PSYC 4443 Research Methods  
Fall 2018  
Fall2018_PSYC4443P01-1910-10381

Instructor: Dr. Derek Wilson  
Section # and CRN: P01-10381  
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Email Address: dejwilson@pvamu.edu  
Office Hours: MW: 12:30am-1:50pm; TR: 2:00pm-4:50pm  
Mode of Instruction: Face to Face

Course Location: Juvenile Justice Building 260  
Class Days & Times: MW: 5:00pm-6:20pm  
Catalog Description: Work in designing and carrying on research projects both in laboratory and in more life-like situations. The use and understanding of appropriate statistical procedures are emphasized  

PSYC 2613 and 9 additional hours of 2000-3000 level psychology courses.


Student Learning Outcomes:

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<tr>
<th>Program Learning Outcome # Alignment</th>
<th>Core Curriculum Outcome Alignment</th>
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Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a broad conceptual understanding of research methods used in psychology.
Students will develop the ability to understand and interpret descriptive and inferential statistics as found in journal articles.

Students will develop ability to understand and critical understand the area of experimental design and analysis.

Write a research proposal in the area of interest in the field of psychology and Integrate knowledge of statistics into research design

Demonstrate knowledge of ethical concerns in research and how results can impact individuals, communities, nation, and the world.

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course

**Exams** – written tests designed to measure knowledge of presented course material

**Homework and Proposal Sections**– Students will produce a research proposal during the semester. The proposal will be submitted in sections per the instructions given in class. Students will be given feedback on the sections prior to submitting the final full proposal. See course schedule for due dates.

**Final Research Proposal** – Individual written proposal – Final Product

**Class Participation/Quizzes** – daily attendance and participation in class discussions or in class assignments

**Grading Matrix**
Instrument Value (points or percentages)
Total Exams 3 exams including the final (15% each) 45%
Proposal section submissions and oral presentation 15%
Quizzes, Attendance and Participation 10%
Final Proposal 30%
Total: 100%

Grade Determination: A = 100 – 90pts; B = 89 – 80pts; C = 79 – 70pts; D = 69 – 60pts; F = 59 pts or below

**Submission of Assignments**: Written assignments are due by 5:00 pm on the due date unless otherwise specified. All written assignments are to be submitted through eCourses. Late written assignments will be reduced by 10 points per day and will not be accepted if more than three days late. All quizzes and tests must be taken on the date of the scheduled date unless you have a valid excuse. (See student handbook.)

**Reaction Papers (2)**

Papers will be assigned addressing issues and topics from course discussion utilizing terms within chapters identified. See rubric below

**Formatting Documents**: Microsoft Word is the standard word processing tool used at PVAMU. If you’re using other word processors, be sure to use the “save as” tool and save the document in either the
Microsoft Word, Rich-Text, or plain text format. All documents should conform to requirements outlined in the APA Publication Style Manual, 6th edition.

General policy: 1. Students must make every effort to attend all lectures and remain for the duration of each lecture. 2. All cell phones and media devices must remain on silent mode and out of sight during lecture. Please review the Policy Statement regarding this matter posted on ecourses. 3. Make-up examinations will be considered only in cases of medical or other very serious emergencies. Formal documentation of the emergency will be required for consideration for make-up work or examinations. 4. Students must make every effort to be on time for evaluation and lecture. 5. No sleeping or excessive, unrelated talking during lecture. 6. Gentlemen must remove hats during lecture. Disrespectful and/or disruptive behavior of any sort will not be tolerated during lecture

Semester Calendar

Week 1: Go over syllabus
Week 2: Uncommon Sense: Scientific Method and Human Reasoning Chapter (s): Chapter 1
Week 3: The Foundations of Psychological Research Chapter (s): Chapter 2
Week 4: Ethics in Behavioral Research Chapter (s): Chapter 3
Week 5: Conceptualization and Measurement Chapter (s): Chapter 4 Assignment (s): Homework Research Topic and Hypothesis Exam #1 Bring a Scantron
Week 6: Sampling and Survey Research True Experiments I: Single Factorial Designs Chapter (s): Chapter 5 & Chapter 6
Week 7: True Experiments II: Multifactorial Designs Chapter (s): Chapter 7
Week 8: Quasi-Experimental and Non-experimental Designs Chapter (s): Chapter 8 Homework Assignment: Begin search for articles related to your topic
Week 9: Small-N and single-Subject Designs Chapter (s): Chapter 9 Assignment (s): Midterm Exam: Bring a Scantron
Week 10: Quantitative Data Analysis, Qualitative Methods Chapter (s): Chapter 10, Chapter 11 Homework Assignment: Bring in 7 articles related to your topic. (Email PDF version or bring in paper copies by beginning of class)
Week 11: Writing the introduction and literature review Chapter (s): Chapter 12, Essentials of APA report writing
Week 12: Continue work on Introduction and Literature Review Exam #3 11/8/2012 Bring a Scantron
Week 13: Writing the Method Section, Design, Analysis Plan and Conclusions Homework Assignment: Introduction and Literature Review Due 11/15 4 Continue work on Method, Design, Analysis and Conclusions in class
Week 15: Feedback and polishing the final proposal, Resubmissions of Introduction and Literature Review due 4/26 (optional for grade increase if improvements made)
Week 16: Continue work on final proposal Final Proposal due 12/2/2015 5:00 pm No Exceptions

There is no Final Exam for this class. Your final proposal is your final exam and is worth 30% of your overall grade. This is due December 2, 2015 by 5:00pm on Turnitin. No late papers will be accepted.

