



Psychology Research Methods
PSY 400
Southwestern College Professional Studies

COURSE SYLLABUS

I. **Course Catalog Description**

The course is designed to provide learners the opportunity to study the theory and methodology of psychological research design, execution, and presentation of scientific research in psychology.
Prerequisites: MASC110 and PSY 110.

II. **Required and Supplementary Instructional Materials**

Goodwin, C. J., & Goodwin, K. A. (2013). *Research in psychology: Methods and design* (7th ed.). Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.

III. **Learning Outcomes**

Learning outcomes describe the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes that learners gain as the result of a particular learning experience. Southwestern College Professional Studies has learning outcomes specific to each course and each [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) program of study, as well as [institution-wide outcomes](#) related to the mission and vision of the college. Outcomes can help learners and instructors focus on the big picture of the learning experience and can help inform potential employers about a graduate's knowledge and skills.

Upon successfully completing this course, the learner will be able to:

- Identify and describe the different types of psychology research methods and designs
- Identify, describe, apply, and evaluate research ethics
- Apply critical thinking to the choice of appropriate psychology research methods and designs for different types of research problems
- Apply critical thinking to the evaluation of existing psychology research and its application to professional psychological practice
- Provide leadership to the execution of a psychology research project
- Communicate the research problem, method, design, and results of a research project

At the end of the course, learners may vary in their ability to achieve these outcomes. You are more likely to achieve these outcomes only if you attend class and/or online activities as required by the syllabus, complete the requirements for all assignments to the best of your ability, participate actively in class activities and group work as directed, and study diligently for exams.

IV. **Course Policies**

Students are expected to read and abide by the course policies located in the instructor-specific syllabus in the blackboard course.

V. **Course Requirements:**

Requirements	Number of Assignments	Points Possible	Percent of Grade
Discussion Boards	5	250	25
Written Assignments	4	400	40
Activity Assignments	3	150	15
Final Project	1	200	20
Total Points		1,000	100

VI. Course at a Glance:

Unit	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions discussion forum • Read Goodwin & Goodwin, Chapters 1-2 & Appendix B • Read Chapter 1-2 PowerPoints • Read Written Assignments • Read Final Project Assignment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 1 Discussion • Unit 1 Written Assignment
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>Goodwin & Goodwin</i>, Chapters 3-4 & Appendix A • Read Chapter 3-4 PowerPoints • Read The Scientific Method PowerPoint • Work on your final project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 2 Discussion • Unit 2 Activity Assignment • Unit 2 Written Assignment
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>Goodwin & Goodwin</i>, Chapters 5-6 • Read Chapter 5-6 PowerPoints • Work on your final project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 3 Discussion • Unit 3 Written Assignment
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>Goodwin & Goodwin</i>, Chapters 7-8 • Read Chapter 7-8 PowerPoints • Read the Unit 4 Activity Assignment • Work on your final project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 4 Discussion • Unit 4 Activity Assignment • Unit 4 Written Assignment
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>Goodwin & Goodwin</i>, Chapters 9-10 • Read Chapter 9-10 PowerPoints • Work on your final project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 5 Discussion
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>Goodwin & Goodwin</i>, Chapters 11-12 • Read Chapter 11-12 PowerPoints • Read the Unit 6 Activity Assignment • Complete your final project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 6 Activity Assignment • Unit 6 Final Project

VII. Other Policies and Requirements

Follow this link to the Southwestern College Professional Studies [Standard Syllabus](#) in Blackboard. You may be required to log in.