

- 1) Generating testable hypotheses from theoretical perspectives
- 2) Designing and conducting research studies
- 3) Interpreting and presenting results of research studies
- 4) Thinking critically about research, including claims presented in the popular media
- 5) Writing APA-style research reports
- 6) Use of computer application software to (a) search the scientific literature and Internet, (b) statistically analyze data, (c) create scientific tables and graphs, and (d) write research reports

Overview: This course will provide students with a chance to apply knowledge of statistics and research methods acquired in previous lecture-based courses. Students will model portions of different research designs in common lab assignments done by all, and in a term research project of their own design. The application of methodological design and statistical analysis through active participation in discussion of concepts and hands-on research assignments will be emphasized. Labs are structured around exercises intended to simulate various aspects of the scientific process of designing, conducting, and evaluating psychological research (e.g., generating hypotheses, gathering & analyzing data, and interpreting results). Another important component of this course is the development of scientific writing skills. Students will complete various writing and interpretive assignments designed to familiarize students with formal APA (American Psychological Association) style research reports. Finally, this course will give students a chance to gain important computer skills by learning to use computer applications to design behavioral studies, gather behavioral responses, analyze data, and report the results.

Approx. Grading:	Writing Assignments (3-4 x 25 pts each)	75-100 pts
	Labs (14-15 x 10 pts each, drop lowest 2 grades)	120-130
	Term Project Proposal (10 pts)	10
	Term Project Materials & Methods (20 pts)	20
	Mastery Quizzes (2-3 20 pts each)	40-60
	Term Project Paper (70 pts)	<u>70</u>
	Total:	295-360

Notes on Grades:

- (A) Final grade based on percent total points earned. 90%(A), 80%(B), 70%(C), 60%(D), are guaranteed **maximum** criteria. Criteria may be shifted down if distribution of total scores warrants.
- (B) Some Lab Reports can be made up if a student misses the lab. However some lab reports are brief quizzes related to in-class activities and cannot be made up.
- (C) There are no traditional exams, and no traditional final examination. However, there may be a couple of pop quizzes early in the semester covering review material from PSYC 2101 Research Methods I.
- (D) Late assignments will be penalized 10% initially, and 20% once papers (or answer key) are handed back.
- (E) While there is no explicit attendance requirement for this course, regular attendance critical. Missing more than 3 class meetings will significantly affect your course grade. Do not take this course if you cannot attend regularly.
- (F) The instructor reserves the right to add participation points and points for attendance should such measures become necessary to assure regular full attendance.

Academic Integrity: UNCC's code of Student Academic Integrity will be followed and enforced in this course. In particular, the following conduct is prohibited: cheating, fabrication and falsification, multiple submissions, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials, and complicity in academic dishonesty. A fuller description of this code can be obtained in the catalogue online and complete text of it can be obtained from the Office of the Dean of Students. Violation of the code will result in failure for that activity, possible failure of the course, and possible reporting to Department Chair and Dean. Please see the instructor if you have any questions regarding what constitutes academic dishonesty.

Tentative Schedule :

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<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic(s)</u>	<u>Lab</u>	<u>Assignment Due</u>
1	Aug. 22 24	Introduction Descriptive Statistics Review		Report 1
2	29 31	Descriptive Statistics Review	Descriptive Statistics: Anxiety	Report 2, HW1
3	Sept. 5 7	Labor Day—No Class Inferential Statistics Review		
4	12 14	Simple 2-Group Experiment	Political Opinion Scale	Report 3
5	19 21	Correlation & Regression Review	2-Group Experiment: Eyeglasses	Report 4, HW2
6	26 27	Ethics	Storks & Babies Online Tutorials	Report 5 Report 6
7	Oct. 3 5	Project Development, Mastery Quiz Review Mastery Quiz: Descriptive & Inferential Statistics, 2 Group Expt., & Correlation/Regression		IRB Tutorial Certificate
8	10 12	Fall Recess—No Class Simple Expt 2: Repeated Measures		
9	17 19	APA Research Report, Multi-Level Expts.	2-Condition Repeated Measures Expt.	Report 7, Project Idea
10	24 26	Multi-Level Experiments Factorial Experiments		HW3
11	31 Nov. 2		Lab 8: Multi-Level Text Memory Lab 9: 2x2 Experiment	Report 8
12	7 9	More Finding Psychological Measures	Lab 10: SPSS Mastery-Survey Analysis	Report 9, Project Method Report 10
13	14 16	Materials & Design, Consult w/Instructor	Practical Mastery Quiz	HW4, Mastery Quiz
14	21 23	Materials & Design, Consult w/Instructor Thanksgiving Break—No Class		
15	28 30	Data Collection Data Collection		
16	Dec. 5 7	Data Analysis & Writing Consultation Course Evaluation , Data Analysis & Writing Consultation		Mastery Quiz (20 pts)
Finals	5-12	Final Exam Period (Wednesday, December 14th, 11:00-1:30 pm, Term Papers Due)		

NOTE: (A) Unforeseen circumstances may necessitate changes to course policies and schedule of topics. Ample notice will be given for any changes. (B) If you have a specific disability that qualifies you for academic accommodation, please notify the instructor and provide certification from the Office of Disability Services, 237 Fretwell, 704-687-4355, www.uncc.edu/dability/.