Student Support and Success

John B. Coleman Library
The library and its partners have as their mission to provide resources and instructional material in support of the evolving curriculum, as a partner in Prairie View A&M University's mission of teaching, research, and service and to support the University's core values of access and quality, diversity, leadership,
relevance, and social responsibility through emphasis on ten key areas of service. It maintains library collections and access both on campus, online, and through local agreements to further the educational goals of students and faculty. https://www.pvamu.edu/library/  Phone: 936-261-1500

The Learning Curve (Center for Academic Support)
The Learning Curve offers Tutoring via peer tutoring. The services include workshops (i.e., Save My Semester, Recalculate Your Route), seminars (i.e., Tools You Can Use: TI-84), group review sessions (i.e., College Algebra Topic Reviews, GRE Preparation), group study opportunities (i.e., TSIA, HESI, Study Break, Exam Cram), and test-taking strategies (How to take Notes, Study Buddy, 5 Day Study Guide). The Learning Curve is a nationally certified tutoring program through the National Tutoring Association. The peer tutors are trained and certified by the coordinator each semester. Location: J.B. Coleman Library Rm. 207F. Phone: 936-261-1561

The Center for the Oversight and Management of Personalized Academic Student Success (COMPASS)
The Center for the Oversight and Management of Personalized Academic Student Success (COMPASS) is designed to help Prairie View students in their second year and beyond navigate towards graduation by providing the following services: Academic Advisement, Targeted Tutorials for Personalized Learning, Campus-Wide Referrals, and Academic & Social Workshops. Location: J.B. Coleman Library Rm. 306. Phone: 936-261-1040

Writing Center
The Writing Center provides student consultants on all aspects of the writing process and a variety of writing assignments. Writing Center consultations assist students in such areas as prewriting, brainstorming, audience awareness, organization, research, and citation. Students taking on-line courses or courses at the Northwest Houston Center or College of Nursing may consult remotely or by email. Location: Hilliard Hall Rm. 121. Phone: 936-261-3724.

Student Counseling Services
The Student Counseling Services unit offers a range of services and programs to assist students in maximizing their potential for success: short-term individual, couples, and group counseling, as well as crisis intervention, outreach, consultation, and referral services. The staff is licensed by the State of Texas and provides assistance to students who are dealing with academic skills concerns, situational crises, adjustment problems, and emotional difficulties. Information shared with the staff is treated confidentially and in accordance with Texas State Law. Location: Owens-Franklin Health Center Rm. 226. Phone: 936-261-3564

Testing
The Department of Testing administers College Board CLEP examinations, the HESI A2 for pre-nursing majors, LSAT for law school applicants and MPRE for second-year law students, the Experiential Learning Portfolio option, the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment, which determines college readiness in the state, and exam proctoring, among other service such as SAT and ACT for high school students. Location: Delco Rm. 141. Phone: 936-261-4286

Office of Diagnostic Testing and Disability Services
As a federally-mandated educational support unit, the Office of Disability Services serves as the repository for confidential disability files for faculty, staff, and students. For persons with a disability, the Office develops individualized ADA letters of request for accommodations. Other services include: learning style inventories, awareness workshops, accessibility pathways, webinars, computer laboratory with adapted hard and software, adapted furniture, proctoring of non-standardized test administrations, ASL interpreters, ALDs, digital recorders, livescribe, Kurtzweil, and a comprehensive referral network across campus and the broader community. Location: Evans Hall Rm. 317. Phone: 936-261-3585
Veteran Affairs
Veterans Services works with student veterans, current military and military dependents to support their transition to the college environment and continued persistence to graduation. The Office coordinates and certifies benefits for both the G.I. Bill and the Texas Hazlewood Act. Location: Evans Hall Rm. 323. Phone: 936-261-3563

Office for Student Engagement
The Office for Student Engagement delivers comprehensive programs and services designed to meet the co-curricular needs of students. The Office implements inclusive and accessible programs and services that enhance student development through exposure to and participation in diverse and relevant social, cultural, intellectual, recreational, community service, leadership development and campus governance. Location: Memorial Student Center Rm. 221. Phone: 936-261-1340

Career Services
Career Services supports students through professional development, career readiness, and placement and employment assistance. The Office provides one-on-one career coaching, interview preparation, resume and letter writing, and career exploration workshops and seminars. Services are provided for students at the Northwest Houston Center and College of Nursing in the Medical Center twice a month or on a requested basis. Distance Learning students are encouraged to visit the Career Services website for information regarding services provided. Location: Evans Hall Rm. 217. Phone: 936-261-3570

University Rules and Procedures

Disability Statement (Also See Student Handbook):
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, in Evans Hall, Room 317, or call 936-261-3585/3.

