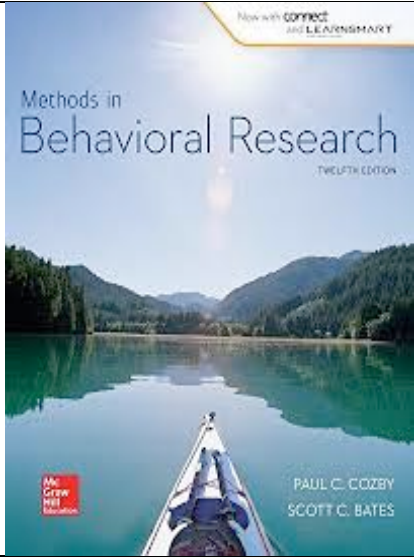


University of North Texas at Dallas

Spring 2016

SYLLABUS

PSYC: 3200 Research Methods; 3Hrs			
Department of	Sociology & Psychology	Division of	Liberal Arts & Sciences
Instructor Name:	Dr. Priya Eimerbrink		
Office Location:	DAL2 225		
Office Phone:	972.338.1568		
Email Address:	priya.eimerbrink@untdallas.edu Please label subject line "Research Methods" in ALL e-mails		
Office Hours:	M: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM and 2:30 – 4:30 PM; T: 1:00 – 4:00 PM; W: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM and 2:30 - 3:00 PM; Th: 1:00 – 3:30 PM		
Classroom Location:	DAL2 337		
Class Meeting Days & Times:	MW: 1:00 – 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 1100D or equivalent		
Required Text:	<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;">  <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <p>Cozby & Bates (2015). <i>Methods in Behavioral Research</i> (12th edition) New York: McGraw-Hill Education (e-book with accompanying connect plus software access). ISBN: 9781259183171</p> <p><i>*Using older versions of the text is not recommended and should be done at the student's own risk. Exams, class material, and class discussions will all come from the 3rd edition</i></p> <p><u>Chapter Course Readings</u> <i>*All class readings should be completed prior to the class day they are discussed. That is, I operate under the assumption that all students have read all material and are ready to converse on its contents prior to the class in which the information will be presented.</i></p> </div> </div>		
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 338-1616; web: http://www.untdallas.edu/our-campus/library UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: 1012mgr@fhcg.follett.com		
Course Goals or Overview:			
	<p>The goals of this course are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To gain an increased understanding of the application of various scientific research methods in the studying of psychological phenomena. 2. Gain an understanding of how data is collected for the purpose of answering experimentally derived questions. 3. Understand the strengths and limitations of different scientific experimental methods. 		

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Learn basic psychological study techniques (i.e. developing a theory, generating hypotheses, designing experiments and analyzing results). 5. Develop the ability to determine appropriate experimental designs based on proposed research questions
Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, students will be able to	
1	Understand the ethics of psychological research
2	Understand the basics of research design
3	Be able to plan good research
4	Be able to critically evaluate psychological studies
5	Demonstrate critical thinking

Course Outline

“As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class.”

