Course Syllabus

Edit

Basic Course Information

POINT LOMA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY	**Department of Psychology** **PSY 3091-1: Research Methods and Design II** **4 Units**

Fall 2025

M/W/F 1:30-2:35pm @ Evans 122

Final Exam (Research Celebration): Wednesday, December 17th, 8:30-10am

Basic Professor Information

Instructor: Rosemond T. Lorona, Ph.D.

Phone: 619.849. 3305

Email (preferred): rlorona@pointloma.edu (mailto:rlorona@pointloma.edu)

I welcome your questions and would enjoy hearing from you throughout the semester. I will give prompt email replies as I am able during the work day, but there may be times when I am not available for a quick response, such as weekends and evenings.

Office: Culbertson Hall 214

Office Hours are times that students can ask the professor questions, get help on assignments, review past work, or

seek advice. You can drop by my office without an appointment during these times.

Mondays and Wednesdays 8:30am-9:30am (stop by without an appointment)

Additional office hours available by appointment. Use my calendar to book a time with me: **Go to calendar (https://calendar.app.google/R2VyQXbRkq1nwrCz6)**

TA: Kalea McClain, kmcclain0022@pointloma.edu

TA office hour: Thursdays 12:30-2:30pm in Culbertson Hall (lobby) - just drop by, no appointment necessary!

You may also email Kalea to schedule an appointment at a different time if desired. The TA can provide study tips and help on assignments. Students wanting to go over tests/exams or who are seeking clarification on grading should see Dr. Lorona in office hours.

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Study of design and of research in psychology and the use of statistics. Practice in the integration of design and statistics is included. Students finish a significant research project. This course must be taken in the semester immediately following PSY 3090.

As you learned in the first half of this course sequence, the field of psychology is based on research and analysis of data. Now that you have a foundation in research and statistics, it is time to apply your knowledge. This course will build on the previous semester by focusing on conducting original research in psychology. Doing science well and communicating science to others are skills that are relevant for people in a variety of life and career trajectories. You will be responsible for the project from start to finish, including collecting data, analyzing and interpreting data, and communicating your research in written and verbal form. You will also focus on research ethics, APA style writing, and more advanced research designs and considerations. You will continue to practice statistical analyses in R, interp

statistical analyses, and write about statistics using APA style. Becoming a producer of psychological research will make you a better consumer of psychological research.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Identify issues in statistics and research, such as bias, power, error, ethics, and validity, and identify possible solutions to these issues
2. Complete a psychological study or experiment that answers a research question of interest
3. Complete statistical analyses in R and correctly interpret and form conclusions based on the results of statistical analyses
4. Read and synthesize information from high quality peer-reviewed research
5. Communicate original research in written form using APA style.
6. Orally communicate your research and conclusions to others.

REQUIRED RESOURCES

- **Required Textbooks**
  - *Research Methods in Psychology: Evaluating a World of Information* (5th Ed) by Beth Morling; ISBN: 978-1-324-08580-5
    - Online Access to *Inquisitive* (textbook resources)
  - *Learning Statistics with R*, version 0.6. by Danielle Navarro; Download for free at **https://learningstatisticswithr.com** **(https://learningstatisticswithr.com/)**
  - Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7th Ed.); ISBN-13: 978-1433832161; ISBN-10: 143383216X
- **Folder/binder:** Any paper or plastic folder for paper handouts/worksheets. Worksheets will be frequently provided in class and should be kept for future reference. Additional copies of in-class worksheets will not be provided.
- **Required Technology**
  - **Computer (recommended):** Assignments will be submitted through Canvas, so each student will need access to a computer. Students can also utilize computers in the library for assignments.
  - ***RStudio**, version 1.2.1335 or higher (free)*- First, download R 3.6.1 or higher (base program) on your personal laptop for free at https://www.r-project.org/ and then download RStudio for free at **https://www.rstudio.com/** **(https://www.rstudio.com/)**
  - If you are having trouble with technology, please contact IT to discuss options

This course is part of our course material delivery program, **LomaBooks***. The bookstore will provide each student with a convenient package containing all required physical materials; all digitally delivered materials will be integrated into Canvas.*

You should have received an email from the bookstore confirming the list of materials that will be provided for each of your courses and asking you to select how you would like to receive any printed components (in-store pick up or home delivery). If you have not done so already, please confirm your fulfillment preference so the bookstore can prepare your materials.