Academic Misconduct (See Student Handbook):
You are expected to practice academic honesty in every aspect of this course and all other courses. Make sure you are familiar with your Student Handbook, especially the section on academic misconduct. Students who engage in academic misconduct are subject to university disciplinary procedures.

Forms of Academic Dishonesty:
1. Cheating: deception in which a student misrepresents that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise that he/she has not mastered; giving or receiving aid unauthorized by the instructor on assignments or examinations.

2. Academic misconduct: tampering with grades or taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of a scheduled test.

3. Fabrication: use of invented information or falsified research.

4. Plagiarism: unacknowledged quotation and/or paraphrase of someone else’s words, ideas, or data as one’s own in work submitted for credit. Failure to identify information or essays from the Internet and submitting them as one’s own work also constitutes plagiarism.

Nonacademic Misconduct (See Student Handbook)
The university respects the rights of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires campus conditions that do not impede their exercise. Campus behavior that interferes with either (1) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class, (2) the inability of other students to profit from the

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instructional program, or (3) campus behavior that interferes with the rights of others will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such disruptive behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. Such incidents will be adjudicated by the Dean of Students under nonacademic procedures.

**Sexual Misconduct (See Student Handbook):**
Sexual harassment of students and employers at Prairie View A&M University is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any member of the university community violating this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

**Title IX Statement**
Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) is committed to supporting students and complying with the Texas A&M University System non-discrimination policy. It seeks to establish an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you experience an incident of sex- or gender-based discrimination, including sexual harassment, sexual assault or attempted sexual assault, we encourage you to report it. While you may talk to a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, the faculty member must report the basic facts of your experience to Ms. Alexia Taylor, PVAMU’s Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you privacy or confidentiality, there are individuals who can meet with you. The Title IX Coordinator is designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies and can assist you with understanding your options and connect you with on- and off-campus resources. The Title IX Coordinator can be reached by phone at 936-261-2123 or in Suite 013 in the A.I. Thomas Administration Building.

**Class Attendance Policy (See Catalog for Full Attendance Policy)**
Prairie View A&M University requires regular class attendance. Attending all classes supports full academic development of each learner whether classes are taught with the instructor physically present or via distance learning technologies such as interactive video and/or internet.

Excessive absenteeism, whether excused or unexcused, may result in a student’s course grade being reduced or in assignment of a grade of “F”. Absences are accumulated beginning with the first day of class during regular semesters and summer terms. Each faculty member will include the University’s attendance policy in each course syllabus.

**Student Academic Appeals Process**
Authority and responsibility for assigning grades to students rests with the faculty. However, in those instances where students believe that miscommunication, errors, or unfairness of any kind may have adversely affected the instructor's assessment of their academic performance, the student has a right to appeal by the procedure listed in the Undergraduate Catalog and by doing so within thirty days of receiving the grade or experiencing any other problematic academic event that prompted the complaint.

**TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**Minimum Recommended Hardware and Software:**
- Intel PC or Laptop with Windows 7; Mac with OS X; Smartphone or iPad/Tablet with Wi-Fi
- High speed Internet access
- 8 GB Memory
- Hard drive with 320 GB storage space
- 15” monitor, 800x600, color or 16 bit
- Sound card w/speakers
- Microphone and recording software
- Keyboard & mouse
- Most current version of Google Chrome, Safari, Internet Explorer or Firefox

**Note:** Be sure to enable Java & pop-ups in the Web browser preferences
Participants should have a basic proficiency of the following computer skills:
- Sending and receiving email
- A working knowledge of the Internet
- Proficiency in Microsoft Word (or a program convertible to Word)
- Proficiency in the Acrobat PDF Reader
- Basic knowledge of Windows or Mac O.S.

Netiquette (online etiquette):
Students are expected to participate in all discussions and virtual classroom chats as directed. Students are to be respectful and courteous to others on discussions boards. Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated.

Technical Support:
Students should go to https://mypassword.pvamu.edu/ if they have password issues. The page will provide instructions for resetting passwords and contact information if login issues persist. For other technical questions regarding eCourses, call the Office of Distance Learning at 936-261-3283

Communication Expectations and Standards:
Emails or discussion postings will receive a response from the instructor, usually in less than 48 hours. Urgent emails should be marked as such. Check regularly for responses.

Discussion Requirement:
Online courses often require minimal to no face-to-face meetings. However, conversations about the readings, lectures, materials, and other aspects of the course can take place in a seminar fashion. This will be accomplished by the use of the discussion board. The exact use of discussion will be determined by the instructor.

It is strongly suggested that students type their discussion postings in a word processing application and save it to their PC or a removable drive before posting to the discussion board. This is important for two reasons: 1) If for some reason your discussion responses are lost in your online course, you will have another copy; 2) Grammatical errors can be greatly minimized by the use of the spell-and-grammar check functions in word processing applications. Once the post(s) have been typed and corrected in the word processing application, it/they should be copied and pasted to the discussion board.