– Dr. Eimerbrink

TOPIC	ASSIGNMENTS	BEFORE CLASS READING	TIMELINE
Introduction to Class		Syllabus	1/20
Scientific Understanding of Behavior		Chapter 1	1/25-1/27
Where to Start		Chapter 2	2/1-2/3
Ethics in Behavioral Research		Chapter 3	2/8-2/10
Fundamental Resesarch Issues		Chapter 4	2/15-2/17
Catch-up/Review Day			2/22
Day Before Exam #1 (not a class day)	Connect Due: Pre-Test, Post-Test, Homework & LearnSmart Exam 1 Material (Available 12:00 AM 1/20- 11:59 PM 2/23)		1/20-2/23
Exam #1		Chapters 1-4	2/24
Introduction Draft Due	Submitted via Blackboard by 1:00 PM 2/29 + Bring Hard Copy to Class		2/29
Measurement Concepts		Chapter 5	2/29-3/2
Observational Methods		Chapter 6	3/7-3/9
SPRING BREAK - NO CLASS			3/14-3/16
Survey Research		Chapter 7	3/21-3/23
Experimental Design		Chapter 8	3/28-3/30
Catch-up/Review Day			4/4
Day Before Exam #2 (not a class day)	Connect Due: Pre-Test, Post-Test, Homework & LearnSmart Exam 2 Material (Available 12:00 AM 2/24- 11:59 PM 4/5)		2/24-4/5
Exam #2		Chapters 5-8	4/6
Methods Draft Due	Submitted via Blackboard by 1:00 PM 4/11 + Bring Hard Copy to Class		4/11
Conducting Experiments		Chapter 9	4/11-4/13
Complex Experimental Designs		Chapter 10	4/18-4/20
Single-Case, Quasi, and Developmental Research		Chapter 11	4/25-4/27
Catch-up/Review Day			5/2
Final Draft Due	Submitted via Blackboard by 1:00 PM 5/4 + Bring Hard Copy to Class		5/4
Final Paper Due/ Exit Meeting			5/4
Day Before Exam #2 (not a class day)	Connect Due: Pre-Test, Post-Test, Homework & LearnSmart Exam 3 Material (Available 12:00 AM 4/6- 11:59 PM TBA)		
Exam #3		Chapters 9-11	TBA

Course Evaluation Methods

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

EXAMS (100 points apiece)

Students will have three formal opportunities throughout the semester to demonstrate their knowledge and their ability to critically think about and apply class material. All exams will be non-comprehensive and will cover material from class lectures, the textbook, audio/visual media, exercises, and class discussions. Each exam will be worth 100 points and will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and or/or essay questions. Students may drop their lowest test score. Grades will be posted on **Blackboard** and you will need to have access to your account. ***I will not e-mail individual grades to students for security reasons.*** It will be your responsibility to obtain access to your grades. Students who wish to find out what questions they missed on examinations may meet with me in my office (***I encourage all of you to do this!***). You are expected to be in class and on time for exams. **If a student is tardy the day of an examination, he or she will not be permitted to take the exam if any class member has already turned in a completed exam.** Please be sure to arrive **on time.**

ATTENDANCE (25 points)

*I will take attendance everyday during the course of the semester. **Each class attended will be worth 1-attendance points (i.e., being present during the entire class).*** I may take attendance more than once during a lecture; I will then calculate your attendance grade based on the maximum number of points possible (e.g., 1 point) divided by the number of times I take attendance on that day. Attendance will be worth a maximum of 25 points. Class meets 29 times during the semester with a student being able to miss four classes for ANY reason and still have perfect attendance at the end of the semester. ***It is highly recommended that these “misses” be saved for emergencies (e.g., major illnesses, family emergencies).*** ***You will NOT be excused for any absences since you can miss three classes and still have perfect attendance. Do NOT ask me to do otherwise. Please also note that the course starts the first day of the semester and attendance will be taken starting with the first day of the class.***

IN-AND OUT-OF-CLASS-ASSIGNMENTS/CLICKER2 PARTICIPATION (25 Points)

An additional 25 points will be assigned for participation in class discussion questions (via the Clicker2) or through in or out-of-class activities. Participation points will be based on the percent of participation. For example, only students who participate 100% of the time, will receive the full 25 points. Students who participate 95% of the time will receive 24 points, and so forth. ***There will be no “make-ups” for class participation (for any reason)***

CONNECT PRE-TESTS (40 points)

Pre-tests are a quick way for you to interact with the chapter material. I encourage you all to complete these prior to the in class lecture:

- Each Connect pre-test will appear in a content folder corresponding to the exam it appears in.
- All Connect pre-tests in a given content folder **MUST** be completed by due dates specified in the syllabus (e.g. all pre-tests for Exam 1 **MUST** be completed by Tuesday, February 23rd at 11:59 PM (i.e. the night before the in class exam)- see syllabus for all due dates.
- Each pre-tests will be contain 10-15 questions.
- You will not be given a time limit and will receive two attempts to obtain the correct answers (there are no penalizations for multiple attempts and you will only need to revise wrong answers from the previous attempt).
- You can print the pre-test however, please don't exit out of the browser
- Students will be able to access the hints and check your work function as they complete the pre-test.
- The pre-test will each be worth 4 points (11 pre-tests available only need to complete 10 to earn full points. Additionally completed pre-tests will become extra credit).
- As due dates are explicitly listed in the syllabus with ample time to complete them, **THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTLY NO MAKES OF PRE-TESTS. No exceptions!**

