

PSYC 201 (A01): RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

University of Victoria (Summer 2021)

Instructor: Dr. Marlise Hofer

Preferred Contact: hofer@uvic.ca

Office Hours: Tuesday 9am – 10am

Teaching Assistant: Maddy Doucette

Preferred Contact: mdoucette@uvic.ca

Office Hours: Wednesday 9am – 10am

Course Meeting Times:

MW 10:30-12:20

Th 10:30-11:20

Lab Meeting Times:

F 10:30-11:20 (section B01) OR

F 11:30-12:20 (section B02)

Instructor/TA: Alejandra Contreras

Preferred Contact: acontr@uvic.ca

Office Hours: TBD

Description: Research Methods is a critical thinking skills class teaching students to understand and critically examine the experimental research process from start to finish. A main goal of the lecture portion of the course is to build your skills as consumer of research. You will learn how to systematically evaluate the validity of different claims that you might encounter in your future psychology courses, in psychology articles, or in the media. A main goal of the lab component of the course will be to hone skills required to conduct research such as refining research ideas into testable hypotheses, conducting experiments, and writing APA style reports.

Required Software: Zoom, Brightspace, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel

Course Learning Objectives:

- Evaluate data and draw appropriate conclusions from both popular and scientific sources
- Separate the claim from the study: Does the data support the claim?
- Use a framework of “Four Big Validities” (construct, internal, external, and statistical) to ask systematic questions about the evidence behind different claims
- Discriminate between experimental and correlational studies
- Explain why correlational studies cannot support causal claims
- Explain when and why an experiment can support a causal claim
- Explain when we can generalize from a study, and when generalization is not a priority
- Describe the ethical guidelines that apply to research in psychology
- Use two important tools in the discipline of psychology: literature search engines (e.g. Google Scholar) and APA style for formatting and citing research papers
- Design, implement, write, and present an original (and ethical) research project

Grading:

100-90	89-85	84-80	79-77	76-73	72-70	69-65	64-60	59-50	49-0
A	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F

Tasks	Percentage
Reading & InQuizitive (lowest 2 dropped)	10%
In Class Group Work (lowest 2 dropped)	5%
4 Assessments (8% per Exam, 1% for Syllabus Quiz)	25%
3 Assignments (weighted equally)	25%
Lab Grade (5% presentation, 3% participation, 2% Lab 3 HW, 25% APA Style Paper)	35%
Bonus Research Participation	2%

Tasks

InQuizitive (10%): You will complete InQuizitive tasks to master material covered in each assigned chapter plus one introduction to the software quiz called “How to Use InQuizitive”. I will drop your lowest 2 grades. InQuizitive grades are due the same day the chapter is tested (May 27: How to use plus CH 1, 3, 5; June 10: CH 2, 6, 8, 9; June 24: CH 10, 11, 14). These due dates are listed on the assignment as well.

Group Work (5%): Together with group members, you will test yourself on basic skills and apply what you have learned. Your group will receive full marks you receive a passing grade (>60%). Your lowest 2 groupwork scores will be dropped.

Assignments (24%): Assignments will allow you to apply the concepts you are learning to real articles. There are full details on Brightspace, but in each one, you’ll consolidate the learning across several chapters to read, understand, and answer key questions about several empirical articles. There are three of these. You may discuss assignments with your group members but the work you turn in should be independent of others.

Exams (26%): Exams that will be completed entirely in Brightspace. They will be divided Multiple Choice. **You must complete these exams within the specified time limit and turn it in before midnight on the exam date.** You may use your notes while taking exams. Points for each: Syllabus Quiz (2%), Exam 1 (8%), Exam 2 (8%), Exam 3 (8%). **If you experience a technology glitch during the syllabus quiz or an exam, please also email Dr. Hofer as soon as possible.**

Lab (35%): A portion of your grade for this course will be based on your lab where you will design an original experimental research project in a small group of 4-5 students. Your group will design a novel research study, collect evidence, and introduce the idea to the lab in a short “idea presentation”. In addition, you will be required to independently review relevant literature, and write an introduction, methods, results and discussion section in a 5-7 page Final APA style research paper. **Complete details about this assignment will be available on Brightspace.** The three assignments comprising your lab grade are the Idea Presentation (5%), Lab participation (3%), Lab 3 Literature search HW (2%), and the Final APA Paper (25%). Note: We cannot provide feedback on papers ahead of time (too many!). However, I strongly recommend you contact the U Vic Center for Academic Communication to receive writing support:

<https://www.uvic.ca/library/locations/home/learning/cac.php>

- **Fridays:** These are lab days. **Attendance is mandatory for all Friday lab classes.** Missing any one of these labs without discussing your absence with Dr. Hofer will result in a half point deduction from your lab participation grade.
 - Use this zoom link to join: TBD
 - Meeting ID: TBD Password: TBD
 - In order for the breakout rooms to function smoothly, you are required to sign in to Zoom using your Netlink ID. Please do so starting on the first day!

