D2L and Communicating with the Instructor

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on D2L. You are responsible for regularly checking this site for updates. In the event that I become ill or must cancel class for some reason, I will post a message on D2L.

Please contact me via email through D2L (due to the large volume of emails that I receive daily, please allow 1-3 days for a response). If you need an immediate answer or I have not gotten back to you, please stop by my office during office hours or call me. If you are calling during hours that are not part of my office hours, please call 408-802-9529.

Please note that for some matters such as your grade, missed classes, and/or questions about missed assignments, it is best to see me in person during office hours. If you plan on stopping by please email me ahead of time so I know you plan to stop by. If you miss a class, you should get the notes from another student and review them prior to seeking out the instructor.

Course Description

This course covers traditional laboratory experimental designs and methodology; experiments illustrating this approach. In addition, nonexperimental (e.g., survey, observational) and quasi-experimental methods (e.g., time series designs, nonequivalent groups designs) will be discussed. Statistical analyses appropriate for different designs will be covered. This course differs from traditional lecture-based classes in several ways. First, it requires the ability to translate concepts from readings into practice. Second, it requires much independent work outside the classroom. Third, it requires active participation in lecture and lab. Fourth, later in the semester, the class focuses less on lectures and more on practical in-class activities (e.g., meetings).

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives
After completing this course, you should be able to critically examine claims made about human behavior—whether these claims are made by talk-show "experts," journalists, or behavioral scientists. More specifically, after completing this course, you should be able to

1. Explain why psychology is a science
2. Evaluate research on the basis of its construct validity, internal validity, external validity, statistical validity, and conformity to APA’s ethical principles.
3. To plan and conduct studies using several different research designs
4. To identify and conduct appropriate statistical analyses of data obtained from several different research designs using APA
5. Conduct a literature review on topics in psychology.
6. Give a professional presentation of research findings
7. Work effectively in a research team
8. Write a APA-style research proposals and reports

Labs: Lab attendance is mandatory and critical to successful completion of this course. The labs provide you with opportunities:

1. To develop topics
2. To conduct literature searches
3. To make activity plans
4. To meet with Dr. Trafalis
5. To collect data and analyze data using SPSS
6. To write and complete your research report
7. To complete Lab Assignments

Course Requirements

Classes: Classes may include lectures, in-class activities, question-and-answer periods, guest lectures, demonstrations, and films. Attendance is required and critical for success in this course. If you miss a class, you are responsible for the information from that class. It is vital that you complete all scheduled readings and assignments before each class. Bring your text to all classes.

Labs: Lab attendance is mandatory and critical to successful completion of this course. Access to DMH 339 (lab) is only available during scheduled class time so please make adequate arrangements (plan for the use of public computers at Clark Hall) to work on your projects. You will have access to computers during scheduled lab time, but if you need additional computer time you must make your own arrangements. You can also purchase SPSS through the bookstore or at Clark Hall. The instructor will also assign lab work to prepare you to successfully complete your research papers. While the labs are not formally graded, failure to participate will likely mean you will have difficulty completing the research projects. If your team participates in the labs and you do not, it means that you are a social loafer and this is not good for morale of your team.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook


Other Readings, Resources
1. Recommended: SPSS 18 or 19, purchased at Clark Hall
2. Lab Handouts will be posted on D2L and you may be asked to print and bring to class

Various materials are posted in D2L that provide assistance with SPSS data-entry and analysis. Other additional assigned readings may also become available in D2L.

Other equipment / material requirements
1. SPSS Software and/or access to Clark hall computers with SPSS
2. Access to psycarticles/psychinfo through SJSU Library
3. Access to library/photocopier for research articles
4. Computer, printer, access to the internet and SJSU library access
5. Access to D2L
6. No. 2 Pencil, Stapler
7. Poster board

Classroom Protocol

Electronics Policy: You may not use cell phones, foreign language dictionaries, laptop computers, headphones, or any other electronic device during exams. Turn off all pagers, cell phones, headphones, etc. before class. Use of cell phones and other communication methods (e.g., text messaging) during class will result in dismissal from class.

