PSYC 2100WQ

Principles of Research Methods

Avery Point

**Syllabus – Spring 2023**

**Excluding materials for purchase, syllabus information may be subject to change. The most up-to-date syllabus is located within the course in HuskyCT.** [**COURSE SCHEDULE HERE**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1WRJxPWGJWF6D-I5phAFNgmbZUpyYiKPw5xqwIu756FQ/edit?usp=sharing)

**Course and Instructor Information**

**Course Title:** PSYC 2100WQ

**Credits:** 4

**Professor:** Jamie Kleinman, PhD

**Email:** [Jamie.kleinman@uconn.edu](mailto:Jamie.kleinman@uconn.edu) (preferred contact method)

**Telephone:** 860-405-9216

**Office:** ACD 103C

**Student Hours/Availability:** Posted in [www.nexus.uconn.edu](http://www.nexus.uconn.edu) and hosted via webex: https://uconn-cmr.webex.com/meet/jmk01002

**Course Materials**

1. **Research Methods** Textbook and [**Top Hat 1 Semester Subscription**](https://app.tophat.com/e/173548)
2. https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/
3. Additional readings or videos as determined by professor

*Course readings and media are available within HuskyCT, through either an Internet link or Library Resources*

**Course Description**

Principles of research methods in psychology focusing on statistical analyses, research design, ethics, and creation of an APA style research proposal. Ordinarily this course should be taken in the fourth or fifth semester. **This is a W-course and a paper with a minimum of at least 15 revised and edited pages (approximately 3750-4250 words) will be assigned. To pass the course, students must pass the writing component.**

**Course Objectives**

By the end of the semester, students should be able to:

| 1. Analyze basic statistical problems using a formula sheet and calculator. |
| --- |
| 1. Determine which statistical tool is appropriate given a specific research question. |
| 1. Analyze basic statistical problems using computer software programs like SPSS and Excel. |
| 1. Develop a hypothesis and propose a multi-part ethical research proposal. |
| 1. Express their proposal in written form in an APA-style paper. |
| 1. Discuss their proposal in an oral form in small and large groups. |

**Course Outline**

Module 1: Getting Started with Research and Descriptive Statistics

Week 1-Thinking Like a Scientist (Distributions)

Week 2-Scientific Enterprise (Central Tendency)

Week 3-Communication Science (Variability)

Week 4-Ethics (Relative Standing)

Week 5-Quantitative and Descriptive Research (Associations)

**Week 6-Review and Exam**

Module 2: Descriptive Studies and Experimental Methods

Week 7-Observation (Four Distributions)

Week 8-Measurement (Hypothesis Testing)

Week 9-Survey Scales (T-test)

Week 10-Independent Groups (ANOVA)

Week 11-Repeated Measures (RM ANOVA)

Week 12-Complex Designs (Factorial ANOVA)

Week 13**-**Qualitative Methods and Quasi-Experiments (Chi-square)

**Week 14- Review and Exam**

**Course Requirements and Grading**

**This course is graded using a model called specifications grading. The point of specifications grading is to have you focus on skill development and mastery as opposed to striving for numerical grades.**

* **All work will be judged on a pass/fail basis.**
* **To receive credit (pass), submitted work must meet a minimum standard for professionalism and informational accuracy:** 
  + **Exams: earning a score of 70 or higher**
  + **Assignments: submitting ‘B’ level work**
* **To pass the course, you must pass a set of requirements.**
* **To earn a higher grade, you need to satisfactorily complete additional sets of specifications as described below and on HuskyCT.**

**In order to be successful in this class:**

* You are expected to attend all class sessions.
* You are expected to read the assigned chapters and readings BEFORE class and come to class with questions and ideas for discussion. You will be responsible for all assigned materials as well as all materials assigned in class.
* You are expected to review lecture slides that are posted on HuskyCT prior to class. You can print these out before class or bring them on your laptop so that you can follow along in your note taking. Lecture will include posted material, as well as a more in-depth coverage through video clips, discussion, and supplementary material.

**COVID-19 STATEMENT**: My policy for Spring 2023 is that given the fact that we have effective vaccinations and mitigation practices in place and the university will return to in-person learning after two weeks online, students should plan to attend all classes. If a student or close contact tests positive for COVID, requiring quarantine, I will work directly with the student to make sure they are able to stay up with the course material. I will be doing everything I can to keep myself healthy and well, and I ask that the members of our community do the same.