Required Materials

- Morling, B. (2021). *Research Methods in Psychology: Evaluating a World of Information* (4th Edition). W.W. Norton.
- InQuizitive (comes with book purchase at the UVic bookstore)

Useful Materials

- *American Psychological Association (2020). Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7th Ed.), Washington, D.C.* Paper will follow APA format and this your best comprehensive resource for APA style.

Course Policies

Course Consultation: When seeking help for the Assignments, your main point of contact will be the teaching assistant, Maddy Doucette, because she is grading the assignments. When seeking help for other aspects of this course (e.g. textbook material, exams) your main point of contact will be Dr. Hofer. That said, you may consult both Dr. Hofer and Maddy Doucette about all course content. When seeking help for the Friday Lab, you should consult with the lab instructor Alejandra Contreras.

- When contacting the lab instructor, TA, or Dr. Hofer outside of office hours or class time, **please permit more than 24 hours before a response can be expected** (e.g., you are unlikely to receive a response the night before a due date). Emails will rarely be answered on weekends.
- Attending our office hours is the best way to reach us. However, if you are unable to make it during office hours and would still like to meet via Zoom at a different time, email at least 24 hours in advance and we will be happy to schedule a meeting.
- If your question will take more than one or two sentences to write, please try to discuss it with us over Zoom. It is usually more efficient and clearer to communicate “in-person” versus over email.

Late Assignments: My grading policy attempts to balance fairness among students as well as sensitivity to the different demands that are currently weighing on student time. Please contact Dr. Hofer ASAP if you are experiencing any exceptional circumstances or hardships. **Note: I will drop your two lowest InQuizitive and groupwork grades, so you can skip two without penalty if required.** Here are the specific policies:

- I expect all work to be turned in on time. You need to keep up with the course in order to do well and not feel overwhelmed.
- There is an automatic **25% deduction for late exams (or syllabus quiz) if they are turned in within 24 hours of the deadline.** This is out of fairness to students who complete the exam on time, and to ensure that students are not collaborating with others. **Beyond 24 hours past the deadline, you will need to speak with me to discuss turning in the exam.**
- For assignments and the final paper, **I will take off 10% for each day the assignment is late.** I will not be able to accept any assignments more than 5 days past the deadline.

Formatting: All written assignments should be written in 12-point Times New Roman font, double spaced, with 1-inch margins, in APA format (7th edition).

Zoom Etiquette: While attending meetings on Zoom, please mute your microphone, turn your camera on, and ask questions by typing in the chat box OR raising your hand. Make sure when your camera goes on that everything on screen is appropriate for the classroom! I reserve the right to deduct class points for any inappropriate conduct on Zoom. **Do not record Zoom lectures without explicit instructor permission, and do not share posted lectures outside of the class.**

Accommodations: If you require any accommodations for any aspect of this course, please notify Dr. Hofer immediately. Specially, if you have issues with accessing any of the required software, I need to know right away.

Academic Integrity: You are responsible for reading the University of Victoria's policies on academic integrity. Violations of academic integrity include cheating, plagiarism, falsification, and facilitating academic dishonesty. The policy is available at:
https://www.uvic.ca/calendar//undergrad/index.php#/policy/Sk_0xsM_V?bc=true&bcCurrent=08%20%20Policy%20on%20Academic%20Integrity&bcGroup=Undergraduate%20Academic%20Regulations&bcItemType=policies

- Feel free to discuss lecture material in this class with your fellow students. You may find it helpful to discuss questions with your peers before you approach the TAs or the Instructor. This is because students often have similar understandings and misunderstandings and may learn best from collaborative problem solving.
- You may also work collaboratively on **assignments**, but any work you turn in should be your own thoughts and efforts. **Any misrepresentation of work from another person (e.g., in this class or a previous class) will be considered cheating.**
- You may use your notes when completing **exams** on Brightspace, but you may not collaborate with other students on the exam. These are intended to be completed independently, and any evidence of collaboration will result in a zero. **Sharing materials from exams (e.g., screenshots, copying questions) is considered cheating.**

Additionally, Brightspace has a number of analytics tools that can help professors detect cheating relatively easily. Don't do it!

- Though your research reports are based on similar topics, and you can work with other students to get feedback on your proposal, **you must turn in independent written reports**. Reports that show evidence of plagiarism or cheating will receive a zero.