Attendance: Attendance to the class is very important and absences may impact your grade through the loss of participation points, in-class group activities, and video discussion questionnaires. Your participation and attendance is important. Peer learning is an important component and your active participation contributes to the quality of the class.

Tardiness: If you must arrive to class late, please enter the classroom quietly and without disruption to other students or the instructor. Excessive tardiness could impact your grade as you will likely miss important information, especially announcements and answers to student questions.

Please note that for some matters such as your grade, missed classes, and/or questions about assignments it is best to see me in person during office hours. If you plan on stopping by please email me ahead of time so I know you plan to stop by. If you miss a class, you should get the notes from another student and review them.

Office Hours: If you have to discuss your grade or need a grade check or have any questions related to your performance please wait until after class to discuss or make an appointment with me. This is so not to take up class time by discussing issues that are best done during office hours.

Email: I do not mind responding to questions over email, however, some issues are best discussed in person during my office hours. If I feel your question is best discussed in person, I will email you and ask you to stop by my office. Please contact me via email and due to the large volume of emails
that I receive daily, please allow 1-3 days for a response. If you need an immediate answer or I have not gotten back to you, please stop by my office during office hours or call me. If you need to reach me during non-office hours, please call 408-802-9529 and leave a message. I will respond to you as soon as possible.

If you plan on stopping by please email me or call ahead of time so I know you plan to stop by. *If you miss a class, you should get the notes from another student and review them prior to seeking out the instructor.*

**In labs, you will not:**
1. Check email or send emails, unless directly related to this course
2. Talk on your cell phone or send text messages, unless directly related to this course
3. Surf the internet, unless directly related to this course
4. “Shoot the bull” (i.e., engage in lengthy chats about topics unrelated to this course)
5. Eat

**Dropping and Adding**
Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Information on add/drops are available at [http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-298.html](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-298.html). Information about late drop is available at [http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/](http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/). Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

**Assignments and Grading Policy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>How many?</th>
<th>Points per assignment</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>% of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online Quizzes</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics Certificate</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Project</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab Assignments</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>In Class Assignments</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>Points Earned</th>
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<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Points Earned</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>488</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>C-</td>
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<tr>
<td>463</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>448</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>438</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>D-</td>
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<tr>
<td>413</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>&lt;297</td>
<td>&lt;59</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
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<td>80</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<tr>
<td>388</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>363</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
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Exams: Exams will be primarily multiple-choice, although there may be some short answer items. They will cover both text and lecture. Please bring a Scantron form 882-e and pencils to each exam. The final exam will be cumulative.

Quizzes: There will be up to 10 quizzes. Some will be online quizzes, in-class quizzes, and group quizzes. Some quizzes will be open note and other closed note. Please pay attention for directions for quizzes. For online quizzes, please remember to allow ample time as computers fail, internet connections fail, the help desk need more time to resolve, etc. Remember Murphy’s Law is likely to apply. Quizzes cannot be made-up. I will drop your lowest quiz score.

Extra Credit: There may be opportunities for extra credit throughout the semester. These opportunities will be announced in class. If a due date for extra credit is missed, late extra credit assignments will not be accepted.

Late Work: All assignments must be submitted by the scheduled due date. Late assignments will lose 10% of total points for every weekday that they are late. Assignments more than three weekdays late will not be accepted. DO NOT EMAIL LATE ASSIGNMENTS.

Make-up Exam: There are no make ups for missed exams unless there is a documented medical reason or excused absences because of a University event. If you know ahead of time that you cannot make an exam, please let me know. In the case of an excused absence from an exam, you may make the exam up on the day of the final.

Research Study: Your research team will develop a research topic, design a relevant study, conduct the study, analyze the data, write an APA-style research report, and give a professional-quality presentation of your research findings. The paper will be at least 8 pages in length (double-spaced, typed, 12-point font) and will include at least 8 scientific references, with at least five peer-reviewed articles. Teams will comprise two people. Dr. Trafalis must approve all topics. Please remember to allow ample time as computers fail, internet connections fail, the help desk needs more time to resolve, etc. Remember Murphy’s Law is likely to apply.

