

Instructor/TA Info

Instructor Information

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TA Information

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Course Information

Learning Outcomes

1. Critically review literature

Students will be able to critically review the literature to generate a testable hypothesis based on a summation of current research findings and scientific thought.

Measurement: Writing assignment.

2. Methodological designs

Students will be able to distinguish between methodological designs and implement and execute an appropriate design to test the hypothesis, demonstrating an understanding of and sensitivity to relevant ethical considerations, including how to identify and measure dependent variables and measure or control for independent and other variables critical to the design of the study.

Measurement: Multiple choice tests, short essays.

3. Written report of research

Students will be able to prepare a written report of the research project adhering to APA style in all aspects of presentation (e.g., format, figures/tables, referencing) in a format that would be suitable to submit to an APA journal.

Measurement: Writing assignment.

4. Present research orally

Students will be able to present the research orally to an audience of peers in either a paper or poster format.

Measurement: Presentation assignment.

5. Critically evaluate published research

Students will be able to critically evaluate the quality of published research.

Measurement: Writing assignment.

Assignments

Assignment Descriptions

Research Eval #1

Oct
02

Due: Monday, Oct 02 at 11:59 pm

In class short essay assignment regarding two research paper press releases.

Questions are the following:

1. List the variable(s) in this study. (1 point)
2. What type of claim does this study make? How do you know this? (2 points)
3. What type(s) of validity are mentioned in the press release? How do you know this? (2 points)
4. Does this study meet the requirements for establishing causality? Why or why not? (3 points)

Examination #1 [Chps. 1-5, statistics, APA style, Class]

Oct
09

Due: Monday, Oct 09 at 6:00 pm

Exam #1 will cover the assigned chapters and topics as well as information discussed in class and lectures. The format of this exam will be multiple-choice

Experiment #1 Write Up

Oct
19

Due: Thursday, Oct 19 at 11:59 pm

Purpose: An empirical research (experiment) article is the most common publication in psychological science. The purpose of this research project is to provide you with firsthand experience in gathering experimental data, analyzing the results, and then effectively communicating what was found and what it means through writing an empirical research article.

Instructions: You are to provide a logically organized, well-written empirical research article that contains a title page, abstract, introduction, method, results, discussion, and references sections. Your textbook gives an example of a manuscript and discusses the order and format of each section to be included. For specifics regarding APA format please consult the APA publication manual Sixth Edition or access this information via <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/> (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>) you may also access your textbook's website for APA style information

Briefly:

Title: states the experimental variables used (or relationship examined) and results.

Abstract: concisely states what was done to whom and summarizes the most important results.

Introduction: summarizes, evaluates and synthesizes research evidence to support your specific hypothesis.

Method: describes the participants, measures, procedure and research design and analysis used in your study and should be clear enough that the reader could replicate your study from reading it. You must use either an experimental design or a factorial design where at least one of the variables is directly manipulated. Although we cover other designs in this class, all research designs are based on understanding the elements of an experimental design. Not directly manipulating at least one variable will lead to a 0 on the method section.

Results: includes the descriptive statistics and provides the results of the appropriate statistical analyses used to test the hypothesis.

Discussion: explains the theoretical rationale for the findings, the main strengths and limitations of the study, and its implications for future research.

References: this section (also in APA format) lists all of the reference used in the article.

Length: The introduction section will usually be approximately 1.5-2 pages. The entire paper must be Times New Roman 12 pt. font, double-spaced, with one inch margins per APA format. There is no specific length requirement for the other sections.

Format: Papers should comply with APA format throughout including title page, abstract, headers, page numbers, margins, tables and figures, in-text citations and references. A minimum of 5 references is required for the Write-Up, although you will be evaluated more on how you use research to support points than the number of sources you use.

Please see the rubric in the content section that includes each section that must be included and that you may use as a checklist.

Research Eval #2

Oct

25

Due: Wednesday, Oct 25 at 11:59 pm

In class short essay assignment regarding two research paper press releases.

Questions are the following:

1. List the variable(s) in this study. (1 point)
2. Was this study an experiment or a correlational study? How do you know this? (2 points)
3. Answer *either* 3a or 3b (not both). (2 points)
 - 3a. If the study is an experiment, what type of experimental design was employed here? Why did the experimenters choose this design?
 - 3b. If the study was correlational, list any covariates included in the study. Why were they included?
4. Does this study meet the requirements for establishing causality? Why or why not? (3 points)

Examination #2 [Chps. 10-13, class]

**Oct
30**

Due: Monday, Oct 30 at 6:00 pm

Exam #2 will cover the assigned chapters and topics as well as information discussed in class and lectures. The format of this exam will be multiple-choice

Proposal for Experiment #2

**Nov
06**

Due: Monday, Nov 06 at 11:59 pm

Please upload a brief description of the experiment you will carry out. Please remember, as detailed on this website, that you must manipulate at least one variable.

