University of North Texas at Dallas
Spring 2024
Syllabus for <u>Research Methods</u> PSYC 3200

Department of	Psychology		School of	Liberal Arts & Science
Instructor Name:	Kieth Gryder, Ph.D.			
Office Location:	Founders Hall (FH) 201 E			
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Office Hours:	In-Person - Mondays & Wednesdays: 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM Virtually - Microsoft Teams: Friday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM **If the hours above do not work feel free to schedule a virtual meeting with me!**
Classroom Location:	Founders Hall 307
Class Meeting Days & Times:	Tuesday/Thursday 1:00 PM – 2:20 PM
Course Catalog Description:	This course introduces students to psychology research methods and addresses general issues in research methodology, such as experimental designs, survey research, mixed methods, and sampling procedures. This course highlights the way data is collected, analyzed, as well as the strengths and weaknesses of each methodological approach.
Prerequisites:	PSYC 1100 or equivalent
Required Text:	Cozby, P.C., & Bates, S.C. (2020). Methods in Behavior Research (**14th edition**). McGraw-Hill Publishers

Access to Learning Resources:	**UNT Dallas Library:** phone: (972) 780-1616 web: http://www.untdallas.edu/library email: library@untdallas.edu **UNT Dallas Bookstore:** phone: (972) 780-3652 web: http://www.untdallas.edu/bookstore e-mail: untdallas@bkstr.com
Supported Browsers: Chrome 67 & 68 Firefox 60 & 61 Flash 29, 30 (for audio/video) Respondus Lockdown Browser Safari 10, 11 **Supported Devices:** iPhone Android Chromebook *(Tablet users can use the Canvas app)* **Screen Readers:** VoiceOver (Safari) JAWS (Internet Explorer) NVDA (Firefox)	**Access Canvas via** untdallas.instructure.com • **Username**: your EUID # • **Password**: your password **Getting Help with Canvas:** **Canvas 24/7 Phone Support for Students: 1-833-668-8634** **Canvas Help Resources:** **Web:** Canvas Student Guide **For additional assistance, contact Student Assistance (Distance Learning):** DAL 1, Rm 157 phone: (972)338-5580 email: distancelearning@untdallas.edu *If you are working with Canvas 24/7 Support to resolve a technical issue, make sure to keep me updated on the troubleshooting progress.* *If you have a course-related issue (course content, assignment troubles, quiz difficulties) please contact me during office hours or by email.*

Note: There is no screen reader support for Canvas in Chrome	

Course Overview

This course will cover techniques for research design and data analysis in the behavioral sciences, with an emphasis on identifying meaningful hypotheses, implementing research practices, making data analysis plans as part of the research design process, and interpreting and communicating research findings.

Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, students will be able to:

1	Understand the ethics, scientific reasoning, and methodology used in behavioral research
2	Identify strengths and weaknesses of several methodologies
3	Explain components of psychological research, including variables, methodology, and findings
4	Apply content to contemporary examples
5	Gain critical thinking and written communication skills

Course Software

Canvas – I will post class materials as well as announcements for the class. ***It is your responsibility to regularly check the Announcements section of Canvas***. It is the main way I will communicate important information to the class.

Microsoft Word – download/installation guide for MS-Office (also see the DLIT page).
Almost all assignments will require Microsoft Word.

Microsoft Forms – Occasionally I will use Microsoft Forms to do in class activities or take in-class quizzes. You can access Microsoft Forms through a computer or through your phone using your UNT Dallas email and password.

Schedule	Topic	Activities	Due Date
Week 1 Jan. 16, 18	The Researcher and The Research Process	**Read Chapter 1 & 2** AELA 1	Jan. 21
Week 2 Jan. 23, 25	Ethics	**Read Chapter 3** AELA 2	Jan. 28
Week 3 Jan. 30, Feb. 1	Fundamental Issues	**Read Chapter 4** AELA 3	Feb. 4
Week 4 Feb. 6, 8	Measurement	**Read Chapter 5** AELA 4	Feb. 11
Week 5 Feb. 13, 15	Observational Methods	**Read Chapter 6** AELA 5	Feb. 18
Week 6 Feb. 20, 22	Survey Methods	**Read Chapter 7** AELA 6	Feb. 25
Week 7 Feb. 27, 29	Experimental Methods	**Read Chapter 8** AELA 7	Mar. 3
Week 8 Mar. 5, 7	**Review** **Midterm Exam**		
Week 9 Mar. 11 - 15	**SPRING BREAK**		
Week 10 Mar. 19, 21	Conducting Experiments	**Read Chapter 9** AELA 8	Mar. 24
Week 11 Mar. 26, 28	Complex Designs	**Read Chapter 10** AELA 9	Mar. 31
Week 12 Apr. 2, 4	Other Designs	**Read Chapter 11** AELA 10	Apr. 7
Week 13 Apr. 9, 11	Description & Correlation	**Read Chapter 12** AELA 11	Apr. 14
Week 14 Apr. 16, 18	Statistical Inferences	**Read Chapter 13** AELA 12	Apr. 21
Week 15 Apr. 23, 25	Generalization **Review**	**Read Chapter 14** AELA 13	Apr. 28
Week 16 Apr. 30, May 2	**Research Presentations**		
Week 17 May 7	**Final Exam** 1:00 – 3:00		

