will be allowed make-up exams for absences due to medical conditions/illness, compassionate needs (death), or religious holidays. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor prior to the date of the exam to arrange a timely make-up. In the case of an emergency, it is anticipated that the student will contact the instructor as soon as possible. Students may be asked to provide documentation to support their request. Makeup tests may be in a different format. Exams missed without an acceptable excuse will be assigned a mark of zero.

Final Grade Calculation and Assignments

Your test grades will be updated in Nexus to 2 decimal places. At the end of the term, your final calculated grade will be rounded to the nearest whole number. Grade cut-offs are tentative and are subject to change in either direction by the instructor, Departmental Review Committee, or the Senate when Circumstances warrant.

A+	A	A-	B+	B
instructor's discretion	85 and over	80-84	75 - 79	70-74
C+	C	D	F	
65 – 69	60-64	50- 59	0 - 49	

Classroom Environment and Expectations

All students, faculty, and staff have the right to participate, learn, and work in an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. The UW Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy may be found online at www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect.

Please keep in mind that some individuals are very sensitive to scents. Exposure to perfumes and other products can trigger serious health reactions in persons with asthma, allergies, migraines, or chemical sensitivities. Please help keep our lecture space a scent-free environment.

Students may choose not to attend classes or write examinations on holy days of their religion, but they must notify their instructors at least two weeks in advance. Instructors will then provide an opportunity for students to make-up work and/or examinations without penalty. A list of religious holidays can be found in the 2022-2023 Academic Calendar, in the section, Important Notes (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/dates.html>).

Students with documented disabilities, temporary or chronic medical conditions, requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams or during lectures/laboratories are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 204.786.9771 or <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility-services/> to discuss appropriate options. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential.

If you are experiencing a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your ability to complete coursework, please consider contacting Student Services. They are not only valuable in assisting you to navigate your term and identify support services that are available to you but, can also keep documentation should any test deferrals requests be needed.

Copyright and Intellectual Property

Course materials are the property of the instructor who developed them. Examples of such materials are course outlines, assignment descriptions, lecture notes, test questions, and presentation slides—irrespective of format. Students who upload these materials to file-sharing sites, or in any other way share these materials with others outside the class without prior permission of the instructor/presenter, are in violation of copyright law and University policy. Students must also seek prior permission of the instructor/presenter before, for example, photographing, recording, or taking screenshots of slides, presentations, lectures, and notes on the board. Students found to be in violation of an instructor's intellectual property rights could face serious consequences pursuant to the Academic Misconduct or Non-Academic Misconduct Policy; such consequences could possibly involve legal sanction under the Copyright Policy https://copyright.uwinnipeg.ca/docs/copyright_policy_2017.pdf

Regulations, Policies, and Academic Integrity

Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Academic Regulations and Policies found in the University Academic Calendar at:

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf>.

Particular attention should be given to subsections 8 (Student Discipline), 9 (Senate Appeals), and 10 (Grade Appeals).

Please note the subsection of Student Discipline pertaining to plagiarism and other forms of cheating.

Even “unintentional” plagiarism, as described in the UW Library video tutorial “Avoiding Plagiarism” (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvFdxRU9a8g>) is a form of academic misconduct. Similarly, uploading essays and other assignments to essay vendor or trader sites (file sharing sites that are known providers of essays for use by others who submit them to instructors as their own work) is a form of misconduct, as it involves “aiding and abetting” plagiarism. More detailed information can be found here:

Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/academic-misconduct-policy.pdf> and <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/Procedures/academic-misconduct-procedures.pdf>

Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/student-non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf> and <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/policies-and-procedures/index.html>

Tentative Course Schedule

Date	Content	Reading Material	Exam Session
June 21	Introduction, Acquiring Knowledge, and the Scientific Method.	Ch. 1	Term Test and Final Exam
June 24	Research Ideas	Ch. 2	
June 26	Measurement	Ch. 3	
June 28	Participant selection	Ch. 5	
July 1	Canada Day	-	
July 3	Research Strategies and Validity	Ch. 6	
July 5	Statistics	Ch. 15	
July 8	Statistics	Ch. 15	
July 10	Term Test		
July 12	Experimental Research Strategy	Ch. 7	Final Exam
July 15	Experimental Designs: Between-Subjects Design.	Ch. 8	
July 17	Experimental Designs: Within-Subjects Design	Ch. 9	
July 19	The Nonexperimental and Quasi-Experimental Strategies	Ch. 10	
July 22	Factorial Design	Ch. 11	

July 24	The Correlational Research Strategy	Ch. 12	
July 26	Descriptive Research	Ch. 13	
July 29	Single-Case Experimental Research Designs	Ch. 14	
July 31	Ethics in Research	Ch. 4	
	Q&A	-	

Please note that the University is closed on the following date:

July 1 (University Closed in lieu of Canada Day)

Class held on this day can be scheduled on Aug 2, 2024, if needed.