

## PSYC 201 (A01): RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

University of Victoria (Summer 2022) CRN:31204

**Instructor:** Dr. Marlise Hofer

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**Office:** COR A216

**Office Hours:** Wednesday 1pm – 2pm

**Teaching Assistant:** Kendall Fraser

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**Email:** [kkfraser@uvic.ca](mailto:kkfraser@uvic.ca)

**Office:** COR A051

**Office Hours:** Monday 12:30pm – 1:30pm

### Course Meeting Times:

MW 10:30-12:20

Th 10:30-11:20

**Lab Instructor/TA:** Andrew Switzer

**Call me:** Andrew

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**Email:** [andrewcswitzer@uvic.ca](mailto:andrewcswitzer@uvic.ca)

**Office:** TBA

**Office Hours:** Friday 1pm – 2pm

### Lab Meeting Times:

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

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

**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.

**Prerequisites:** Introductory Psychology I & II (PSYC 100A & PSYC100B)

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

### Course Learning Objectives:

- Evaluate data and draw appropriate conclusions from both popular and scientific sources
- Use a framework of “Four Big Validities” (construct, internal, external, and statistical) to ask systematic questions about the evidence behind various types of 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
- 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 and write 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
InQuizitives	10%
Group Work (lowest score dropped)	5%
4 Assessments (10% per Exam, 1% Syllabus Quiz)	31%
3 Assignments (8% each)	24%
Lab Grade (5% presentation, 5% participation, 20% APA Paper)	30%
Bonus SONA Research Participation	2%

### **Tasks**

**InQuizitive:** You will complete InQuizitives to master material covered in each chapter plus one introduction module called “How to Use InQuizitive”. InQuizitive grades are due the same day the chapter is tested (May 26: How to use plus CH 1-3; June 9: CH 5-9; June 23: CH 10, 11, 14).

**Group Work:** Together with group members, you will test yourself on basic skills and apply what you have learned. This will be scored pass/fail and your lowest grade is dropped.

**Assessments:** Exams will constitute 30 multiple choice items. They will be completed in person, and you will have 50 minutes to finish them. In addition, you will complete a short Syllabus Quiz.

**Assignments:** 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. The work you turn in should be independent of others.

**Lab:** In lab, 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 report the results of your study in a 5-7 page APA style research paper, in which you independently review relevant literature, and write an introduction, methods, results and discussion section. **Complete details about this assignment will be available on Brightspace.** Your lab grade will come from three sources: Lab participation (5%), Lab 3 Idea Presentation (5%), and the Final APA Paper (20%). Lab participation will be measured in each lab session as follows: lab 1 - Lit Search HW, lab 3 - engagement in peer’s presentations, lab 5 - participation in other student’s studies, labs 2, 4, 6 - engagement in class and with group members on tasks (e.g., helping your groups prepare materials). Note: We cannot provide feedback on papers ahead of time (too many!). However, we 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>

**Bonus SONA Research Participation:** You can earn up to 2% bonus credit by participating in psychology research through the SONA system. You will earn .25 points for each 15 minutes of participation. So, 2 hours of participation earns 2% bonus marks for this course. Visit <https://uvic.sona-systems.com/> for more information on how to sign up to earn credits.

**Required Elements:** Students who have completed the following elements will be considered to have completed the course:

- All Three Exams
- APA Style Research Paper

Failure to complete any of these elements will result in a grade of “N” regardless of the cumulative percentage of all other elements of the course. N is a failing grade and factors into GPA as a 0.

In accordance with the University’s policy on academic concessions, “A student who completes all course requirements is not eligible for an academic concession”. Consequently, students can only request deferrals for the completion of required course components and not for non-essential course components.

### Class Format

We will meet mainly in-person, except for 4 Thursday sessions which will be taught online. Each week’s schedule will be almost the same:

- **Mondays & Wednesdays:** You will read the associated chapter **before class**. I will not be giving comprehensive lectures of each chapter because this would merely be repeating the text. Instead, I will highlight the most important or difficult to understand concepts in lecture and in some cases add new important material. In addition to lecture, we will engage in activities and group work, which may count towards your grade. I cannot tell you ahead of time when groupwork will occur, since it will depend on time available after class discussions. I will try to set aside class time for you to complete the associated InQuizitive assignments directly after lecture to help you review and master each chapter’s material.
- **Thursdays:** On two Thursdays, exams will replace class (May 19, June 16). Non-exam Thursdays will be **online** and will proceed similarly to other class days. You will read the associated chapter **before class**. I will post a short video (~20-25 minutes) highlighting concepts from the chapter (often outside of textbook content). The final 25-30 minutes of class time will be reserved for the associated InQuizitive assignment.
- **Monday, Wednesday & Thursday:** Attendance is recommended, and will offer opportunities to engage in groupwork. However, your lowest groupwork session will be dropped, so missing one class will not affect your final grade.
- **Fridays:** These are lab days. **Attendance is mandatory for all Friday lab classes.** Missing any one of these labs without previously discussing your absence with Dr. Hofer and the lab TA will result in a one-point deduction from your lab participation grade.

### 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.* This is the best resource for APA style (used in your paper).

## Course Policies

**Course Consultation:** When seeking help for the Assignments, your main point of contact will be the teaching assistant as 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 your course TA about all course content. When seeking help for the Friday Lab, you should consult with the lab instructor.

- When contacting the TAs, 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 our office hours, email at least 24 hours in advance and we will be happy to schedule a private meeting (either in person or via Zoom).
- If your question will take more than one or two sentences to write, please try to discuss it with us (in person or over Zoom). It is more efficient and clearer to communicate “in-person” versus over email.

