

PSY 400: Advanced Research Methods - Fall 2016

Section 05

Wolfgang Friedlmeier

ASH 1117

11-11:50 pm

Instructor

Wolfgang Friedlmeier

1317 Au Sable Hall

331-2415

Email: friedlmw@gvsu.edu

Office hours:

Wednesday: 12:30 to 2:30 pm

Monday, Friday: 12:30 to 1:30 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 the own study in critical ways by recognizing limits and problems, and (3) they will increase their overall knowledge about research in psychology.

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

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 28, 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 Meijer Center for Writing and Michigan Authors, with locations at the Allendale, Pew/Grand Rapids and Meijer/Holland **campuses**, is available to help you with the writing you do in any of your classes. Writing Consultants, who are GVSU students, have been trained to help you with all stages of your writing process, from brainstorming to organizing to editing your papers. The Center's services are free and appointments are not necessary. Simply bring a draft of your paper, the assignment sheet, and your questions/concerns about the writing to any of the Center's three locations:

- Allendale, LOH 120, Monday-Thursday 9:00-8:00, Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., and Sunday, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. –331-2922
- Pew/Grand Rapids, 101B DeVos, Monday-Thursday, 3:00 - 8:00 p.m.—331-6407
- Holland, see www.gvsu.edu/wc for hours & location, or call 331-2922

Tell the Writing Consultant you work with that you would like notification of your visit to be sent to your professor.

Research Assistance. Gayle Schaub 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 schaubg@gvsu.edu or 331-2629. 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.

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 7**. 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 I will distribute four quizzes throughout the semester and you will have a final exam (see below).

Culminating Experience

There will be no exams during the course of the semester. The culminating experience consists in the presentation of the paper. The presentations will already start during the last week of classes and the final session will be **Wednesday, December 14, from 10 to 11:50**.

If you do not participate, you have to bring a written confirmation by the head of the department or by a physician. If you do not bring any document, I can decide to give you another written exam (maximal 70% of the points) or to do an oral exam.

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				

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	20 points
Assignment 6: SPSS analysis	40 points
Assignment 7: Group presentation of final paper	50 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.