

Course Schedule

Course Number - Name: PSY235NT – Social Science Research Methods

Course Credits: 3

Duration: 8 weeks

Prerequisites: PSY105NT General Psychology

Course Description:

An examination of the research methods of psychology and the philosophy behind their use and an opportunity to apply these skills in research.

Psychology Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs*):

#	PLOs
1	Apply basic research methods, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.
2	Demonstrate critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and a scientific approach to applying psychological principles to personal, social, ethical, religious, and organizational issues informed by a biblical worldview.
3	Develop insight into their own and others' behavior and mental processes and apply effective strategies for self-management, self-improvement, and self-care, as well as apply psychological principles to individual, interpersonal, group, and societal issues.
4	Identify and apply basic knowledge of major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology and evaluate them from a Christian worldview.
5	Analyze empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society.
6	Communicate effectively in a professional and diverse global environment.
7	Demonstrate digital literacy throughout their program.

***Every Business course must include assessments of some, but not all of the PLOs. The highlighted ones are assessed in this course.**

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):

#	SLOs	Bloom's*	PLO(s)~
1	Define the basic components of social science research and describe the research process.	2	1
2	Describe the various methods used in social science research.	2	1
3	Analyze research literature based on their understanding of the research process.	4	2
4	Evaluate ethical practice in social science research in the context of a Christian worldview.	5	5
5	Develop a research project proposal based on their knowledge of the research process.	6	2

*Indicates Bloom's Taxonomy cognitive domain level.

~Indicates which PLO(s) are aligned with the SLO.

Biblical Worldview Integration Plan:

Students will interact with assigned readings and discussion questions and subsequently submit a written assignment specifically on the topic of ethics in research. The basic premise is that research is not performed in a vacuum. Values and character-related issues are vitally involved in doing research (Poestra, 2009). The Christian worldview speaks plainly to issues of values and character, including such topics as the motivation behind performing certain research and the need for complete honesty in handling the data and reaching conclusions.

Required to Purchase Media:

None. The textbook (below) is accessible online.

Jhangiani, Rajiv S., I-Chant A. Chiang, Carrie Cuttler, & Dana C. Leighton. *Research Methods in Psychology*, 4th Edition. Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike. 2019. Link: <https://kpu.pressbooks.pub/psychmethods4e/>

Grading Grid:

Assessments (# in parentheses) - # pts. each if > 1	Total Points
Weekly Discussions (8) - 25 pts. each	200
Weekly vocabulary quizzes (8) - 10-15 pts. each	100
Research building blocks (7) - 75 to 100 pts. each	500
Research project	200
Total Points:	1,000

Course Schedule:

Week 1

Media:

1. Jhangiani, Chiang, & Leighton, Part I (chs. 1-6) and Part II (chs. 7-14) (94 pages)
2. Video: "Tunnel vision: Confirmation bias" [39:45]

Assignments:

1. Weekly quiz #1
2. Building block #1: "choosing your research topic" – See instructions in the course
3. Week 1 Discussion: "Managing bias in research" – See instructions in the course

Week 2

Media:

1. Jhangiani, Chiang, & Leighton, Part III (chs. 15-18) (45 pages)
2. PDF: Faith-praxis integration (9 pages)
3. Article: How to write a personal ethics statement (4 pages)

Assignments:

1. Weekly quiz #2
2. Building Block #2: "My ethical statement" – See instructions in the course
3. Week 2 Discussion: "Developing my ethical statement" – See instructions in the course

PSY235NT – Social Science Research Methods - Course Syllabus

Week 3

Media:

1. Jhangiani, Chiang, & Leighton, Part IV (chs. 19-22) and Part V (chs. 23-27) (95 pages)
2. Video: Creating an APA Format Annotated Bibliography [09:00]

Assignments:

1. Weekly quiz #3
2. Building Block #3: "Literature review" – See instructions in the course
3. Week 3 Discussion: "Making something measurable" – See instructions in the course

Week 4

Media:

1. Jhangiani, Chiang, & Leighton, Part VI (chs. 28-33) and Part VII (chs. 34-37) (100 pages)

Assignments:

1. Weekly quiz #4
2. Building Block #4: "My Research Question" – See instructions in the course
3. Week 4 Discussion: "Issues in research design" – See instructions in the course

Week 5

Media:

1. Jhangiani, Chiang, & Leighton, Part VIII (chs. 38-40) and Part IX (chs. 41-43) (50 pages)

Assignments:

1. Weekly quiz #5
2. Building Block #5: "Research measurement" – See instructions in the course
3. Week 5 Discussion: "One-group pretest posttest design" – See instructions in the course

PSY235NT – Social Science Research Methods - Course Syllabus

Week 6

Media:

1. Jhangiani, Chiang, & Leighton, Part X (chs. 44-47) and Part XI (chs. 48-51) (75 pages)

Assignments:

1. Weekly quiz #6
2. Building Block #6: "Rough draft" – See instructions in the course
3. Week 5 Discussion: "Poster presentation" – See instructions in the course

Week 7

Media:

1. Jhangiani, Chiang, & Leighton, Part XII (chs. 52-56) and Part XIII (chs. 57-61) (110 pages)

Assignments:

1. Weekly quiz #7
2. Week 7 Discussion: "Statistical outlines" – See instructions in the course

Week 8

Assignments:

1. Weekly quiz #8
2. Research Paper – See instructions in the course
3. Week 8 Discussion: "Learning summary" – See instructions in the course