**Late Assignments:** My grading policy attempts to balance fairness among students with sensitivity to the different demands weighing on student time. Please contact Dr. Hofer ASAP if you are experiencing any exceptional circumstances or hardships. **Note: I will drop your lowest groupwork grade, so you can miss a class without penalty.** 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 **20% deduction for each day (24-hour period) an assignment is late. This includes the syllabus quiz, assignments, and the final lab paper.** I will not be able to accept any assignments more than 4 days past the deadline. This is out of fairness to students who complete the assignments on time.

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

**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 here:  
[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](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. You may find it helpful to discuss questions with peers before you approach the instructors because students often have similar understandings and misunderstandings and may learn best from collaborative problem solving.
- You may work collaboratively on **assignments**, but work you turn in should represent your own thoughts and efforts. This means you may discuss assignments, but not share your completed assignment with others, request that someone share their assignment with you, or ask a peer for the answer to a specific question. Additionally, you **may not** post about assignments on any online forum. Online conversations can be read and copied without collaboration. **Any misrepresentation of work from another person (in this class or a previous class) will be considered cheating.**
- You may discuss your final paper with others. However, **you must turn in independent written reports.** You and your group members will be reporting on the same experiment, so some overlap is expected. However, some of the background literature you cite, the topics you choose to address in the discussion, and the wording throughout should be different from your peers. Reports that show evidence of plagiarism or cheating will receive a zero.
- **Exams** will be completed independently. Any evidence of cheating will result in a zero.

**Territory Acknowledgement:** We acknowledge and respect the ɫəkwəŋən peoples on whose traditional territory the university stands and the Songhees, Esquimalt, and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

### Course Calendar

Week	Date & Topic	Due (at the Start of Class)
1	Mon May 09: Introduction  Wed May 11: CH 1 Lecture, Bar Chart Creation Demo & Group Work (Monkey Worksheet)  Thu May 12: CH 2 Lecture  Fri May 13: Lab – Literature Search Demonstration	Read Chapter 1   Read Chapter 2
2	Mon May 16: CH 3 Lecture, Research Example & Group Work (Putting news into headlines)  Wed May 18: Ethical Guidelines (CH 4 Canadian Version), Q&A  Thu May 19: Exam 1 (CH 1-4)  Fri May 20: Lab – Group Assignment & Lab Project Topic Selection	Read Chapter 3 Syllabus Quiz  Read Ethics Chapter Assignment 1  InQuizatives (How to Use & CH 1-3)  Lit Search HW

3	<p>Mon May 23: NO CLASS – Victoria Day</p> <p>Wed May 25: CH 5 Lecture &amp; Group Work (Music Video Coding)</p> <p>Thu May 26: CH 8</p> <p>Fri May 27: Lab – Group Presentations (3 minutes each + 2 minutes of Q&amp;A)</p>	<p>Read Chapter 5 &amp; Lab Project Topic Selection Worksheet</p> <p>Read Chapter 8</p>
4	<p>Mon May 30: CH 6 &amp; 7, Class Activity (Teacher Survey), Group Work (Butter and Happiness)</p> <p>Wed June 1: CH 9 Lecture &amp; Group Work (Practice Multiple Regression), Q&amp;A</p> <p>Thu June 2: CH 9 Review</p> <p>Fri June 3: Lab – Designing the Experiment</p>	<p>Read Chapter 6/7</p> <p>Assignment 2</p>
5	<p>Mon June 6: Exam 2 (CH 5-9)</p> <p>Wed June 8: CH 10 Lecture &amp; Class Activity (Random Assignment Example)</p> <p>Thu June 9: CH 11 Lecture</p> <p>Fri June 10: Lab - Data Collection</p>	<p>InQuizatives (CH 5-9)</p> <p>Read Chapter 10</p> <p>Read Chapter 11</p>
6	<p>Mon June 13: Stats Intro &amp; CH 14 Lecture</p> <p>Wed June 15: Class Activity (100 Humans), CH 14 Class Activity time permitting, Q&amp;A</p> <p>Thu June 16: Exam 3 (CH 10, 11, Stats Intro, 14)</p> <p>Fri June 17: Lab– Data Cleaning, Manipulation &amp; Visualization</p>	<p>Read Chapter 14</p> <p>Assignment 3</p> <p>InQuizatives (CH 10, 11, 14)</p>
7	<p>Mon June 20: APA Style Papers</p> <p>Wed June 22: Optional Lab Work Time</p> <p>Thu June 23: NO CLASS</p> <p>Fri June 24: Final Paper</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 in class and on Brightspace. Students will be held responsible for all changes.**

**UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA**  
**Department of Psychology**

**Important Course Policy Information**  
**Summer 2022**

***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 2022

<https://www.uvic.ca/calendar/future/undergrad/index.php#/programs?expanded=>

***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 last day of classes***

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 last day of classes***

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](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 2022.

**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/academic-integrity/>  
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](mailto:ombuddy@uvic.ca) Web: [uvicombudsperson.ca](http://uvicombudsperson.ca).
2. UVic Library Resources <https://www.uvic.ca/library/help/citation/plagiarism/index.php>
3. [https://www.uvic.ca/library/research/citation/documents/avoiding%20plagiarism%20guideUpdate\\_Sept\\_2013.pdf](https://www.uvic.ca/library/research/citation/documents/avoiding%20plagiarism%20guideUpdate_Sept_2013.pdf)

## 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](http://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](mailto:svpcoordinator@uvic.ca)

Web: [www.uvic.ca/svp](http://www.uvic.ca/svp)

# 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/](http://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/](http://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/](http://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/](http://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/](http://www.uvic.ca/mentalhealth/undergraduate/)