**Exams**: You will have two non-cumulative exams that will consist of fill-in the blank, short answer, problem solving, and multiple-choice questions. Exams will cover information covered in class during lectures as well as any videos, handouts, or supplementary materials discussed and will cover research methods and statistics topics. The exams will be administered via HuskyCT, are worth 100 points each, and will take approximately 75 minutes to complete. **To pass an exam, you must score 70 pts or higher.**

**Final Paper:** As this is a writing class, you will be writing up your research project proposal in APA format. There will be various sections of your paper and each will be submitted separately to me as project components. You will receive feedback and will be expected to make revisions. The entire paper from abstract, lit review, tools, methods, limitations, and survey MUST add up to at least 15 pages of writing. The title page and references are not included in the 15 pages of writing. This should end up being between 3750-4250 words. Details for the paper are in HuskyCT. **The final version of your paper will be graded as ‘P’ or ‘F’. A grading rubric will be provided with expectations and point breakdowns and you must score 70 points on the rubric with no categories marked ‘Unacceptable’ to pass the paper. To pass the course, you MUST pass the writing component.**

**Project Components: (Paper):** Each week you will have a different assignment to complete outside of class. These are listed on your schedule with the due dates. These assignments are all components of your research project, presentation, and final paper (proposal, lit review, IRB training, mini-projects, peer review and critique, etc.). Specific instructions for each assignment will be given out during class and also posted on HuskyCT. Most of the assignments will be started during class time, but all will need to be completed outside of class time**. All assignments will be turned in via HuskyCT unless otherwise noted. Each project component must meet qualifications for a rating of “Good/B” in order to receive a ‘P’.**

**During-Class Work:** Each week we will be working through different problems in class. You are to come to class prepared to work through problems related to the content for that week. You will be given an assignment to complete to demonstrate that you understand the concept being covered. You will work individually or in pairs or small groups. At the end of class, you will submit your work. **You will be awarded points based on your participation and accuracy, receiving either a ‘P’ or an ‘F’ for that day.**

**Homework:** In this course you will be using an interactive textbook in TopHat. You will be assigned one chapter per week. The textbooks have embedded questions within each chapter. You are to come to class Wednesday having read the chapter and completed the assigned questions. **You will be awarded points based on your participation and accuracy, receiving either a ‘P’ or an ‘F’ for each chapter of each book.**

**Tokens:** You will start the course with five tokens. Tokens may be used to resubmit an assignment for regrading, for an extension on an assignment (the token must be used before the due date to qualify), or to redo an exam. For an extension, the token MUST be used BEFORE the due date to qualify. An extension will be for a maximum of one week. More than one token cannot be used for the same assignment.

**If class is canceled, I will post an exercise in HuskyCT for you to complete and submit to me for that week to cover the participation exercises. If you know you are going to be absent from class ahead of time, you may notify me no later than 24 hours before class and I will provide you with the exercise to complete within TopHat. If you have a legitimate absence you may also complete the work and submit it to me.**

**Grading Scale:**

| **Grade** | **Exams** | **Final Paper** | **Project Components**  **(12 total)** | **During-Class Work**  **(25 total)** | **TopHat Readings**  **(15 Total)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **A** | Pass 2  First Attempt | Pass | 9 | 16 | 10 |
| **B** | Pass 2, 1 on First Attempt | Pass | 7 | 12 | 8 |
| **C** | Pass 2 Second Attempt | Pass | 5 | 8 | 6 |
| **D** | Pass 2 Second Attempt | Pass | 3 | 4 | 4 |

In order to obtain a specific grade level, you must complete all requirements as specified in the above table. You *may* receive a minus grade level if you complete all requirements with the exception of one requirement at the next lower level. You *may* receive a plus level grade if you complete some requirements at one level and some requirements at a higher level. Exam requirements *must* be completed to achieve a given grade level. Students will receive a progress report via email after each exam.

**Due Dates and Late Policy**

All course due dates are identified in the syllabus and on HuskyCT. Deadlines are based on Eastern Standard Time; if you are in a different time zone, please adjust your submittal times accordingly. The instructor reserves the right to change dates accordingly as the semester progresses. All changes will be communicated in an appropriate manner.

Late work is not accepted without prior authorization of a token. If there are extenuating circumstances that will prevent you from completing your assignment on time, please discuss this issue with me well in advance of the due date. If you would prefer to keep the circumstance surrounding this private, please schedule a meeting with the Director of Avery Point Student Services (860-405-9024).

**Feedback and Grades**

I will make every effort to provide feedback and grades within one week of the due date**.** To keep track of your performance in the course, refer to My Grades in HuskyCT.

**Cancelation Policy**

If the Avery Point campus closes due to weather or other emergencies, you will hear an announcement on local radio and television stations.  Otherwise, you may call the Avery Point campus at 860-405-9020; a recorded message will tell you the status of campus activities.  A video monitor on the first floor of the academic building and on the first floor in the Branford House also posts the announcements.  Do not call any campus office for cancellation information, since when classes are canceled due to inclement weather, they are likewise closed. If I need to cancel class, I will notify all students via both the SAS and HuskyCT by sending an email to their official uconn.edu email address. I will try to do so no later than 9am of that day.