For more information about **LomaBooks,** *please go:* ***HERE*** **(https://www.pointloma.edu/lomabooks)**

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

General Assignments (20%): You will have various weekly assignments that will progress you toward successful completion of your research project. Any assignments that keep you up-to-date with readings, lectures, your APA paper, or your project timeline (and that do not fall into another grading category below) will fall in this category. Detailed directions for each assignment are on Canvas. Assignments are individual work unless otherwise specified.

Learning Demonstrations (2 LDs; 30% total): The LDs may consist of multiple choice, short answer, and/or fill-in-the-blank questions that will require not only recognition of concepts, but comparisons, evaluations, and applications of concepts. LDs will emphasize material that we talked about in class and was addressed in lectures, but to earn an A, you will need to also study the assigned readings. Each LD will be cumulative.

Final Research Manuscript (30%): Your APA-style manuscript will thoroughly describe your empirical research study from start to finish. The paper will include an APA style title page, abstract, introduction, method, results, discussion, table/figure, and references. More instructions and a rubric are on Canvas. Utilizing the writing center/tutorial services and TA office hours for writing help is strongly recommended. The APA style paper should be individually completed and will be individually graded. While your content will be similar to your teammates', it should not be identical or plagiarized.

Research Group Presentation, Research Celebration, and Team Professionalism (20%): Your group will present its research project to the class at the end of the semester. You should be able to accurately, clearly, thoroughly, and interestingly present your research project and be able to answer questions about your project. You will be graded individually and as a group (Instructions and Rubric on Canvas). These presentations will be accompanied by a research poster which will be graded (Instructions and Rubric on Canvas). The final in-class presentation will be completed on Friday, December 12th. During finals week, each group will present to the PSY 3090 students and faculty (i.e., the Research Celebration). For the Research Celebration, you will be graded on attendance and professional engagement. As the "final exam" for this course, the Research Celebration cannot be dropped or missed for any reason. At the end of the semester, you will also be graded by your research teammates for group work accountability. Teammates will grade your attendance at group meetings, professional communication, attentiveness to details and needs of the group, and overall contribution to data collection and the research process.

Extra credit: Students can earn up to 2 points of extra credit on their final paper by doing peer review on their full research paper (all sections). Students must complete this in a dyad or triad, where each student is giving feedback to a peer and also receiving feedback from a peer. The peer review must be done outside of class and is in addition to any peer review that we do in class. Students can submit a Word document with tracked changes from a peer from our class. The tracked changes will have a timestamp to verify the author and time completed. Credit will only be given if you provide 5 or more substantive comments or corrections to your peer's paper (e.g., identifying information missing, grammatical or APA errors fixed, etc.). The extra credit is due on or before December 8, 2025 with no exceptions.

GRADING

Student grades will be posted in the Canvas grade book. It is important to read the comments posted in the grade book as these comments are intended to help students improve their work. Final grades will be posted within one week of the end of the class. Grades will be weighted as listed above and determined based on the following:

A = 93-100%

A- = 90-92.9%

B+ = 87-89.9%

B = 83-86.9%

B- = 80-82.9%

C+ = 77-79.9%

C = 73-76.9%

C- = 70-72.9%

D+ = 67-69.9%

D = 63-66.9%

D- = 60-62.9%

F = 59.9% or less

Course Policies and Expectations

General

- Any changes to the syllabus (including course expectations and assignments) are possible. Changes will be announced in class and/or as a Canvas announcement. Students are responsible for any

monitoring Canvas updates.

- Students are responsible for all content/material that is found within the Canvas course.
- Students should complete the assigned reading, lectures, or activities prior to class, especially for “Flipped Fridays”. Such practices will enable you fully participate in class activities.
- No audio or video recordings of class are permitted without written consent of the instructor.
- When participating in class and completing assignments, students should be mindful to use appropriate language that is inclusive and prejudice free. Inclusive language is the standard outlined by the APA. Professional writing and speaking do not use unsubstantiated, irrelevant, or demeaning generalizations about personal qualities such as age, disability, economic class, ethnicity, marital status, parentage, political or religious beliefs, race, gender, sex, or sexual orientation.