Course Calendar

Week	Dates & Topic	Events/Assignments
1	May 10: Introduction May 12: CH 1 Highlight Video/Discussion May 13: Ethical Guidelines May 14: Lab – Group Assignment & Project Topic Selection	Read Chapter 1 before class Read Ethics Chapter posted on Brightspace before class & Syllabus Quiz Due Project Topic Selection Worksheet
2	May 17: CH 3 Highlight Video/Discussion May 19: CH 5 Highlight Video/Discussion May 20: Guest Lecture – Applied Research May 21: Lab – Group Presentations (4 minutes each + 2 minutes of Q&A)	Read Chapter 3 before class Read Chapter 5 before class
3	May 24: NO CLASS – Victoria Day May 26: CH 2 Highlight Video/Discussion May 27: NO CLASS – Exam 1 May 28: Lab – Literature Search Demonstration	Assignment 1 Due Read Chapter 2 before class InQuizitives due (How to Use & CH 1, 3, 5) & Exam 1
4	May 31: CH 6 Highlight Video/Discussion June 1: CH 8 Highlight Video/Discussion June 3: CH 9 Highlight Video/Discussion June 4: Lab – Data Collection	Read Chapter 6 before class Read Chapter 8 before class Read Chapter 9 before class Lit Search HW

5	<p>June 7: Ch 9 Group Activity</p> <p>June 8: Data Cleaning, Manipulation & Visualization Video</p> <p>June 10: NO CLASS – Exam 2</p> <p>June 11: Lab– Working with Data Group Time</p>	<p>Assignment 2 Due</p> <p>InQuizatives due (CH 2, 6, 8, 9) & Exam 2</p>
6	<p>June 14: CH 10 Highlight Video/Discussion</p> <p>June 15: CH 11 Highlight Video/Discussion</p> <p>June 17: Descriptive Statistics Review</p> <p>June 18: Lab– APA Style</p>	<p>Read Chapter 10 before class</p> <p>Read Chapter 11 before class</p>
7	<p>June 21: CH 14 Highlight Video/Discussion</p> <p>June 22: Catch up day/Exam Review</p> <p>June 24: NO CLASS – Exam 3</p> <p>June 25: NO LAB – Final Paper Due</p>	<p>Read Chapter 14 before class & Metanalysis on Brightspace</p> <p>Assignment 3 Due</p> <p>InQuizatives due (CH 10, 11, 14) & Exam 3</p> <p>Final Paper</p>

Disclaimer: This syllabus, including the course calendar, is subject to change and/or revision during the course. This will allow the instructor to make minor changes to the syllabus such as due dates, altering assignments, etc. **Changes, if any, will be announced on Brightspace. Students will be held responsible for all changes.**

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
Department of Psychology

Important Course Policy Information
Summer 2021

Prerequisites

Students who remain in courses for which they do not have the prerequisites do so at their own risk. Students who complete courses without prerequisites ARE NOT exempt from having to complete the prerequisite course(s) if such courses are required for the degree program.

Program Requirements

For more information see the UVic Calendar May 2021.

Registration Status

Students are responsible for verifying their registration status. Registration status may be verified using My Page, View Schedule. Course adds and drops will not be processed after the deadlines set out in the current UVic Calendar.

Commitment to Inclusivity and Diversity

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

In the Event of Illness, Accident or Family Affliction

What to do if you miss the final exam scheduled during the formal exam period

Apply at Records Services for a "Request for Academic Concession", normally within 10 working days of the date of the exam. Records Services will forward the form to the instructor. If the concession is granted, the instructor will determine how to deal with the situation (for example, a deferred exam). Where a concession is not applied for or where such application is denied, an N grade will be entered on the student's academic record.

OR, you can download the Request for Academic Concession form here: <http://www.uvic.ca/registrar/assets/docs/record-forms/rac.pdf>

What to do if you miss an exam other than one scheduled during the formal exam period

Do not apply at Records Services for a "Request for Academic Concession". Instead submit documentation of the illness, accident or family affliction directly to your course instructor (or designated teaching assistant).

What to do if you require additional time to complete course requirements

Apply at Records Services for a "Request for Academic Concession", normally within 10 working days of the end of the course. Records Services will forward the form to the instructor. If the concession is granted, the instructor will determine how to deal with the situation (for example, a deferred exam). Where a concession is not applied for or where such application is denied, an N grade will be entered on the student's academic record.

OR, you can download the Request for Academic Concession form here: <http://www.uvic.ca/registrar/assets/docs/record-forms/rac.pdf>

Policy on Academic Integrity including Plagiarism and Cheating

The Department of Psychology fully endorses and intends to enforce rigorously the Senate Policy on Academic integrity https://www.uvic.ca/calendar/future/undergrad/#/policy/Sk_0xsM_V?bc=true&bcCurrent=08%20-%20Policy%20on%20Academic%20Integrity&bcGroup=Undergraduate%20Academic%20Regulations&bcItemType=policies. It is of utmost importance that students who do their work honestly be protected from those who do not. Because this policy is in place to ensure that students carry out and benefit from the learning activities assigned in each course, it is expected that students will cooperate in its implementation.

