

PSY 303  
Research Methods

Winter, 1985  
M. Gernsbacher

COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. M. Gernsbacher	Teaching Assistant: Sriram Nantarajan
Office: 205 Straub	304 Straub
Office Hrs.: 12:45-1:45 UH	11:30-12:30 MWF
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Suggested textbook: Chadwick, B.A., Bahr, H.M., & Albrecht, S.L. (1984). Social science research methods. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.

Required handbook: "Handbook for Psychology 303" available at EMU printshop (breezeway)

Grading: Course grades will be based upon performance in 9 out-of-class ASSIGNMENTS, and in-class MIDTERM EXAM and an in-class FINAL EXAM.

Each of the nine ASSIGNMENTS will be worth 10 points  
The MIDTERM EXAM will be worth 25 points  
The FINAL EXAM will be worth 35 points

Thus, a possible  $90 + 25 + 35$  or a total of 150 points can be earned.  
Of the 150 points, anyone earning:

A total of 135 to 150 points will receive an	A
A total of 120 to 134 points will receive an	B
A total of 105 to 119 points will receive an	C
A total of 90 to 104 points will receive an	D
Less than a total 90 points will receive an	F

Based on the actual distribution of final grades, this criterion might be relaxed, but not stiffened.

Late Assignments: Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date due. Assignments will be accepted up to 24 hours after the date due, but one point will automatically be subtracted. NO assignments will be accepted after 24 hours past the due date.

Date	Lecture Topic	Assignment Due	Readings
Th Jan 10	Overview of course, collecting and describing data		(Text, Ch. 13) (HB*, Sect. 1)
Tu Jan 15	Forming and testing hypotheses		(Text, Ch. 1) HB, pp. 2-1 to 2-16
Th Jan 17	Locating published research (meet in library, Studio D)	1	HB, Sect. 5, 6
Tu Jan 22	Operationally defining variables and sampling populations		(Text, Ch. 3)
Th Jan 24	Operationalizing hypotheses	2	(Text, Ch. 2)
Tu Jan 29	Learning how to write concisely		HB, pp. 2-17 to 2-19
Th Jan 31	Measuring hypothetical constructs (Standardized tests)	3	HB, Sect. 4
Tu Feb 5	Evaluating standardized tests (validity and reliability)		HB, pp. 2-19 to 2-23
Th Feb 7	Interpreting correlation	4	HB, Sect. 7
Tu Feb 12	Exploring alternative hypotheses		HB, pp. 2-23 to 2-25
Th Feb 14	MIDTERM EXAM (demonstrating what you know so far)	5	none
Tu Feb 19	Exam feedback (re-learning what you didn't know) and conducting observational research		(Text, Ch.4)
Th Feb 21	Coding observed behavior		HB, pp. 2-25 to 2-28
Tu Feb 26	Conducting questionnaire research	6	(Text, Ch. 6)
Th Feb 28	Conducting interview research		(Text, Ch. 5)
Tu Mar 5	Conducting experimental research	7	(Text, Ch. 7)
Th Mar 7	Controlling for possible confounds		HB, Sect. 8
Tu Mar 12	Talking about your research, Part I	8 or 9	none
Th Mar 14	Talking about your research, Part II	8 or 9	none
Fri Mar 22	FINAL EXAM (demonstrating all you know)		1:00 PM

\* HB = "Handbook for Psychology 303" (available at EMU printshop)  
Readings in parentheses are optional, but highly suggested