CONNECT LEARNSMART ASSIGNMENTS (70 points)

LearnSmart is an interactive text designed to help you review the material learned in each chapter. The Learn Smart system continually adjusts to your level of content mastery:

- Each assignment will appear in a content folder corresponding to the exam it appears in.
 - All LearnSmart Assignments in a given content folder MUST be completed by 11:59 PM on the night prior to the exam it corresponds with (e.g. all Learn Smart Assignments for Exam 1 MUST be completed by Tuesday, February 23rd at 11:59 PM - see syllabus for all due dates).
 - Each chapter on average will take approximately 30 minutes to 40 minutes to complete and will include between 30-50 questions.
 - Scores are assigned based on the percentage of mastery for each assignment.
 - Each LearnSmart Assignment will be worth 7 points (11 LearnSmarts available only need to complete 10 to earn full points. Additionally completed LearnSmart assignments will become extra credit).
 - As due dates are explicitly listed in the syllabus with ample time to complete each assignment, THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTLY NO MAKE-UPS OF LEARN SMART ASSIGNMENTS. No exceptions!
 - The Learn Smart Assignment can be accessed on your iPhone or iPad and synced with your Blackboard:
 - Go here to download the iphone app*:
 - <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/learnsmart/id365879172?mt=8>
- * All work completed on the iPhone/iPad app WILL sync with Blackboard. However, you MUST check in via computer once per chapter to get the mobile work to sync.

CONNECT POST-TESTS (60 points)

Post-tests are designed to allow students to gauge retention of chapter material and can help indicate possible concepts or topics that may require additional study prior to the exam.

- Each post-test will appear in a content folder corresponding to the exam it appears in.
- All post-tests in a given content folder MUST be completed by 11:59 PM on the night prior to the exam it corresponds with (e.g. Post-test for Exam 1 MUST be completed by Tuesday, February 23rd at 11:59 PM - see syllabus for all due dates).
- Each post-test will contain 10-15 questions.
- You will be given unlimited time to complete the post-test
- You may print out your post-test
- You will receive only one opportunity to take your post-test (so DO NOT exit out of the post-test once started).
- The post-test will be worth 6 points each (11 post-tests available only need to complete 10 to earn full points. Additionally completed post-test assignments will become extra credit).
- Scores will be assigned based on how many correct answers were selected.
- As due dates are explicitly listed in the syllabus with ample time to complete them, THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTLY NO MAKE-UPS OF POST-TESTS. No exceptions!

CONNECT HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS (60 points)

Homework Assignments are designed to allow students to interact with chapter material and can help further understanding of key concepts and topics.

- Each Connect Homework Assignment will appear in a content folder corresponding to the exam it appears in.
- All Connect Homework Assignments in a given content folder MUST be completed by due dates specified in the syllabus (e.g. all Homework Assignments for Exam 1 MUST be completed by Tuesday, February 23rd at 11:59 PM - see syllabus for all due dates - see syllabus for all due dates).
- Each Connect Homework Assignment will contain 1-5 questions.
- You will be given unlimited time to complete the Connect Homework Assignments and may work in groups with your fellow classmates if you so choose however, please don't exit out of the browser.
- You will receive two attempts to obtain the correct answers (there are no penalizations for multiple attempts and you will only need to revise wrong answers from the previous attempt). The Connect Homework Assignment will be worth 3 points each. There are 21 Connect Homework Assignments so I will count your top 20 Assignments towards this grade (and one more for possible EC).
- Scores will be assigned based on how many correct answers were selected.
- As due dates are explicitly listed in the syllabus with ample time to complete them, THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTLY NO MAKE-UPS OF CONNECT HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS. No exceptions!