**Student Responsibilities and Resources**

As a member of the University of Connecticut student community, you are held to certain standards and academic policies. In addition, there are numerous resources available to help you succeed in your academic work. This section provides a brief overview to important standards, policies and resources.

**Student Code**

You are responsible for acting in accordance with the [University of Connecticut's Student Code](http://community.uconn.edu/the-student-code-preamble/) Review and become familiar with these expectations. In particular, make sure you have read the section that applies to you on Academic Integrity:

* [Academic Integrity in Undergraduate Education and Research](http://community.uconn.edu/the-student-code-appendix-a/)

Cheating and plagiarism are taken very seriously at the University of Connecticut. As a student, it is your responsibility to avoid plagiarism. If you need more information about the subject of plagiarism, use the following resources:

* [Plagiarism: How to Recognize it and How to Avoid It](http://lib.uconn.edu/instruction/tutorials/plagiarism.htm)
* [University of Connecticut Libraries’ Student Instruction](http://lib.uconn.edu/instruction/students.htm) (includes research, citing and writing resources)

**Copyright**

Copyrighted materials within the course are only for the use of students enrolled in the course for purposes associated with this course and may not be retained or further disseminated.

**Netiquette and Communication**

At all times, course communication with fellow students and the instructor are to be professional and courteous. It is expected that you proofread all your written communication, including discussion posts, assignment submissions, and mail messages. If you are new to online learning or need a netiquette refresher, please look at this guide titled, [The Core Rules of Netiquette](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html).

**Adding or Dropping a Course**

If you should decide to add or drop a course, there are official procedures to follow:

* Matriculated students should add or drop a course through the [Student Administration System](https://student.studentadmin.uconn.edu/).
* Non-degree students should refer to [Non-Degree Add/Drop Information](http://nondegree.uconn.edu/non-degree-registration/) located on the registrar’s website.

You must officially drop a course to avoid receiving an "F" on your permanent transcript. Simply discontinuing class or informing the instructor you want to drop does not constitute an official drop of the course. For more information, refer to the:

* [Undergraduate Catalog](http://catalog.uconn.edu/)
* [Graduate Catalog](http://graduatecatalog.uconn.edu/)

**Academic Calendar**

The University's [Academic Calendar](http://registrar.uconn.edu/academic-calendar/) contains important semester dates.

**Academic Support Resources**

[Technology and Academic Help](http://ecampus.uconn.edu/help.html) provides a guide to technical and academic assistance.

**Final Exam Rescheduling Policy**

Students are required to be available for their exam and/or complete any assessment during the time stated in the Registrar's Office schedule. If you have a conflict with this time you must visit the Avery Point Student Services Office to discuss the possibility of rescheduling this final.

The Office of Student Services REQUIRES advance notice from students who have prior knowledge of a conflict (i.e., bunched finals, religious obligation, legal/medical appointments, etc.)  Students must come to Student Services to seek permission to reschedule their final NO LATER THAN the officially posted date.

Please note that vacations, previously purchased tickets or reservations, graduations, social events, misreading the assessment schedule and over-sleeping are not viable reasons for rescheduling a final. If you think that your situation warrants permission to reschedule, please contact the Office of Student Services (Branford House 306) to make an appointment with the Director of Student Services (860) 405-9024 or [www.nexus.uconn.edu](http://www.sandbox.uconn.edu) (choose Avery Point from the drop down menu).

**Students with Disabilities**

Students needing special accommodations should work with the University's [Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD)](http://www.csd.uconn.edu/index.html). You may contact CSD by calling (860) 486-2020 or by emailing csd@uconn.edu. If your request for accommodation is approved, CSD will send an accommodation letter directly to your instructor(s) so that special arrangements can be made. (Note: Student requests for accommodation must be filed each semester.) You may also contact Trudy Flanery, the Director of Avery Point Student Services (860-405-9024).

Blackboard measures and evaluates accessibility using two sets of standards: the WCAG 2.0 standards issued by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act issued in the United States federal government.” (Retrieved March 24, 2013 from [Blackboard's website](http://www.blackboard.com/platforms/learn/resources/accessibility.aspx))

**Policy Against Discrimination, Harassment and Inappropriate Romantic Relationships**

The University is committed to maintaining an environment free of discrimination or discriminatory harassment directed toward any person or group within its community – students, employees, or visitors.  Academic and professional excellence can flourish only when each member of our community is assured an atmosphere of mutual respect.  All members of the University community are responsible for the maintenance of an academic and work environment in which people are free to learn and work without fear of discrimination or discriminatory harassment.  In addition, inappropriate Romantic relationships can undermine the University’s mission when those in positions of authority abuse or appear to abuse their authority.  To that end, and in accordance with federal and state law, the University prohibits discrimination and discriminatory harassment, as well as inappropriate Romantic relationships, and such behavior will be met with appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the University.