Attendance

- Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. Attendance will be taken during class. Students who miss 15+ minutes of class may be counted absent. If the student is absent for more than 10% of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20%, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an "F" grade. See Academic Policies in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.
- Out of respect and care for one another, please do not attend class if you are feeling ill in any way. You **do not** need to obtain a doctor's note or email the professor. You will not miss points for being absent (just follow overall attendance policy above).
- ***What if a student misses class for any reason?***
  - You do not need to email me if you need to miss class. You should check the syllabus and course outline to see what will be missed. I do not send notes to students, Zoom students into class, nor record lectures. However, students may Facetime/Zoom their absent teammates into class during research group work if desired.
  - If you miss class, you are responsible for obtaining [from a classmate] lecture material, class exercises, and all in-class announcements AND submit any assignments on time, if applicable. Students may then see me during office hours to clarify any material as desired.
- ***What if a student misses a learning demonstration (LD)?***
  - A make-up LD is available in cases of emergency or illness or if the student provides at least 2 weeks’ notice of a non-emergency absence. The make-up LD must be taken within 2 weeks of the original test date and it is up to the student to contact the professor to schedule a time to take the LD in a proctored setting. Each student may not have more than one make-up LD per semester. There is no option to re-take a LD that was previously attempted.
- ***What if a student misses the Research Celebration (final exam)?***
  - The final presentations cannot be dropped or made-up. During Finals week, you will present at the Research Celebration as your final exam. Successful completion of this class requires participation in the Research Celebration on its scheduled day. There is no make-up option for this; your attendance is important for the success of your research team!

- Because of the extensive group work involved in this course, "Incompletes" will only be granted in extreme emergency situations.

Submitting Assignments and Late Work

- All due dates are posted in advance on Canvas. You may submit assignments early.
- Work submitted on Canvas must be in .doc, .docx, or .pdf file types only. The student is responsible for making sure Canvas files are correctly uploaded and go through Turnitin. Files that do not open, are in the wrong file type, and/or can't go through Turnitin will be considered late until the problem is rectified.
- ***What if a student needs to turn in an assignment late? What if the file didn't upload correctly on Canvas and now it's late?***
  - Late work is accepted for 10 days, including weekend days, after the original due date. Canvas will automatically deduct 10% from the grade for each late day. For example, an assignment submitted 3 days late can earn up to 70% of the available points. End-of-semester assignments may not be submitted late after the final exam (to accommodate faculty grading deadlines). In other words, no coursework will be accepted after December 17th, 2025 @8:30am. Work submitted late may also be graded later.
  - **Freebie** – students can exchange one no-questions-asked freebie to turn in one late assignment up to 10 days after initial deadline *at no deduction*. The assignment still needs to be completed within 10 days of the original due date, and it will be graded according to the same rubric, but it will not be considered late. The freebie does **not** apply to group assignments (such as the IRB proposal or poster/presentation) or learning demonstrations. The freebie does not allow students to submit end-of-semester assignments after the research celebration. No coursework, including freebie work, will be accepted after December 17th, 2025 @8:30am.
    - **To use your freebie**, submit your late work on Canvas and include a Canvas **submission comment** saying that you are using the freebie (do not email the professor). The freebie must be used at the time of time of submitting the work, not retroactively.
    - **Need a second freebie?** Any student who sees Dr. Lorona in office hours to get feedback or help on an assignment can ask for a second freebie for that assignment. This benefits students who need some extra time/help on an assignment and who are using their resources to submit their best work. The same conditions (see above) apply for using the second freebie. This means you must see Dr. Lorona and complete the assignment within 10 days of the original due date to use this freebie.

COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 4 unit class delivered over 15 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 150 total h meeting the course learning outcomes. Dedicating adequate time to your learning will help you succeed and is espec

important if you want an A in the course because deep learning takes time! Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

STATE AUTHORIZATION

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on **State Authorization (https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/office-educational-effectiveness/disclosures)** to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

PLNU RECORDING NOTIFICATION

In order to enhance the learning experience, please be advised that this course may be recorded by the professor for educational purposes, and access to these recordings will be limited to enrolled students and authorized personnel.
Note that all recordings are subject to copyright protection. Any unauthorized distribution or publication of these recordings without written approval from the University (refer to the Dean) is strictly prohibited.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See Academic Policies (https://catalog.pointloma.edu/index.php) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further information.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) POLICY

You may use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc) to generate ideas (brainstorming), but you are not allowed to use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any work submitted to be graded for this course. In other words, you may not submit work created by AI, as it is not your work. Unless a specific assignment specifies otherwise (i.e., the assignment is specifically geared toward using or critiquing AI), **s**ubmitting work created by AI will be treated as academic dishonesty. If you have any doubts about using AI, please gain permission from the instructor.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2533). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines allowed accommodations. Professors are able to view a student's approved accommodations through Accommodate. PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course. Accommodations are not retroactive so clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes. Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any accommodations.

