

PSY 400: Advanced Research Methods - Fall 2019

Section 01

Wolfgang Friedlmeier

LSH 227

12-12:50 pm

Instructor

Wolfgang Friedlmeier
1317 Au Sable Hall
331-2415
Email: friedlmw@gvsu.edu

Office hours:

Monday	1:30 to 2:30 pm
Wednesday	1 to 3 pm
Friday	1:30 to 2:30 pm

Literature

Stangor, C. (2011, 4th ed.). *Research methods for the behavioral sciences*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Company. ISBN: 9780840031976

American Psychological Association (2009). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (Sixth Edition). Washington, D.C.: APA.

Course Overview

The aim of this course is to apply knowledge about research methods in psychology by designing an empirical study, collecting data, and writing a paper. Theoretical and ethical issues, measurement, reliability and validity of methods, experimental, quasi-experimental, and survey research designs, biases in experimentation, and univariate and multivariate data analysis will be discussed in class.

The course is designed to accomplish three main objectives: (1) Students will demonstrate the ability to design and develop an empirical study in psychology and to write a research paper. (2) They will learn to discuss their own study in critical ways by recognizing limits and problems, and (3) they will increase their overall knowledge about research in psychology.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. explain research methods issues including ethical issues, measurement, reliability and validity of methods, experimental, quasi-experimental and survey research designs, biases in experimentation, and univariate and multivariate data analysis;
2. demonstrate the ability to design and conduct an empirical study in psychology;
3. write a research paper describing a psychology experiment;
4. discuss their study in critical ways by recognizing limits and problems.

This course is subject to the GVSU policies listed at <http://www.gvsu.edu/coursepolicies/>

Prerequisites

PSY 101, STA 215, and PSY 300

A good understanding of basic statistics is a must as the application of correlation and ANOVAs will be requested during the course.

General Information

SPSS training. All SPSS sessions will take place in Henry Hall 114.

Class attendance. Regular participation is obligatory. It is expected that you inform the instructor about your absence in class in time by email. You may miss classes three times without documentation. After the third time, you need prove for your absence each time. If no document is shown, one point will be subtracted from your active contribution/participation grade for each day of absence.

Active contributions to class discussions are crucial for full participation grade. For regular but passive presence your maximum points will be 15 out of 20.

Withdrawal. The deadline for withdrawing from the class is **October 25, 5 pm**, through one of the Student Assistance Centers.

Special Needs. If there is any student in this class who has special needs because of a learning, physical, or other disability, please contact me and Disability Support Services (DSS) at (616) 331-2490. Furthermore, if you have a disability and think you will need assistance evacuating this classroom and/or building in an emergency, please make me aware so that the university and I can develop a plan to assist you. It is the *student's responsibility* to request assistance from DSS.

Academic Integrity. Students will do original work and will not take or receive the efforts of another person on any test or assignment, use unauthorized resources on quizzes or tests, plagiarize, or give/sell other students papers or assignments *not authorized by the instructor*. **You are responsible** for making yourself aware of and for understanding the policies and procedures that pertain to academic integrity. To that end, be sure to familiarize yourself with the GVSU Student Code [Section 223.01] related to academic integrity. **Furthermore, be sure to reference sources at all times.** If you are uncertain about such an issue prior to submission of an assignment, project, or test, please contact the instructor so we can eliminate that uncertainty. **Plagiarism or cheating will result in an F for the course.**

Support for Writing. The Fred Meijer Center for Writing, with locations at the Allendale and Pew/Downtown Grand Rapids campuses, is a peer service available to assist you with writing for any of your classes. Writing consultants, who are fellow GVSU students, are trained to help you with all stages of your writing process, from brainstorming to organizing to editing your papers. Simply bring an idea, prompt, or draft of your paper along with the assignment sheet to any of the Center's locations. Also, through your Gmail account, you have access to online consultations through Google Docs. The Center's services are free and you can drop in and work with a consultant or make an appointment, either through our website or by calling the Center (331-2922). Peer support is available for research and speech/presentation through the Knowledge Market, where the Writing Center partners with the Speech Lab and the Peer Research Center. Additional information about the Knowledge Market (<https://www.gvsu.edu/km/>) and Writing Center services and locations can be found on our website <https://www.gvsu.edu/wc/>. Check the website for access updates schedules and resources. Tell the Writing Consultant you work with that you would like notification of your visit to be sent to your professor.

Research Assistance. Hazel McClure is the psychology librarian and she can provide you with individualized research assistance for all of your classes. Her office is in the Mary Idema Pew Library on the Allendale campus and she can be reached at mcclureh@gvsu.edu or 331-7730. Her psychology library subject guide (<http://libguides.gvsu.edu/psych>) contains links to all of the psychology databases and other specific resources for psychology students.

Grade Distribution

A	94 - 100%	A-	90 - 94%		
B+	87 - 90%	B	83 - 87%	B-	80 - 83%
C+	77 - 80%	C	73 - 77%	C-	70 - 73%
D+	66 – 70%	D	60 - 66%		
F	60% and lower				

Assignments and Research Paper

You will be required to work on a research paper by carrying out your own study (group projects). Three presentations are related to the research project and the final research paper written in APA style will be submitted at the end of the semester. The deadline for the final draft is **December 6**. Each day your paper is late, 10 points will be deducted from the final grade. You will also be asked to write a proposal for the IRB as part of an assignment. The assignments are turned in through the Assignment Manager in Blackboard. Beside the major paper and the assignments, you will work on five quizzes in class.

Culminating Experience

There will be no exams during the course of the semester. The culminating experience consists in the presentation of the papers. The presentations will already start during the last week of classes and the final session will be **Wednesday, December 11, from 12 to 1:50 pm.**

Evaluation and Grading

Your final grade in this class will be based upon the following achievements:

Assignment 1: Presentation of research articles	30 points
Assignment 2: Submission of list of references	20 points
Assignment 3: Research proposal	50 points
Assignment 4: IRB proposal	40 points
Assignment 5: Peer review	30 points
Assignment 6: SPSS analysis	40 points
Assignment 7: Group presentation of final paper	40 points
Assignment 8: Final paper	60 points
Group Evaluation	20 points
Participation/Active contribution	20 points
Quizzes	50 points
Total	400 points

Note. This is a preliminary list of assignments and grading that may still be subjected to change.