In the proposal please include:

IVs and DVs

Method

at least a general idea does not have to be detailed.

For example, both "groups will be asked to rate attractiveness of pictures presented to them while receiving electric shocks"

BTW if it includes electric shocks I will veto the idea!

Please detail if you are doing this alone or in a group. Include the names of all of the people in the group

•I need this information so we can schedule in-class labs

Revision of Exp #1

**Nov
07**

Due: Tuesday, Nov 07 at 11:59 pm

Revise and Resubmit

You have the opportunity to revise your experiment #1 write up. Please do the following:

Submit a revision that includes "track changes" in Microsoft Word that compares your original submission with the revision. In that way the reviewers can see where you clarified, revised, re-analyzed, etc. your manuscript.

Use the Compare documents in the track changes area of Microsoft Word. Upload this revised document by the due date in order to improve your original grade.

Here is a link that explains how to use Track Changes

<https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Compare-and-merge-two-versions-of-a-document-f5059749-a797-4db7-a8fb-b3b27eb8b87e> (<https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Compare-and-merge-two-versions-of-a-document-f5059749-a797-4db7-a8fb-b3b27eb8b87e>)

After you are finished upload the revised document with the changes marked in it to Learning Suite in the assignment section entitled: Revision of Exp#1

Good Luck!

Examination #3 [Chps. 6-9, 14, class]

Nov
20

Due: Monday, Nov 20 at 6:00 pm

Exam #3 will cover the assigned chapters and topics as well as information discussed in class and lectures. The format of this exam will be multiple-choice

Research Eval #3

Nov
29

Due: Wednesday, Nov 29 at 11:59 pm

In class short essay assignment regarding two research paper press releases.

Questions are the following:

1. List the variable(s) in this study. (1 point)
2. Was this study an experiment or a correlational study? How do you know this? (2 points)
3. Answer *either* 3a or 3b (not both). (2 points)
 - 3a. If the study is an experiment, what type of experimental design was employed here? Why did the experimenters choose this design?
 - 3b. If the study was correlational, list any covariates included in the study. Why were they included?
4. Does this study meet the requirements for establishing causality? Why or why not? (3 points)

Oral Presentation

Dec
13

Due: Wednesday, Dec 13 at 12:59 am

At the end of the semester each student will give an oral presentation on experiment #2. The format for the presentation is similar to what is typically done at scientific meetings. The presentations are done in class at towards the end of the semester-see schedule.

Alternative to BYU research participation

Dec
13

Due: Wednesday, Dec 13 at 11:59 pm

If you prefer not to participate in a SONA research study you may review a book chapter or empirical article of your choosing. You may not use one of the critiques you have already turned in. This will be a two-page APA formatted paper and similar to the critiques you have already completed. Please let me know ahead of time what the article/book chapter is so that I can approve it.

Course Rating

Dec
13

Due: Wednesday, Dec 13 at 11:59 pm

You may receive Extra Credit by completing the course evaluation at the end of the semester. I appreciate constructive criticism in order to assist me in improving this class. In order for me to know that you have completed this task you must "un-block" your ID/name when you complete this online. This will NOT allow me to tie your name to your evaluation, it will only allow the system to confirm that you have completed an evaluation. I then receive a list of names of those that have completed evaluations.

Experiment #2 Write Up

Dec
13

Due: Wednesday, Dec 13 at 11:59 pm

Purpose: An empirical research (experiment) article is the most common publication in psychological science. The purpose of this research project is to provide you with firsthand experience in gathering experimental data, analyzing the results, and then effectively communicating what was found and what it means through writing an empirical research article.

Instructions: You are to provide a logically organized, well-written empirical research article that contains a title page, abstract, introduction, method, results, discussion, and references sections. Your textbook gives an example of a manuscript and discusses the order and format of each section to be included. Briefly (for specifics regarding APA format please consult the APA publication manual or access this information via <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/> (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>))

Title: states the experimental variables used (or relationship examined) and results.

Abstract: concisely states what was done to whom and summarizes the most important results.

Introduction: summarizes, evaluates and synthesizes research evidence to support your specific hypothesis.

Method: describes the participants, measures, procedure and research design and analysis used in your study and should be clear enough that the reader could replicate your study from reading it. You must use either an experimental design or a factorial design where at least one of the variables is directly manipulated. Although we cover other designs in this class, all research designs are based on understanding the elements of an experimental design. Not directly manipulating at least one variable will lead to a 0 on the method section.

Results: includes the descriptive statistics and provides the results of the appropriate statistical analyses used to test the hypothesis.

Discussion: explains the theoretical rationale for the findings, the main strengths and limitations of the study, and its implications for future research.

References: this section (also in APA format) lists all of the reference used in the article.

