

Psychology 303
Research Methods
Fall Quarter, 1992
Monday, Wednesday and Friday 1:30 - 2:20 p.m.

Course Information

Mara Cadinu, M.S.
3:30

Office Hours : Monday and Wednesday 2:30-

Office : Straub 320
Phone : 346-4990

Text Book : Methods in Behavioral Research (4th Edition) by Paul Cozby

Course overview : The purpose of this course is to provide the student with 1) an understanding of the process of research in psychology, 2) experience in conducting research, 3) and tools for reading and evaluating the quality of research.

Class meetings. The course meets three times a week. Class meetings will be used for lecture, class discussion, and quizzes.

Quizzes. There will be a short quiz during almost twice a week as indicated on the class schedule. These will be very short multiple choice quizzes and are designed to provide you with ongoing feedback regarding your mastery of the course material. There will be a total of 11 quizzes. Only ten of these will be figures in your final grade. Therefore, if you need to miss class for whatever reason you can miss one quiz without any problems. This also means that you can drop the quiz with the lowest score. There will be no makeup quizzes.

Assignments. In addition to the quizzes, there will be 6 assignments designed for you to gain experience in different aspects of conducting research. Assignments are generally due on Wednesday at the beginning of class. At the end of the course, each student will be expected to make a short oral presentation in class, modeled after a conference presentation.

Final Exam. There will be an optional final exam. You may choose not to take the final and in which case, your scores from your in class quizzes will be used in figuring your grade. The final will cover all the material covered over the quarter. The exam will not contain any surprises, in fact, it will be quite similar to the questions you have already

addressed in the quizzes. The idea is that it should not require any final cramming, but rather a review of material you have already mastered.

Grading: Grades will be based on the following:

Final Exam OR Quizzes (10 quizzes each worth 10 points)	100
Assignments (6 assignments each worth 25 points)	150
In class presentation	<u>50</u>
Total	300

271 - 300 = A

241 - 270 = B

211 - 240 = C

180 - 210 = D

Below 180 = F

Tentative Class Schedule

Please note that given the structure of the class, this schedule is tentative and may change. I will try to be as clear as possible about any changes, it is up to you, however, to find out about class changes if you miss class. Thanks.

Date	Lecture Topic	Reading	Quiz	Assignment Due
9/28	Overview of Course			
9/30	Scientific method	Chapters 1, 2		
10/2	About variables	Chapter 3		
10/5	Correlations etc.	Chapter 10	Q1	
10/7	Library resources			A1
10/9				
10/12	Ethics	Chapter 12	Q2	
10/14	Observational and survey research	Chapter 4	Q3	A2
10/16				
10/19	Writing up research	Appendix A	Q4	
10/21	Experimental design	Appendix B, C	No Ass.	
10/23				
10/26	What makes a good study?	Chapters 5, 6	Q5	A3
10/28			Q6	
10/30				
11/2	Complex designs	Chapters 7,9, 10	Q7	
11/4				A4
11/6			Q8	
11/9	Doing research	Chapters 8, 11	Q9	
11/11				A5
11/13			Q10	
11/16	TBD		Q11	

11/18
11/20

A6

11/23 Student
presentations

Final project

Thanksgiving

11/30 Student
presentations

12/2
12/4

12/7 Student
presentations

12/9
12/11

12/14-18 Finals week