Course and Contact Information
Instructor(s): Sandra Trafalis
Office Location: DMH 232
Telephone: (408) 924-5614
Email: Sandra.trafalasis@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Friday 5:30-7:30 or by appointment
Class Days/Time: T/TH 3:00-3:50 (section 50) / T/TH 4:15 -6:15 (Section 51/52)
Classroom: Online
Prerequisites: Psyc 1, Psyc 18, Stat 95

Course Description
Descriptive, correlational, quasi-experimental, and experimental approaches: design, methodology, and analysis. Experience designing, conducting, analyzing, and presenting (verbal and written) research findings. Topics include: hypothesis testing, validity, reliability, scales of measurement, questionnaire development, power, statistical significance, and effect size. Prerequisite: Lower division GE complete; STAT 95, PSYC 18, PSYC 100W with a "C" or better (or departmental approval), Upper division standing, Psychology or Behavioral Science majors only.

Course Format
This course adopts an online delivery format. Students will need internet connectivity, access to SPSS, library databases and CANVAS.

Program Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of the requirements for a major in psychology, students will be able to:

PLO1 – Knowledge Base of Psychology – identify, describe, and communicate the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology

PLO2 – Research Methods in Psychology – design, implement, and communicate basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretations

PLO3 – Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology – use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and a scientific approach to address issues related to behavior and mental processes

PLO4 – Application of Psychology – apply psychological principles to individual, interpersonal, group, and societal issues

PLO5 – Values in Psychology – value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society
Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. CLO 1 Understand the differences and limitations of experimental and correlational research designs.
2. CLO 2 Evaluate psychological research as to its reliability, validity, utility, and adherence to ethical guidelines.
3. CLO 3 Identify threats to validity in research, including confounds and threats to generalizability.
4. CLO 4 Execute a research project utilizing experimental design and interpret the results.
5. CLO 5 Perform statistical analyses on data including descriptive statistics and inferential statistics.

Required Texts/Readings (Required - Delete the word “Required” in final draft)

Textbook


Other technology requirements / equipment / material
Current Version of SPSS which can be downloaded from SJSU Website (information available on course CANVAS on downloading.

Library Liaison
Christa Bailey
Email: christa.bailey@sjsu.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments
Assessments for this class will consist of weekly quizzes completed through CANVAS, online class activities which could include discussion posts, video responses, and group project activities. There are 4 project deliverables that include (1) Research Proposal, (2) Online Data Collection Tool (3) Data Analysis (4) Interpretation of Results. Students will also complete a final research project. Due dates for each of the assignments is found in CANVAS.

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Final Examination or Evaluation
The final research project will be the culminating activity for this course. The due date for the assignment is posted in CANVAS and will be due on the day of the final exam.
“Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.”
Grading Information

Grading Policy

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<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<td>A</td>
<td>930 to 1000</td>
<td>93 to 95%</td>
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Late work will be reduced by 10%. The last day to submit work is the last day of instruction for the semester. There may be extra credit opportunities and they will not exceed 5% of the total point value of the class. This course must be passed with a C or better as an SJSU graduation requirement.

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [Syllabus Information web page](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.
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<thead>
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<th>Module</th>
<th>Module Topic</th>
<th>Reading Assignment</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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| 1      | What is the Scientific Method? | Chapter 1 | Weekly Assessments including Quizzes, Discussion Posts, and Project Related Activities  
Zoom Meeting see CANVAS for Link |
| 2      | Conducting Ethical Research | Chapter 2 | Weekly Assessments including Quizzes, Discussion Posts, and Project Related Activities  
Zoom Meeting see CANVAS for Link |
| 3      | Sampling Techniques in Research & Design | Chapter 3 | Weekly Assessments including Quizzes, Discussion Posts, and Project Related Activities  
Zoom Meeting see CANVAS for Link |
| 4      | Survey Methodologies | Chapter 5 | Weekly Assessments including Quizzes, Discussion Posts, and Project Related Activities  
Zoom Meeting see CANVAS for Link |
| 5      | Scales of Measurement, Reliability, & Validity | Chapter 4 | Weekly Assessments  Project Activity #1 Research Question & Background Literature Overview & References DUE (9/19)  
Zoom Meeting see CANVAS for Link |
| 6      | Experimental Designs | Chapter 11  
Plus assigned readings in CANVAS. | Weekly Assessments  Project Activity #2: Proposing Ethical Research, Informed Consent and Survey Questions DUE (10/2) |
| 7 | Collecting Data for your Project | Handout Descriptive Methods | Weekly Assessments  
Project Activity #3: Survey and Measurement Activity with Live Survey Link DUE (10/24) |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 8 | Analyzing your Data | Chapter 11  
Plus assigned readings in CANVAS. | Weekly Assessments  
Students will complete each other's surveys. Surveys remain open for data collection. |
| 9 | Communicating your Results | Chapter 8  
Plus assigned readings in CANVAS. | Weekly Assessments  
Final Office Hours meeting for the semester or by appointment. |

**Final Assessment**  
The final cumulative project will be the completed research project due on the day of the final exam (12/10)

Any changes will be published in CANVAS with advanced notice. Changes would be made to improve the pass or flow of the class and/or based on student need. All changes will be announced and posted in CANVAS for students. Due dates are posted in CANVAS.