**Course Objectives**

This course was designed to help you understand and employ processes of intellectual inquiry, demonstrate competent communication skills and understand and employ quantitative methods. It will also provide you with information about how psychological research is conducted. Students will learn about conceptual and methodological issues in psychological research.

**Learning Outcomes**

It is expected that, during the course, students will:

- demonstrate a knowledge of basic research methods in psychology
- be introduced to how studies are designed to test empirical hypotheses
- evaluate the advantages and limitations of the most commonly used research designs
- collect, organize and interpret simple empirical data
- critically evaluate research-based information
- locate, summarize and cite appropriate scientific literature in psychology
- write reports in APA style

**General Education**

This course combines with PSY 216 to satisfy the General Education requirement of a course in statistical inferential reasoning. You must complete both PSY 215 and PSY 216 to satisfy this requirement.

**Required Textbooks**


**Course Description**

The course will be conducted in an online format and will have both a lecture and a laboratory component. For the lecture component, each week, students will watch me and Dr. DeWall give online lectures. These lectures will be designed to synthesize the material you will read in your textbook and will also extend it to material outside of the textbook. Attending online lectures is highly recommended and due to the nature of the material it is very unlikely that students will do well without attending these lectures.

Labs will provide additional lecture material and will primarily give students practice in writing APA-style research papers. Students will be expected to complete a series of assignments and to submit a fully written research paper and a research proposal at the end of the course.

**Lecture Component**

The lecture component of the course is presented in 2 sections. Students are required to take an online multiple-choice exam at the end of each section.

**Teaching Assistants**

**Virtual Office Hours:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 1, time 1</th>
<th>Day 2, time 2</th>
<th>Day 3, time 3</th>
<th>Day 4, time 4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Day 1, time 1</td>
<td>Day 2, time 2</td>
<td>Day 3, time 3</td>
<td>Day 4, time 4</td>
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</tbody>
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**Email:**  
**Preferred Method of Contact:** Email

**Evaluation of Student Performance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam #1</th>
<th>Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 &amp; 6</th>
<th>100 points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam #2</td>
<td>Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 &amp; 12</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercises</td>
<td>Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 &amp; 12</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab</td>
<td>200 points</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>500 points</strong></td>
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</table>
Letter grades for the course will be based on the number of points earned as follows:

- A = 450 - 500
- B = 400 - 449
- C = 350 - 399
- D = 300 - 349
- E = < 300

- Make up exams and assignments will only be offered to students who had an excused absence on the day of the exam. You will need to provide proper documentation (e.g., written documentation from a physician stating that you were unable to take an exam, written documentation of your participation in a University sponsored trip) of your absence for it to be excused. Please scan the documentation and email it to your instructor so a make-up exam can be scheduled. As defined by the University of Kentucky Bulletin, excused absences include: 1) illness of student or of a member of immediate family; 2) death of a member of immediate family; 3) trips sponsored by the University; 4) major religious holidays (please notify in writing as soon as classes start).

- Academic Dishonesty

Cheating will not be tolerated. According to the Student Handbook, the minimum penalty for cheating is a grade “E” on the assignment. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (i.e., presenting someone else’s ideas and/or work as if it was your own).

Special Needs

Students with special needs should make these needs known to the instructor in the beginning of the course so appropriate accommodations can be made. If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations in this course, please make your request to the University Disability Resource Center. The center will require current disability documentation. When accommodations are approved, the center will provide me with a Letter of Accommodation which details the recommended accommodations. Contact the Disability Resource Center Director, Jake Karnes, at 859-257-2754 or jkarnes@email.uky.edu.

Other Policies

- Maximum timeframe for responding to student communications:
  Students should expect a response from the instructor within 24 hours of submitting communication on weekdays (i.e., Monday-Friday) and within 36 hours of submitting communication on the weekend (i.e., Saturday-Sunday).