Course Policies & Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

Exams

There will be a total of **2 exams**. Exams consist of multiple choice, true/false, and fill-in-the-blank questions. Exams are not comprehensive. Questions on the exam are based on lecture material and assigned readings. You are responsible for all textbook readings even if they are not covered in lecture.

Quizzes

There will be a total of 13 quizzes. These quizzes are meant to test your knowledge from the readings and past lectures and show what you may need to revisit. They also allow me to assess how the class is doing and what, if any, class material should be covered again. Quizzes may be a mixture of both online and in-person quizzes.

I will drop your 3 lowest quiz grades.

Application and Experience Learning Assignments (AELA)

There are a total of 13 Application and Experience Learning Assignments (AELA). AELAs focus applying textbook content, supplementary materials, and previously assigned course content to yourself or to some novel problem. The purpose of the AELAs are to practice pragmatic application, critical thinking, and give some repetition of central course concepts. I recommend reviewing relevant lecture material, clips and/or articles prior to beginning any AELA.

AELAs are due Sunday by midnight. See the course outline to see which days each AELA is due.

1 AELA will be dropped.

All AELAs will be turned in through Canvas.

Please see the statement at the end of this syllabus regarding the use of AI for course content. In short, it is not allowed unless I deem it so and if AI use is detected it will be considered plagiarism.

Research Presentation

Throughout the course students will develop a research question and apply several designs to it. You will develop hypotheses and hypothetical studies you could run to answer your research question. AELAs will occasionally ask you to apply design choices to your research question. At the end of the course, you will culminate all of your work into a presentation that details how you would apply various designs to your research question and which design may be best.

Late Work & Missed Exam Policy

Exams: If you know you will miss an exam, please reach out to me ahead of time so we can make the appropriate accommodation. Typically, exams will be made up within a week. This flexibility is limited and I will not make up any exams beyond a week. If you do not give me sufficient prior notice I will not provide a make-up exam.

AELAs: Submissions past the initial due date will be reduced by 10% per calendar late day (e.g., 20% reduction for an assignment two days late, 30% for three days late, and so on). Exceptions will be made for legitimate emergencies, but only if you contact me as soon as possible.

AELAs that are submitted past one week of their initial deadline are not accepted.

Quizzes: There are no make-up quizzes.

The dropping of an AELA and three quizzes are designed to provide flexibility for life events.

Attendance/Participation

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Please refer to Policy 7.005 Student Attendance at https://untsystem.policytech.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=1347&public=true. Attendance for this online course is considered when you are logged in and active in Canvas, i.e., posting assignments, taking quizzes, or completing Discussion Boards. To maintain financial aid award eligibility, activity must occur before the census date of the session or term of the course. Refer to http://www.untdallas.edu/registrar for specific dates. If you are absent/not active in the course shell, it is YOUR responsibility to let the instructor know immediately, upon your return, the reason for your absence if it is to be excused. All instructors must follow university policy 7.005 covering excused absences; however, it is the instructor's discretion, as outlined in the course syllabus, of how unexcused absences may or may not count against successful completion of the course.

Grade policy

It will be your responsibility to monitor the progress of your course grade using the tables provided below. Please contact me if you have any questions about how to calculate your grade. If you have any concerns regarding your grade at any point, please contact me and we can address any concerns.

It will also be your responsibility to contact me as soon as possible if you are having difficulty understanding the course material.

Email policy

Email is the official way to communicate in the course. To ensure effective and efficient communication between students and the instructor please observe the following:
1) In the subject line, place list the name of the course and/or course number (e.g., Research Methods/ PSYC 3200) and sign the email with your full name. I teach several courses and lacking this makes it difficult to get back in a timely manner.
2) Student emails containing questions that can be answered by information in the syllabus will be redirected to said syllabus.
3) Describe the situation/concern/question you want addressed.

Office Hours Policy

As stated on the first page, my office hours are:
In-Person - Mondays & Wednesdays: 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM (Founders Hall 201E)
Virtually - Microsoft Teams: Friday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

I will have a Microsoft Teams meeting link where I will be for Friday office hours.
 You can also schedule a virtual meeting with me if the times listed do not work for you.

The best way to schedule a meeting is by email.