Research Project: In order to complete the research study you must complete a data collection project. The research must be 2,500 words in length (typed, double-spaced, 12-point font, 1” margins) and should include at least one table and one graph (software generated). Projects must use correct grammar, punctuation, and statistical style (as described in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th edition). Teams may consist of no more than 2 students. To accommodate diversity of student interests and backgrounds, teams will choose their own research topics. Note that topics must be approved before data collection begins. 25% of your grade will be based on evaluation of your peer for your work and contribution to the group project.

HPPERT Certificate: To ensure students are fully aware of ethical considerations and guidelines in conducting research with human participants. Each student must complete the online tutorial offered by the National Institutes at http://phrp.nihtraining.com/users/login.php . The certificate must be uploaded and submitted via D2L by the due date. A certificate that is late by more than one week will earn only 50% of points. A certificate that is more than a week late will earn a 20% of maximum points.
University Policies

Academic integrity

Students should know that the University’s Academic Integrity Policy is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University’s integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The website for Student Conduct and Ethical Development is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

Your final research paper must be submitted via turnitin.com to check for plagiarism.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

Learning Assistance Resource Center

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. The LARC website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/.
SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The Writing Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/.

Peer Mentor Center

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop-in basis, no reservation required. Website of Peer Mentor Center is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/.

Help with D2L

The link to access to Desire2Learn which has replaced blackboard is https://sjsu.desire2learn.com

Resources to help you with this new site can be found at http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/students/D2L_students/

The helpdesk phone number is 924-2377. The helpdesk can resolve many of the problems you may encounter.

It is recommended that you review the “Getting Started with Desire 2 Learn” help manual available at http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/students/D2L_students/

Please note that the instructor cannot resolve technical issues so you must contact the helpdesk to resolve technical issues. Please note that contacting the instructor instead of the helpdesk may delay the resolution of a problem and you may as a result miss a deadline for an assessment. Make-ups will not be given for online quizzes. The best advice is to sign on early to ensure you are adequately prepared with the necessary resources (e.g., log-in, browser settings, computer access, adequate internet connection) to complete online assessments.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Lab Activity</th>
<th>Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1 – June 7 &amp; 9</td>
<td>Introduction to class, The scientific Method In class activity #1</td>
<td>Lab #1 Setting Up Introduction to Data Entry in SPSS Outcome: Partners paired up for research projects, 2 per group.</td>
<td>Chapter 1 Homework Complete Ethics Certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2 – June 14 &amp; 16</td>
<td>Understanding the Research Literature In class activity #2 Lab Manual</td>
<td>Lab #2 Selecting an appropriate measure for your study</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3 – June 21 &amp; 23</td>
<td>Ethics in Research In class activity #3 Lab Manual Ethics Group Exercise</td>
<td>Lab #3 Specifying your hypotheses Ethics Certificate Due</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4 – June 28 &amp; 30</td>
<td>Data Collection Methods In class activity #4 Lab Manual</td>
<td>Lab #3: Collecting Data In Class for your Research Project</td>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5 – July 5 &amp; 7</td>
<td>Hypothesis Testing Exam 1 Chapters 1 to 4 (July 7)</td>
<td>Lab #4: Data Analysis for your research project—selecting the appropriate test, creating the file, entering the data.</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6 – July 12 &amp; 14</td>
<td>Measuring Variables In Class activity #5 Lab Manual</td>
<td>Lab #5: Data Analysis, interpreting your output.</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7 – July 19 &amp; 21</td>
<td>Selecting Research Participants Independent Group Designs In Class activity #6 Lab Manual</td>
<td>Lab# 6: Writing up the research project Introduction; hypotheses</td>
<td>Chapter 6,7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8 – July 26 &amp; 28</td>
<td>Independent Group Designs In Class activity #71</td>
<td>Lab #7: Writing up the research project: Methods, Results</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9 – Aug 2 &amp; Aug 4</td>
<td>Dependent Groups and Mixed Group Designs In Class activity #8</td>
<td>Lab #8 Writing up the research project Discussion, limitations, future direction</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10 – Aug 9 &amp; 11</td>
<td>Single Participant Design</td>
<td>Final Exam will be administered during the lab portion of the class</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
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</table>