# Advanced Research Methods and Design, Psyc 120, Summer 2013, Section 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructor:</th>
<th>Sandra Trafalis, PhD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Location:</td>
<td>DMH 230</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telephone:</td>
<td>(408) 275-3545</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email*:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Sandra.trafalis@sjsu.edu">Sandra.trafalis@sjsu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Hours:</td>
<td>Monday and Wednesday, DMH 230 12:15-1:00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Class Days/Time:    | Lecture: Monday/Wed 9:00-10:55  
                      | Lab: Monday/Wednesday 11:00-12:15 |
| Classroom:          | Lecture/Lab: Boccardo Business Center (BBC) 322 |
| Prerequisites:      | Psyc 1, Stat 095, and Psych 100W |

## 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. Plan and conduct studies using several different research designs
4. 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, peer-editing, research group meetings and films. A large portion of this class is dedicated to completing the final project. 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. The Lab portion of the class will be held in the classroom. You will work on both structured activities set by your instructor and those set by your research group. You must pay attention to due dates and announcements so you understand what is required and the exact due dates. Some labs will be collected at the end of lab and the others may require you to do work outside of the class (data collection, final analysis, project write up) You will be able to obtain peer feedback and feedback from your instructor. You must purchase SPSS (Clark Hall offers student version very inexpensively). 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. Please bring your lab manuals to class.

**Required Texts/Readings**

**Textbook**


**Other Readings, Resources**

1. Recommended: SPSS 18 or 19, purchased at Clark Hall

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 psycharticles/psychinfo through SJSU Library
3. Access to library/photocopier for research articles
4. Laptop (must bring to class)
   5. Computer, printer, access to the internet and SJSU library access
   6. Access to D2L
   7. No. 2 Pencil, Stapler
   8. 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 408-375-2545 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. Information about late drop is available at 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

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<th>Assignment</th>
<th>How many?</th>
<th>Points per assignment</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>% of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
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<td>Ethics Certificate</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Project</td>
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<td>200</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab Assignments</td>
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<td>20</td>
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<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>500</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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<thead>
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<th>Points Earned</th>
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<td>348</td>
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<tr>
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<td>338</td>
<td>68</td>
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<tr>
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<td>298</td>
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<tr>
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<td>B</td>
<td>&lt;297</td>
<td>&lt;59</td>
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<tr>
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<td>B-</td>
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<tr>
<td>388</td>
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<td>C+</td>
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<td>363</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
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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 instructor must approve all topics. The research paper will follow the guidelines for empirical papers as set forth by APA 6th edition as well as guidelines issued by the instructor.

**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](http://phrp.nihtraining.com/users/login.php).

The certificate must be uploaded and submitted to Canvas 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](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](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/](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/](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/](http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/).
### Psyc 120, Advanced Research Methods and Design, Summer 2013

Planned Course Schedule for Lecture: Please note that this is the planned course schedule and this calendar may be revised to accommodate student learning. Changes will be announced in class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Lab Activity</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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| Week 1 – June 3 & 5 | Introduction to class, The scientific Method | Lab #1 research project parameters  
In class activity #1  
Outcome: Partners paired up for research projects, 3 per group. | Chapter 1          |
| Week 2 – June 10 & 12 | Understanding the Research Literature  
In class activity #2 based on the Lab Manual | Lab #2 Selecting the third variable and experimental questionnaires | Chapter 2          |
| Week 3 – June 21 &23 | Ethics in Research  
In class activity # 3 based on the Lab Manual Ethics Group Exercise | Lab #3 Specifying your hypotheses/method | Chapter 3          |
| Week 4 – June 17 & 19 | Data Collection Methods                                                | Establish Data Collection Tool and Stimulus Materials (Graded) | Chapter 11         |
| Week 5 – June 24 & 26 | Hypothesis Testing                                                     | Data Collection (in class or outside of class)                                                   | Chapter 4          |
| Week 6 – July 1   | Measuring Variables  
In Class activity #5 based on the Lab Manual  
No Class July 3 | Data Collection (in class or outside of class)                                                   | Chapter 5          |
| Week 7 – July 8 & 10 | Measuring Variables  
In Class activity #5 based on the Lab Manual | Lab #4: Data Analysis, interpreting your output. (Graded)                                       | Chapter 5          |
| Week 8 – July 15 & 17 | Selecting Research Participants  
Independent Group Designs  
In Class activity #6 based on the Lab Manual | Lab #5: Writing up the research project  
Introduction; hypotheses | Chapter 6,7       |
| Week 9 – July 22 &24 | Independent Group Designs  
In Class activity #7 based on the lab manual | Lab #6: Writing up the research project: Results                                               | Chapter 7          |
| Week 10 July 29 & 31 | Dependent Groups and Mixed Group Designs  
In Class activity #8 based on the lab manual | Lab #7 Writing up the research project  
Discussion, limitations, future direction                                                       | Chapter 8          |
| Week 11 August 5 & 7 | Exam Due 8/5  
Projects due 8/7 |                                                                                                  |                       |