- E-mail: please provide your instructor with an e-mail address. Students may receive important information, handouts, outlines, study guides via-e-mail. Check your e-mail on a daily basis while classes are in session

- Note: Course content, calendar and grading policies may be changed at the discretion of the instructor to accommodate class needs and/or special circumstances. Any changes will be announced by email and each student is responsible for recording these changes when they occur.

Minimum Technology Requirements:

- In order to participate in this course, you will need access to a computer with the minimum hardware, software and internet configuration described at this site: http://wiki.uky.edu/blackboard/Wiki%20Pages/Bb9%20Hardware%20and%20Software%20Requirements.aspx.

Note: the use of Internet Explorer is NOT recommended for use with Blackboard. Firefox is the recommended Internet browser for the course. You can download Mozilla Firefox (free) at this site: http://www.mozilla.com/en-US/firefox/upgrade.html.

- You will need to install a number of plugins on your computer. The links to the specific plugins required for this course can be also be found on your course. If using a UK computer these plugins should be already installed.

- To check if your browser has Flash, Adobe Acrobat Reader and QuickTime movie player, click this link: http://wiki.uky.edu/blackboard/Wiki%20Pages/Browser%20Check.aspx. If you do not have these, you can download them from this site.

To download Windows Media Player, click this link: http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/player/10/default.aspx.

- Students and faculty can download Microsoft Office Suite (including Word and PowerPoint) from this site: https://download.microsoft.com.

- If you experience technical difficulties with accessing course materials, the Customer Service Center may be able to assist you. You may reach them at 859-218-HELP (4357) or by e-mail at helpdesk@uky.edu. Please also inform the course instructor when you are having technical difficulties.

- The Teaching and Academic Support Center (TASC) website (http://www.uky.edu/TASC) offers additional information and resources that can promote a successful “online course” learning experience. They may also be reached at 859-257-8272.

Distance Learning Library Services

As a Distance Learning student you have access to the Distance Learning Library services at http://www.uky.edu/libraries/DLSS. This service can provide you access to UK’s circulating collections and can deliver to you manuscripts or books from UKs library or other libraries. The DL Librarian may be reached at 859-257-0500, ext 2171, or 800-828-0439 (option #6) or by mail at dliservice@email.uky.edu. For an interlibrary loan visit: http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/linpage.php?web_id=253&lib_id=16

Course Calendar

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td>Available on 05/07</td>
<td>Scientific Thinking</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<td>Available on 05/07</td>
<td>Ethics</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<td>Available on 05/13</td>
<td>APA style</td>
<td>Appendix A</td>
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<td>Available on 05/13</td>
<td>Developing research ideas</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
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<td>Available on 05/13</td>
<td>Measurement and data analysis</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<td>Available on 05/20</td>
<td>Experimental research</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
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<td>Available on 05/20</td>
<td>Control problems</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<td>Available on 05/28</td>
<td>Single-factor designs</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Available on 05/28</td>
<td>Factorial designs</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Available on 06/03</td>
<td>Correlational research</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Available on 06/03</td>
<td>Quasi-experimental designs</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Available on 06/10</td>
<td>Observational &amp; survey research</td>
<td>Chapter 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Available on June 17</td>
<td>12:00am until 11:59pm</td>
<td>EXAM # 2</td>
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You can access online lectures through Blackboard (https://elearning.uky.edu).

You can access the exam by logging into the Blackboard course at https://elearning.uky.edu where you will find a link to the exam.
Lab and Lecture Assignments

You can access the description of each of the assignments below by logging into the Blackboard course at [https://elearning.uky.edu](https://elearning.uky.edu)

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<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<td>Proposal Worksheet</td>
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<td>Introduction and references</td>
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<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Method, Results and figures</td>
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<td>Discussion, Title Page and Abstract</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proposal</td>
<td>06/13</td>
<td>50</td>
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You should submit these assignments through blackboard. The window for submission will be open until 11:59 pm on the date it is due.