Length: The introduction section will usually be approximately 1.5-2 pages. The entire paper must be Times New Roman 12 pt. font, double-spaced, with one inch margins per APA format. There is no specific length requirement for the other sections as long as they adhere to the criteria on the rubric.

Format: Papers should comply with APA format throughout including title page, abstract, headers, page numbers, margins, tables and figures, in-text citations and references. A minimum of 5 references is required for this write-up, although you will be evaluated more on how you use research to support points than the number of sources you use.

These papers will be formatted in APA style and written exactly like the scientific research journal articles that you critique.

BYU Research Participation SONA

Dec
13

Due: Wednesday, Dec 13 at 11:59 pm

Participate in ongoing research projects at BYU through the SONA research center during the semester in which our class meets. You may not use SONA credits from prior semesters. You may not use credits used for other courses. You earn "credits" for participation in these studies based on the amount of time you are involved in the studies. In order to receive the 10 points possible, you must earn at least 12 credits. There will be no E.C. if you earn less than 12 credits (no partial extra credit for less than 12 credits).

You may access/sign up for various studies at:

<http://byu.sona-systems.com/Default.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f>

It will be up to you to make sure that I receive some type of confirmation from the researcher(s) that you have earned credits. You **must** upload the SONA output showing the credits you earned for this class. The easiest way to do this is to log into SONA and take a "snapshot" of the page that confirms your participation and save it as a .jpg or .png or even .pdf file and upload this into Learning Suite.

If you would prefer not to participate in research I will gladly provide a different assignment for you to obtain the same amount of extra credit

IRB Human Subjects in Research Training

Dec
13

Due: Wednesday, Dec 13 at 11:59 pm

This can be accomplished online through the CITI Program Website:

<https://www.citiprogram.org/>

Here is a guide on how to register and complete the training:

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/147143323/CITI-Registration>

Once you are finished you must upload a copy of the certificate into LearningSuite. You can save the certificate as a pdf or perhaps take a screenshot.

Final Examination [comprehensive]

Dec
18

Due: Monday, Dec 18 at 10:00 am

Final exam is comprehensive Final is in class

Point Breakdown

Categories	Percent of Grade
Exams	59.59%
Experiment Write Ups	30.39%
Oral Presentation	4.29%
Critical Evaluation of Published Research	5.72%
Extra Credit (may earn a maximum 15 points)	0%

University Policies

Honor Code

In keeping with the principles of the BYU Honor Code, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic work. Academic honesty means, most fundamentally, that any work you present as your own must in fact be your own work and not that of another. Violations of this principle may result in a failing grade in the course and additional disciplinary action by the university. Students are also expected to adhere to the Dress and Grooming Standards. Adherence demonstrates respect for yourself and others and ensures an effective learning and working environment. It is the university's expectation, and every instructor's expectation in class, that each student will abide by all Honor Code standards. Please call the Honor Code Office at 422-2847 if you have questions about those standards.

Preventing Sexual Misconduct

In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Brigham Young University prohibits unlawful sex discrimination against any participant in its education programs or activities. The university also prohibits sexual harassment-including sexual violence-committed by or against students, university employees, and visitors to campus. As outlined in university policy, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking are considered forms of "Sexual Misconduct" prohibited by the university.

University policy requires all university employees in a teaching, managerial, or supervisory role to report all incidents of Sexual Misconduct that come to their attention in any way, including but not limited to face-to-face conversations, a written class assignment or paper, class discussion, email, text, or social media post. Incidents of Sexual Misconduct should be reported to the Title IX Coordinator at t9coordinator@byu.edu or (801) 422-8692. Reports may also be submitted through EthicsPoint at <https://titleix.byu.edu/report> (<https://titleix.byu.edu/report>) or 1-888-238-1062 (24-hours a day).

BYU offers confidential resources for those affected by Sexual Misconduct, including the university's Victim Advocate, as well as a number of non-confidential resources and services that may be helpful. Additional information about Title IX, the university's Sexual Misconduct Policy, reporting requirements, and resources can be found at <http://titleix.byu.edu> (<http://titleix.byu.edu>) or by contacting the university's Title IX Coordinator.

Student Disability

Brigham Young University is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere that reasonably accommodates qualified persons with disabilities. If you have any disability which may impair your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact the University Accessibility Center (UAC), 2170 WSC or 422-2767. Reasonable academic accommodations are reviewed for all students who have qualified, documented disabilities. The UAC can also assess students for learning, attention, and emotional concerns. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by the UAC. If you need assistance or if you feel you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, you may seek resolution through established grievance policy and procedures by contacting the Equal Employment Office at 422-5895, D-285 ASB.

Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignments & Exams
Week 1			
W Sep 06 Wednesday	<p>Introduction to the syllabus and discussion of assignments.</p> <p>Overview of Psychological Research</p>	Syllabus	
Week 2			
M Sep 11 Monday	<p>In Class Experiment #1</p> <p>Psychology is a way of thinking</p> <p>Initial discussion of Experiment #1</p>	<p>Chapter 1</p> <p>Statistics Review- Descriptives (p. 441-461)</p> <p>Statistics Review- Inferentials (p. 463-486)</p>	
W Sep 13 Wednesday	<p>Sources of Information</p> <p>More discussion of the Experiment #1 Write up</p>	<p>Chapter 2</p> <p>Presenting Results-APA style (p. 487-521)</p>	
Week 3			
M Sep 18 Monday	<p>Where to find articles</p> <p>Exploring the Literature of Psychology</p> <p>Using Excel and SPSS to analyze data</p>	<p>Chapter 2</p> <p>Chapter 3</p>	
W Sep 20 Wednesday	<p>Three claims, Four validities, interrogation tools for consumers of research</p> <p>Practice for Research eval#1</p>	Chapter 3	
Week 4			

M Sep 25 Monday	Ethical Guidelines for Psychology Research	Chapter 4	
W Sep 27 Wednesday	Ethical Guidelines for Psychology Research Identifying Good Measurement	Chapter 4 Chapter 5	
Week 5			
M Oct 02 Monday	Identifying Good Measurement	Chapter 5	Research Eval #1 The Research eval is like a mini-exam completed in class. Not in groups
W Oct 04 Wednesday	Test Review for Exam #1		
Th Oct 05 Thursday			Examination #1 [Chps. 1-5, statistics, APA style, Class] Opens
Week 6			
M Oct 09 Monday	Introduction to simple experiments	Chapter 10	Examination #1 [Chps. 1-5, statistics, APA style, Class] Closes Late fee starts 10/9/2017 at 11:00 AM
W Oct 11 Wednesday	Introduction to simple experiments More on Experiments: confounding, obscuring variables	Chapter 10 Chapter 11	
Week 7			
M Oct 16 Monday	More on Experiments: confounding, obscuring variables Experiments with > 1 Independent variable	Chapter 11 Chapter 12	
W Oct 18 Wednesday	Experiments with > 1 Independent variable Quasi-Experiments and Small-N Designs	Chapter 12 Chapter 13	
Th Oct 19 Thursday			Experiment #1 Write Up
Week 8			
M Oct 23 Monday	Quasi-Experiments and Small-N Designs	Chapter 13	

W Oct 25 Wednesday	Test Review		Research Eval #2 The Research eval is like a mini-exam completed in class. Not in groups
Th Oct 26 Thursday			Examination #2 [Chps. 10-13, class] Opens
Week 9			
M Oct 30 Monday		Chapter 6	Examination #2 [Chps. 10-13, class] Closes Late fee starts 10/30/2017 at 11:00 AM
W Nov 01 Wednesday	Sampling: estimating freq of behaviors	Chapter 7	
Week 10			
M Nov 06 Monday	Finish Chp. 6-7		Proposal for Experiment #2
T Nov 07 Tuesday			Revision of Exp #1
W Nov 08 Wednesday	Bivariate Correlational Research	Chapter 8	
Week 11			
M Nov 13 Monday	Bivariate Correlational Research Multivariate Correlational Research	Chapter 8 Chapter 9	
W Nov 15 Wednesday	Multivariate Correlational Research Replicability, Generalization, and the "Real World" How to give an oral presentation	Chapter 9 Chapter 14 Presenting Results (Posters, Talks) (p. 522-525)	
Th Nov 16 Thursday			Examination #3 [Chps. 6-9, 14, class] Opens
Week 12			
M Nov 20 Monday	Test Review		Examination #3 [Chps. 6-9, 14, class] Closes Late fee starts 11/20/2017 at 11:00 AM
T Nov 21 Tuesday	Friday Instruction		
W Nov 22 Wednesday	No Classes		
Week 13			

M Nov 27 Monday	In class Experiments		
W Nov 29 Wednesday	Discussion of in class experiments: possible CVs etc. Feedback for research groups		Research Eval #3
Week 14			
M Dec 04 Monday	TBA		
W Dec 06 Wednesday	TBA		
Week 15			
M Dec 11 Monday	In Class Presentations		
W Dec 13 Wednesday	In Class Presentations Last day of class All assignments due today Review for Final exam	Note: All extra credit due today!!! Note: Experiment write-up #2 due today by 11:59PM!!!	Oral Presentation Experiment #2 Write Up Course Rating BYU Research Participation SONA IRB Human Subjects in Research Training Alternative to BYU research participation
Th Dec 14 Thursday			
Week 16			
M Dec 18 Monday			Final Examination [comprehensive] Final 7-10 AM in class
W Dec 20 Wednesday			