

PSY 3091-1: Research Methods and Design II

Spring 2021

4 Units

**Synchronous Wednesday/Friday 10:55am-12:05pm on Zoom
(note Monday 3/29 and 5/3 to accommodate mental health days)**

Office: Culbertson 214

Office Hours: M/W/R 1:30-2:30pm (and by appointment) via Zoom

Phone: x3305

E-mail: rlorona@pointloma.edu

TA: Madeline (Maddie) Salle - msalle6767@pointloma.edu

TA Office hours via Zoom: Th 4-5pm (available for general writing and research help)

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, interpret 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 Goals

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

Unit Requirement

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 hours meeting the course learning outcomes. The time estimations are provided in the Canvas modules. Dedicating adequate time to your learning will help you succeed and is especially important if you want an A in the course. Think of it as: hours spent \square points earned. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request.

Required Texts

Research Methods in Psychology: Evaluating a World of Information (3rd or 4th Ed) by Beth Morling
ISBN-13: 978-0393630206; ISBN-10: 039363020X

Learning Statistics with R, version 0.6. by Danielle Navarro.
Download for free at <https://learningstatisticswithr.com>

Recommended Text

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7th Ed.)
ISBN-13: 978-1433832161; ISBN-10: 143383216X

Required Technology

RStudio, version 1.2.1335 or higher (free)

First, download R 3.6.1 (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/>

If you are having trouble downloading the necessary technology, please contact IT to discuss options.

Zoom class will require use of a webcam and microphone.

Assignments

Assignments (10%): You will have various assignments that will progress you toward successful completion of your research project, including an ethics training and an IRB proposal. You will also complete Canvas Questions and other small-points assignments to keep you up-to-date with readings and lectures. Assignments will also offer opportunities to review and reflect on material. Detailed directions for each assignment are on Canvas. Assignments are individual work unless otherwise specified.

Peer Review and Team Professionalism (10%): You will complete sections of your research paper throughout the semester and submit them for peer review. You will be graded on your submission of the section and on your peer review. Detailed directions for each assignment are on Canvas. Assignments are individual work unless otherwise specified. You will also be graded by your research teammates for group work accountability. Teammates will determine your grade based on attendance, professional communication, attentiveness to details and needs of the group, and overall contribution to data collection and the research process.

Final Research Manuscript (25%): 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. Papers with 1+ missing sections will not be graded. More instructions and a rubric are on Canvas. If you need writing help, I encourage you to use writing center/tutorial services or visit TA office hours. I can advise you on specific writing questions in office hours or by appointment.

Midterm Learning Demonstrations (20%): There will be multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and/or short answer questions on each learning check that will be from readings, lectures, and activities. Learning checks will be open [written] note, but timed. Use of the internet or navigating away from the Canvas quiz page will not be allowed for any reason. You may write or print your notes to use, but you may not use digital notes or resources.

Final Learning Demonstration (20%): We will celebrate all of our learning at the end of the semester. You will demonstrate your learning by responding to written questions that will require cumulative knowledge of research methods.

Research Group Presentation and Research Celebration (15%): Your group will present its research project to the class on one day, and will present to the PSY 3090 students on a later day (i.e., the Research Celebration). These presentations will be accompanied by a research poster. The presentation should be 10 minutes total, with ~10 minutes for follow-up questions. The first presentation will be graded so that you will be well-prepared for the Research Celebration. 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. You will also be graded as a group on the quality of your research poster. For the Research Celebration, you will be graded on attendance and professional engagement with students and faculty. There will be no make-ups for students who are absent. The Research Celebration will take place during finals week.

Extra Credit: *There is no extra credit in this course. The many small-points assignments and peer reviews provide opportunities to help your grade and also function to help you do your best on learning demonstrations and your final research paper.*

Grading Scale

A	=	93-100%
A-	=	90-92.9%
B+	=	88-89.9%
B	=	84-87.9%
B-	=	80-83.9%
C+	=	77-79.9%
C	=	70-76.9%
C-	=	65-69.9%
D+	=	62-64.9%
D	=	55-61.9%
D-	=	50-54.9%
F	=	49.9% or less

Course Policies and Expectations

Covid Contingencies

- Obviously, this will be a semester unlike most others. I recognize that many of us have additional stressors during this time. I can grant extensions as needed for individual students who communicate compelling needs.
- Should we move to face-to-face classes mid-semester, policies and assignments may be changed to reflect that new reality. My hope is that not many, if any, changes will need to be

made. Nevertheless, any changes to the syllabus (including course expectations and assignments) will be posted on Canvas.