The offences defined by the policy can be summarized briefly as follows:

1. **Plagiarism.** You must make sure that the work you submit is your work and not someone else's. There are proper procedures for citing the works of others. The student is responsible for being aware of and using these procedures.
2. **Unauthorized Use of an Editor.** The use of an editor is prohibited unless the instructor grants explicit written authorization.
3. **Multiple Submission.** Only under exceptional circumstances may a work submitted to fulfill an academic requirement be used to satisfy another similar requirement. The student is responsible for clarifying this with the instructor(s) involved.
4. **Falsifying Materials Subject to Academic Evaluation.** This includes falsification of data, use of commercially prepared essays, using information from the Internet without proper citation, citing sources from which material is not actually obtained, etc.
5. **Cheating on Assignments, Tests, and Examinations.** You may not copy the work of others in or out of class; you may not give your work to others for the purpose of copying; you may not use unauthorized material or equipment during examinations or tests; and you may not impersonate or allow yourself to be impersonated by another at an examination. The Department of Psychology has a policy of not making old examinations available for study purposes. Therefore, use of old exams without the express written permission of the instructor constitutes cheating by the user, and abetting of cheating by the person who provided the exam.
6. **Aiding Others to Cheat.** It is a violation to help others or attempt to help others to engage in any of the conduct described above.

Instructors are expected to make every effort to prevent cheating and plagiarism. This may include the assignment of seating for examinations, asking students to move during examinations, requests to see student identification cards, and other measures as appropriate. Instructors also have available to them a variety of tools and procedures to check for Internet and electronic media-based cheating. In instances of suspected or actual plagiarism or cheating, instructors, following prescribed procedures, are authorized to take steps consistent with the degree of the offence. These measures will range from a zero on the test or assignment or a failing grade for the course, probation within a program to temporary or even permanent suspension from the University.

Rights of Appeal are described in the Policy on Academic Integrity in the University calendar May 2021.

The definitive source for information on Academic Integrity is the University Calendar

Other useful resources on Plagiarism and Cheating include:

1. The Ombudsperson's office: <https://uvicombudsperson.ca/tips/plagiarism/>
The [Office of the Ombudsperson](#) is an independent and impartial resource to assist with the fair resolution of student issues. A confidential consultation can help you understand your rights and responsibilities. The Ombudsperson can also clarify information, help navigate procedures, assist with problem-solving, facilitate communication, provide feedback on an appeal, investigate and make recommendations. Phone: 250-721-8357; Email: ombuddy@uvic.ca; Web: uvicombudsperson.ca.
2. UVic Library Resources: <http://www.uvic.ca/library/research/citation/plagiarism/>
3. https://www.uvic.ca/library/research/citation/documents/avoiding%20plagiarism%20guideUpdate_Sept_2013.pdf

BE WELL



A note to remind you to take care of yourself. Do your best to maintain a healthy lifestyle this semester by eating well, exercising, getting enough sleep and taking some time to relax. This will help you achieve your goals and cope with stress. All of us benefit from support during times of struggle. You are not alone.

Social Life, Friends, & Community at UVic:

Having a social network is an extremely important foundation for positive mental health. There are lots of benefits to joining clubs, course unions, intramurals and teams on campus.

<https://www.uvic.ca/mentalhealth/undergraduate/connecting/index.php>

Counselling Services:

Counselling Services can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students. www.uvic.ca/services/counselling/

Health Services:

University Health Services (UHS) provides a full service primary health clinic for students, and coordinates healthy student and campus initiatives.

www.uvic.ca/services/health/

Centre for Accessible Learning:

The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations www.uvic.ca/services/cal/. The sooner you let us know your needs, the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Elders' Voices:

The Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement (IACE) has the privilege of assembling a group of Elders from local communities to guide students, staff, faculty and administration in Indigenous ways of knowing and being.

www.uvic.ca/services/indigenous/students/programming/elders/

Mental Health Supports and Services:

Mental health supports and services are available to students from all areas of the UVic community: www.uvic.ca/mentalhealth/undergraduate/

Sexualized Violence Prevention and Response at UVic:

UVic takes sexualized violence seriously, and has raised the bar for what is considered acceptable behaviour. We encourage students to learn more about how the university defines sexualized violence and its overall approach by visiting www.uvic.ca/svp. If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexualized violence and needs information, advice, and/or support please contact the sexualized violence resource office in Equity and Human Rights (EQHR). Whether or not you have been directly impacted, if you want to take part in the important prevention work taking place on campus, you can also reach out Where: Sexualized violence resource office in EQHR, Sedgewick C119

- Phone: 250-721-8021
- Email: svpcoordinator@uvic.ca
- Web: www.uvic.ca/svp