SPIRITUAL CARE

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith. If students have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact the **Office of Spiritual Life and Formation (https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/spiritual-development)**

TITLE IX OFFICE

If you or someone you know would like help related to an experience of sexual violence including sexual assault, harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or other type of non-consensual sexual conduct, please contact the Title IX Coordinator at PLNU, Danielle Brown Friberg (619-849-2313). Reporting is also available on the Title IX website. The Title IX office understands the sensitive nature of these situations and can provide information about available on- and off-campus resources. Staff members at the office will also explain your rights and the judicial process options, if you choose to file a complaint. If you or someone you know feels unsafe or may be in imminent danger, please call the PLNU Department of Public Safety (619-849-2525) or local police department (9-1-1) immediately.

STUDENT SUCCESS & WELLNESS

If you or someone you know would like assistance related to a physical or mental health problem, (e.g., depression, anxiety, difficulty focusing on school or managing daily needs, grief, trauma resolution, sleep or eating changes, etc.), and/or would like academic assistance, please contact the appropriate office using the following information.

- Counseling Services (619) 849-3020; **counselingservices@pointloma.edu (mailto:counselingservices@pointloma.edu)**
- Educational Access Center 619-849-2533; **eac@pointloma.edu (mailto:eac@pointloma.edu)**
- Medical Services 619-849-2280; **sdwellnesscenter@pointloma.edu (mailto:sdwellnesscenter@pointloma.edu)**
- Tutorial Services 619-849-2953; **tutorialservices@pointloma.edu (mailto:tutorialservices@pointloma.edu)**
- Loma Writing Center: first floor of the Ryan Library, room 221; **writingcenter@pointloma.edu (mailto:writingcenter@pointloma.edu)** ; **https://www.pointloma.edu/centers-institutes/loma-writing-center**

(https://www.pointloma.edu/centers-institutes/loma-writing-center)

ASSIGNMENTS AT-A-GLANCE

Please see the weekly **Modules (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/80629/modules)** for assignments due each week. Assignments and due dates will always be posted and available in advance.

Course Schedule

Week	Content & Textbook Readings (read prior to class)	Project/Paper Milestones
Week 1: Sept 1 - Sept 5 No Class Monday (Labor Day)	Research Ethics; Ch. 4 (RMP)	
Week 2: Sept 6 - Sept 12	Formalizing the Research Plan; Ch 3 & Ch. 5 (RMP)	
Week 3: Sept 13 - Sept 19	Survey Designs; Ch. 6 (RMP)	
Week 4: Sept 20 - Sept 26	Sampling; Ch. 7 (RMP)	**IRB proposal** complete
Week 5: Sept 27 - Oct 3	Review, **LD1** (Friday)	
Week 6: Oct 4 - Oct 10	APA Style; APA reading (RMP); APA Manual	**Method** written
Week 7: Oct 11 - Oct 17	Correlational Designs; Ch. 8 (RMP)	Data Collection
Week 8: Oct 18 - Oct 24 No Class Friday (Fall Break)	Multivariate Research Designs; Ch. 9 (RMP)	Data Collection
Week 9: Oct 25 - Oct 31	Experiments; Ch. 10 (RMP)	**Introduction** written

Week 10: Nov 1 - Nov 7	More on Experiments, Review, **LD2** (Friday)	Data Collection Complete
Week 11: Nov 8 - Nov 14	Statistics Review; Inferential Statistics (RMP)	Data Cleaning, Data Analysis
Week 12: Nov 15 - Nov 21	Statistics Review; Inferential Statistics (RMP)	Data Cleaning, Data Analysis
Week 13: Nov 22 - Nov 28 No Class Wed-Fri (Thanksgiving)	Statistics Review; Inferential Statistics (RMP); online article to read	**Results** written
Week 14: Nov 29 - Dec 5	Discussing Results and Research in Context	**Discussion** and **Abstract** written
Week 15: Dec 6 - Dec 12	Wrapping Up, Presentations	**Final Paper** Due: Monday, Dec. 8th **Poster** and **In-Class Presentations** Dec. 12th
Research Celebration: Wednesday, December 17th @8:30-10am		Project is complete