Grading Policy

Exams	100 Points each (Midterm + Final) = **200 points**
Quizzes	10 points each (130 total – 30 for 3 dropped quizzes) = **100 points**
AELAs	20 points each (260 total – 20 for 1 dropped AELA) = **240 points**
Presentation	**60 points**
Total	200 + 100 + 240 + 60 = 600 total possible points

Grades are determined by percentage. To calculate your grade, take your total points and divide by the total possible points of the course (i.e., your total ÷ 600)

Letter	Percentage
A	90 – 100
B	80 – 89
C	70 – 79
D	60 – 69
F	Less than 60

Rounding Policy

I will automatically round up when calculating your final grade percentage, with .5 being the cut off for rounding up.
For example: if you have a 72.5 as your final grade, I will round up to a 73 for your final grade.

Please do not email me regarding any additional rounding beyond this or on any individual assignments or extra credit opportunities beyond what I may offer during the semester.

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):
Chapter 7(7.004) Disability Accommodations for Students:

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see [Disability Services Office](). You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at [UNTDdisability@untdallas.edu]() or at Building PL, room 1104.

Disruptive Behavior in an Instructional Setting:

Students are expected to engage with the instructor and other students in this class in a respectful and civil manner at all times to promote a classroom environment that is conducive to teaching and learning. Students who engage in disruptive behavior will be directed to leave the classroom. A student who is directed to leave class due to disruptive behavior is not permitted to return to class until the student meets with a representative from the Dean of Students Office. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the Dean of Students before class meets again and to provide the instructor confirmation of the meeting. A student who is directed to leave class will be assigned an unexcused absent for that class period and any other classes the student misses as a result of not meeting with the Dean of Students. The student is responsible for material missed during all absences and the instructor is not responsible for providing missed material. In addition, the student will be assigned a failing grade for assignments, quizzes or examinations missed and will not be allowed to make up the work.

The Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct (Policy 7.001) describes disruption as the obstructing or interfering with university functions or activity, including any behavior that interferes with students, faculty, or staff access to an appropriate educational environment. Examples of disruptive behavior that may result in a student being directed to leave the classroom include but are not limited to: failure to comply with reasonable directive of University officials, action or combination of actions that unreasonably interfere with, hinder, obstruct, or prevents the right of others to freely participate, threatening, assaulting, or causing harm to oneself or to another, uttering any words or performing any acts that cause physical injury, or threaten any individual, or interfere with any individual's rightful actions, and harassment. You are encouraged to read the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct for more information related to behaviors that could be considered disruptive.

Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement:
University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring its online and hybrid courses are usable by all

students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. <u>Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement is also provided.</u>

<u>NOTE</u>: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

Course Evaluation Policy:
Student's evaluations of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Academic Integrity:
Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to <u>UNT Dallas' Student Code of Academic Integrity</u> for complete provisions of this code.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

<u>Web-based Plagiarism Detection</u>: Please be aware in some online or hybrid courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

Bad Weather Policy:
Campus facilities will close and operations will be suspended when adverse weather and/or safety hazards exist on the UNTD campus or if travel to the campus is deemed dangerous as the result of ice, sleet or snow. In the event of a campus closure, the Marketing and Communication Department will report closure information to all appropriate major media by 7 a.m. That department will also update the UNTD website, Facebook and Twitter with closing information as soon as it is possible. For more information please refer to http://www.untdallas.edu/police/resources/notifications.

Inclement Weather and Classes: Classes may or may not be effected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

Online "Netiquette":
In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. Emails, Discussion Board messages and/or any other forms of written

communication in the online environment should use proper "netiquette" (i.e., no writing in all caps (usually denotes yelling), no curse words, and no "flaming" messages (angry, personal attacks).

Racial, ethnic, or gender slurs will not be tolerated, nor will pornography of any kind.

Any violation of online netiquette may result in a loss of points or removal from the course and referral to the Dean of Students, including warnings and other sanctions in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to UNT Dallas Student Code of Conduct. Respect is a given principle in all online communication. Therefore, please be sure to proofread all of your written communication prior to submission.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:
This is meant to be a safe environment for the exchange of ideas. Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions in the online environment. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate. Furthermore, please practice discretion when discussing personal matters and give others a chance to share.

Technology Assistance:
In order to successfully access the materials in an online or hybrid course, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements listed on the first page of the syllabus.

If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using Google Chrome browser. If you still experience technical difficulties, first, notify your instructor.

Browser and computer requirements for Canvas:
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-are-the-browser-and-computer-requirements-for-Instructure/ta-p/66.

If the problem is still not resolved, call Student Assistance (Distance Learning) at the phone number listed on the first page of the syllabus. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups. For more information see:

- UNT Dallas Canvas Technical Requirements
- Canvas Instructure Supported & Unsupported Operating Systems

Statement Regarding Artificial Intelligence:
Students are only permitted to use AI technology in the creation of any course content if permitted by the course instructor. If the use of AI technology is detected, without specific instructor permission, the student will be deemed in violation of the plagiarism policy.