RESEARCH PROJECT PROPOSAL (140 points total)

As a way to help you interact with the different study methods we will be covering over the course of the semester, each student will be required to complete the first part of a formal research project proposal for a research study they would want to conduct in the future.

You will turn your paper in over three iterations

Draft one (Introduction) 50 points – Due 2/29

Draft two (Methods) 50 points – Due 4/11

Final draft 40 points – Due 5/4

All papers must be 5-7 pages, double spaced, in times new roman font and formatted using APA guidelines. Formal grading rubrics will be posted in Blackboard. **Papers MUST BE turned in via blackboard by 1:00 PM on the specific due date and a hard copy of your paper must be brought to class.** ABSOLUTLY NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED, OR PAPERS NOT SUBMITTED THROUGH BLACKBOARD AS SPECIFIED!

Grading Matrix:

Instrument	Value (points and percentages)	Total
Exams	2 exams at 100 points each	200
Connect Pre-Tests	10 assignments at 4 points each	40
Connect Learn Smart Assignments	10 assignments at 7 points each	70
Connect Post-Tests	10 assignments at 6 points each	60
Connect HW	20 assignments at 3 points each	60
Attendance	1 point per day	25
Class Participation/ Assignments	Group Discussion, clicker questions, etc	25
Research Project Proposal	Draft 1 - 50 points, Draft 2 - 50 points, Final Draft - 40 points	140
Total:		620

Grade Determination:

A = 620 – 558 pts; i.e. 90% or better

B = 557 – 496 pts; i.e. 80 – 89.9 %

C = 495 – 434 pts; i.e. 70 – 79.9 %

D = 433 – 372 pts; i.e. 60 – 69.9 %

F = 371 pts or below; i.e. less than 60%

You will not be graded on a curve. Grades are assigned on individual performance based on straight percentage scores. ***I make it a policy not to “bump” any final grade up to the next higher grade.*** Please do not ask me to do otherwise.

University Policies and Procedures

CELL PHONE POLICY

Cell phones are NOT to be used during class time. Texting or taking phone calls during class will not be tolerated. Put your phone on silent and put it away.

HANDOUTS

Course material will be available via Blackboard. PowerPoint slides will be available prior to lecture ONLY with entire class participation and attentiveness from the class period before. The use of cell phones (phone calls, texting, playing games, etc.), computers for non-related class activities (e.g. Facebook, online chatting, surfing of the internet, etc.), and side conversations of even a few individuals will force the slides of the following class periods lecture notes to NOT be posted for everyone. I have no problem positing my PowerPoint slides however, this is a benefit, and as such, I expect full attention while in class. If it becomes apparent that individual students are not actively engaging in the learning process during that days lecture, then the entire class will be held responsible for taking their own notes for the subsequent class period.

You are responsible for downloading material PRIOR to class if you want them (and they are available). If you do not own a computer, there are computers available for you to use on campus (e.g., main library). Slides are subject to change without notice. Posted slides are only meant to supplement note taking, not replace it. **Indeed I expect to see students taking notes given that active note taking aids in better retention and learning of the material.**

Here are some websites that can provide you with information on how to more effectively take notes and study:

- <http://academictips.org/>
- <http://www.rasmussen.edu/student-life/blogs/college-life/how-to-study/>
- <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~acskills/success/notes.html>
- <http://www.how-to-study.com/>

E-MAIL COMMUNICATION

When communicating with instructors and other professionals, you are expected to communicate in a professional and formal manner. This includes addressing your audience using their proper title, using proper grammar, and using proper spelling. Indeed, how you deliver your message is often as important as the message itself. Thus, I expect you to communicate professionally when e-mailing me (and to use your grammar and spell-check functions before you send me an e-mail).

Students are also required to use their UNT-Dallas e-mail account in this class. The University of North Texas at Dallas has adopted the University email address as an official means of communication with students. I will not send e-mails to alternate accounts. Students are responsible for checking their e-mail regularly.