General and Attendance

- At minimum, students should complete the assigned reading prior to Zoom class. Such practices will enable you fully participate in class activities.
- Most major assignments are due at the end of the day (11:59pm) on Friday. However, there are due dates that are dispersed in the modules. It is the student's responsibility to manage those deadlines.
- Regular and punctual attendance at all synchronous class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of the Zoom session. If you are more than 15 minutes late to class, you will be counted absent. If you leave class early, you will be counted absent unless you notify me before class begins. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions (i.e., misses 2 weeks of Zoom meetings), the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation.
- Additionally, a portion of the credit hour content will be delivered asynchronously and attendance will be determined by submitting the assignments by the posted due dates. A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards will result in an absence for that day. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog. If absences exceed these limits but are due to university excused health issues, an exception will be granted.
- 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.
- You are responsible for all content/material that is found on Canvas, including announcements.

Submitting Assignments

- In general, you have one week to complete each module (Saturday to Friday each week). You may submit assignments early.
- Assignments are individual work; you are expected to complete the work on your own.
- Work submitted on Canvas must be in .doc or .docx file types only. The student is responsible for making sure Canvas files work 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.
- Late work is accepted for 3 days, with a 10% deduction for each day, including weekend days. Due dates can be found on Canvas within each module.

Learning Demonstration (LD) Information

- LDs will be offered at specific times that correspond to our class time. This is to ensure everyone has the same opportunity to study and complete the LD.
- LDs will consist of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and/or short answer questions. You may be required to interpret and evaluate statistics and research conclusions in addition to demonstrating knowledge of relevant definitions and theories from lectures and required readings.
- Each LD is cumulative in nature.
- LDs are open written note. Digital notes and the open internet may not be used. I will be checking Canvas Quiz logs to see whether students are navigating away from the Canvas page at any point during the LD. If Canvas indicates that the student navigated away from the page, this will count

as academic dishonesty and the student will get a zero on the LD. To avoid any mishaps, student should close all programs and web browsers and should full screen the LD webpage.

- Written responses should be written in the student's own words (not lifted from the textbook or lecture). Any LD responses that are not in the student's own words will be treated as academic dishonesty. I reserve the right to implement use of Honorlock at any point.
- The final learning demonstration cannot be dropped or missed for any reason. Successful completion of this course requires the on-time completion of the Final Learning Demonstration and Research Celebration.

Additional Info, University Resources and Policies

About Contacting Me. I welcome your questions (about class or otherwise) and would enjoy hearing from you throughout the semester. Do not hesitate to email me or take advantage of office hours. We can schedule meetings outside of office hours if needed. I will give prompt email replies during the day Monday - Friday. It is not guaranteed that I will read emails in the evenings and weekends, so please do not leave important questions for the last minute!

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](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

Academic Integrity. 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. Academic dishonesty also includes such acts as cheating, fabrication of information, misrepresentations, having unauthorized possession of exams or acquiring/providing information about exams to offer/get an advantage. Academic dishonesty may lead to a zero for that assignment or examination, a zero for your professionalism grade, and/or an F for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further information.

Accommodations. While all students are expected to meet the minimum standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may require academic adjustments, modifications or auxiliary aids/services. At Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU), these students are requested to register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC), located in the Bond Academic Center (DRC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). The DRC's policies and procedures for assisting such students in the development of an appropriate academic adjustment plan (AP) allows PLNU to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with

Disabilities Act. Section 504 prohibits discrimination against students with special needs and guarantees all qualified students equal access to and benefits of PLNU programs and activities. After the student files the required documentation, the DRC, in conjunction with the student, will develop an AP to meet that student's specific learning needs. The DRC will thereafter email the student's AP to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester. The AP must be implemented in all such courses.

If students do not wish to avail themselves of some or all of the elements of their AP in a particular course, it is the responsibility of those students to notify their professor in that course. PLNU highly recommends that DRC students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester about the applicability of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not desire to take advantage of some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

Plnu Attendance And Participation Policy. Students taking online courses are expected to attend each week of the course. Attendance is defined as participating in an academic activity within the online classroom which includes posting in a graded activity in the course. (Note: Logging into the course does not qualify as participation and will not be counted as meeting the attendance requirement.)

Students who do not attend at least once in any 3 consecutive days will be issued an attendance warning. Students who do not attend at least once in any 7 consecutive days will be dropped from the course retroactive to the last date of recorded attendance.

Use of Technology

In order to be successful in the online environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](#) information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers compatible with their computer available to use. If a student is in need of technological resources please contact student-tech-request@pointloma.edu.

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

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 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 Point Loma Nazarene University, Caye Smith (619-849-2479). 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, such as counseling and psychological services, medical treatment, academic support, university housing and other forms of assistance. 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 and Wellness. If you or someone you know would like help 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.

- o Counseling Services 619-849-2574; sdwellnesscenter@pointloma.edu
- o Disability Resource Center 619-849-2533; drc@pointloma.edu
- o Medical Services 619-849-2280; sdwellnesscenter@pointloma.edu
- o Tutorial Services 619-849-2953; tutorialservices@pointloma.edu

Please see the weekly overview for assignments due each week. Assignments and due dates will always be posted and available in advance.