More information is available at <http://policy.uconn.edu/?p=2884>.

**Sexual Assault Reporting Policy**

To protect the campus community, all non-confidential University employees (including faculty) are required to report assaults they witness or are told about to the [Office of Diversity & Equity](http://www.ode.uconn.edu/) under the [Sexual Assault Response Policy](http://policy.uconn.edu/?p=2139).  The University takes all reports with the utmost seriousness.  Please be aware that while the information you provide will remain private, it will not be confidential and will be shared with University officials who can help.

More information is available at <http://sexualviolence.uconn.edu/>.

**Software Requirements and Technical Help**

* MS Office Products (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
* SPSS
* [Adobe Acrobat Reader](http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html)
* Internet access
* Social media accounts (optional)
* **If you do not have access to SPSS or MS Office products you can access them using UConn’s SkyBox (virtual computer lab)**  <http://skybox.uconn.edu/>

This course is completely facilitated online using the learning management platform, [HuskyCT](http://huskyct.uconn.edu/). If you have difficulty accessing HuskyCT, students have access to the in person/live person support options available during regular business hours in the [Digital Learning Center](http://www.dlc.uconn.edu/). Students also have [24x7 Support](http://www.ecampus24x7.uconn.edu/) with access to live chat, phone and support documents.

**Minimum Technical Skills**

To be successful in this course, you will need the following technical skills:

* Use electronic mail with attachments.
* Save files in commonly used word processing program formats.
* Copy and paste text, graphics or hyperlinks.
* Work within two or more browser windows simultaneously.
* Open and access PDF files.

University students are expected to demonstrate competency in Computer Technology. Explore the [Computer Technology Competencies](http://ctcs.uconn.edu/) page for more information.

**Evaluation of the Course**

Students will be provided an opportunity to evaluate instruction in this course using the University's standard procedures, which are administered by the[Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness](http://www.oire.uconn.edu/) (OIRE).

Additional informal formative surveys

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**Course Calendar**

| **Week #** | **Date** | **Tuesday Topic** | **Thursday Topic** | **Readings** | **Project Assignment** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 1/17-1/21 | What is Science? | Describing Data | Chapter 1  Chapter 14-14.3 | **Links to a study** |
| 2 | 1/22-1/28 | The Scientific Enterprise | Describing Central Tendency | Chapter 2  Chapter 14.4 | **Study Design Exercise** |
| 3 | 1/29-2/4 | Communicating Science | Describing Variability | Chapter 3  Chapter 14.5 | **Literature Search Exercise**  **APA Style** |
| 4 | 2/5-2/11 | Conducting Ethical Research | Describing Relative Standing | Chapter 4  Chapter 14.6 | **CITI Training** |
| 5 | 2/12-2/18 | Quantitative Descriptive Research | Describing Associations | Chapter 5  Chapter 14.7 | **Literature Review** |
| 6 | 2/19-2/25 | Review and Exam 1 |  | Chapters 1-5  Chapter 14 | **Exam 1 on 2/22/23 7AM-11:59PM via HuskyCT** |
| 7 | 2/26-3/4 | Observations as Measurement Tools | Four Distributions | Chapter 6  Chapter 15-15.3 | **Observation Tools** |
| 8 | 3/5-3/11 | Tests as Measurement Tools | Hypothesis Testing | Chapter 7  Chapter 15.4 | **Tests** |
|  | 3/12-3/18 | **NO CLASS SPRING BREAK** | | |  |
| 9 | 3/19-3/25 | Surveys as Measurement Tools | T-Tests | Chapter 8  Chapter 15.5 | **Surveys** |
| 10 | 3/26-4/1 | Independent Groups | ANOVAS | Chapters 9  Chapter 15.6-15.8 | **Between Subjects Design** |
| 11 | 4/2-4/8 | Repeated Measures | ANOVAS | Chapter 10  Chapter 15.9 | **Within Subjects Design** |
| 12 | 4/9-4/15 | Complex Experiments | ANOVAS | Chapter 11  Chapter 15.9.5 | **Complex Design** |
| 13 | 4/16-4/22 | Qualitative Methods | Chi-Square | Chapter 12 | **Applications, Limitations, Risks** |
| 14 | 4/23-4/28 | Quasi-Experiments and Review | Alternative to Hypothesis Testing | Chapter 13 | **Putting it All Together-Final Paper** |
| EXAMS | 4/30-5/6 | **FINAL EXAM IN HUSKYCT WEDNESDAY 5/3/23 DUE 11:59PM** | | |  |