Important information will be sent via Blackboard. With this in mind, you should either routinely log into Blackboard or forward your Blackboard messages to your e-mails. *I will not answer e-mails sent via Blackboard. Please send all e-mails to my faculty e-mail address priya.eimerbrink@untdallas.edu.*

EXPECTATIONS FOR OUT-OF-CLASS-STUDY

A general rule of thumb is this: for every credit hour earned, a student should spend 3 hours per week working outside of class during a regular 15-week semester. Hence, a 3-credit course might have a minimum expectation of 9 hours of reading, study, etc. for a 15-week semester. Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 30 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, taking exams, doing out-of-class assignments, etc.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (ADA COMPLIANCE)

The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students' with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed as accommodations are not retroactive. For more information, you may visit the Student Life Office, Suite 200, Building 2 or call Laura Smith at 972-780-3632.

STUDENT EVALUATION OF TEACHING EFFECTIVENESS POLICY

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. 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 the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

ASSIGNMENT POLICY

There will be no "make-ups" or acceptance of late work (for any reason).

EXAM POLICY

You are expected to be in class and on time for exams. **If a student is tardy the day of an examination, he or she will not be permitted to take the exam if any class member has already turned in a completed exam.** Please be sure to arrive **on time!** If you miss an examination due to an **instructor-approved** absence (e.g. military assignment, religious holiday, illness/hospitalization, death in the family, funeral, etc.), they will be given a make-up exam and will be required to take it at a time approved by the instructor (**not** during class time). Students will have **one week** from the missed exam to provide me with documentation to legitimizing the absence, otherwise they will receive a zero for that exam. If student miss an examination due to an unapproved reason (e.g. woke up late, traffic, etc.), ***they will not be able to make up the examination and will receive a zero on the exam issued.***

You are expected to be in class and on time for exams. **If a student is tardy the day of an examination, he or she will not be permitted to take the exam if any class member has already turned in a completed exam.** Please be sure to arrive **on time.**

RESEARCH PROJECT PROPOSAL POLICY

No late drafts of the research project proposal will be accepted.

IN-AND OUT-OF-CLASS-ASSIGNMENTS/CLICKER2 PARTICIPATION POLICY

There will be no “make-ups” for class participation (for any reason)

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 the Student Code of Academic Integrity at <http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic%20Integrity.pdf> for complete provisions of this code.

In addition, all academic work submitted for this class, including exams, papers, and written assignments should include the following statement: **On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the UNTD Academic Integrity Policy.**

BAD WEATHER POLICY

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website www.unt.edu/dallas. Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Class attendance and participation are vital to grasping course content. Students who miss class are required to find out what they missed and to acquire class notes, assignments, and missed material from another student prior to the next class period. I encourage you to exchange emails and/or phone numbers with at least two other students in this section. I expect you to be on time for all class meetings. If you are late, you risk missing important announcements, directions, discussions, and extra credit opportunities. You are still responsible for any information that is covered and I will not spend time repeating information. Be courteous, be on time, and do not socialize during class.

Attendance will be taken in class via the i>Clicker2 response pad and will count toward your attendance grade. You must be in the class at the time of attendance to get credit for attending the class. This is NOT a correspondence course (i.e., a distance education course); thus, you are expected to be in class and to participate in class. Students are NOT to “sign-in” their friends/classmates. Any student caught signing in a classmate will be turned into the university for academic dishonesty and will receive a final grade of 0 for both attendance and in-class assignment/participation (along with the student who requested he/she be signed in during their absence).

CONNECT PRE-TEST, POST-TEST, HW & LEARN SMART MODULES POLICY:

As due dates are explicitly listed in the syllabus with ample time to complete them, THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NO MAKES OF PRE-TESTS, POST-TESTS, HW & LEARN SMART MODULES. No exceptions!

DIVERSITY/TOLERANCE POLICY:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. 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 Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate.

CHILDREN/UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS POLICY:

No children or unauthorized persons may be brought to classes or during exams without prior instructor permission. Do not leave children unattended in university buildings and facilities.

UNAUTHORIZED RECORDINGS POLICY:

Students are not permitted to audio or video record lectures without prior approval from the instructor.