Course Syllabus

Jump to Today





College of Extended Learning

MA in Clinical Counseling

PSY6090: Research Methodology

3 Units

Fall 2023 Quad 1 August 28 - October 22

Meeting days/times:

Monday and Wednesday, 2:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Instructor: Matt Bishop

mbishop@pointloma.edu

(mailto:mbishop@pointloma.edu)

Meeting location: Mission Valley Campus

Phone: As needed

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 becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an in depth examination of various experimental designs, statistical procedures, conclusions, and limitations of research parameters. Emphasis will be placed on the theoretical and practical applications of research methods of psychotherapy.

The course is designed to present a comprehensive overview of the theories, principles, and utilization of psychological research, particularly their applications to clinical service. While this course is not designed to train students to become skilled in the actual implementation of research methods, it is focused on helping the students to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to become prudent consumers of psychological research. The course places emphases on helping the students learn to critically experience.

research articles in scientific publications, including understanding of basic statistics, and transfer knowledge from research studies to the real-world practice of counseling.

GROUND RULES OF THE COURSE

Together we will create a dynamic learning environment where:

- 1. Learning is challenging but safe
- 2. Learning is experiential and active
- 3. Communication is open . . . opposing viewpoints are welcomed
- 4. All are learners and all are teachers . . . we will learn from each other
- 5. Mistakes are okay . . . this is a no-guilt, no-blame zone
- 6. The point is to learn and grow ... grades are a by-product and not the goal
- 7. Integrity and honesty are expected

Please jot down some of your expectations for this course.

INSTITUTIONAL LEARNING OUTCOMES (ILO)

1. Learning, Informed by our Faith in Christ

Students will acquire knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world while developing skills and habits of the mind that foster lifelong learning.

2. Growing, In a Christ-Centered Faith Community

Students will develop a deeper and more informed understanding of others as they negotiate complex professional, environmental and social contexts.

3. Serving, In a Context of Christian Faith

Students will serve locally and/or globally in vocational and social settings.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (PLO)

- 1. Students will articulate a clear, accurate understanding of their professional identity as either an LMFT or LPCC, or both.
- 2. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the fundamental domains in their selected area of specialization, in professional clinical counseling (i.e., foundations; counseling prevention, and intervention, diversity & advocacy; assessment; research & evaluation; and diagnosis) or marriage and family therapy (i.e., human development, family dynamics, systemic thinking, interactional theories, traditional and contemporary marriage and family theories, research and cultural context).
- 3. Students will demonstrate ability to apply relevant research and evaluation models in practice of clinical counseling.
- 4. Students will demonstrate skills and practices of clinical counseling in the delivery of mental health services (e.g., assessment, diagnosis, treatment, termination, documentation, & ethical practice).
- 5. Students will deliver mental health services with multicultural competence and sensitivity.
- 6. Students will demonstrate ability to integrate faith with clinical counseling practice in clinically appropriate, culturally sensitive, and ethical manner.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completing this course, you should be able to:

- 1. Identify and describe different types of research approaches and designs.
- 2. Articulate strengths and limitations of the research design.
- 3. Distinguish between experimental and descriptive approaches to research.
- 4. Read, summarize, and critique peer reviewed research articles.
- 5. Understand and generate research questions and hypotheses.
- 6. Analyze and interpret descriptive and simple inferential statistics.
- 7. Propose data analysis plans for research proposal.
- 8. Describe the importance and meaning of research results as they pertain to issues in counseling.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Sheperis, C. J., Daniels, J., & Young, S. (2016). *Counseling research: Quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods, 2/E.* Pearson. ISBN-10: 0134025091 ISBN-13: 978-0134025094

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Pyrczak, F., & Tcherni-Buzzeo, M. (2019). *Evaluating research in academic journals*. Routledge. American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*. (7th ed.). American Psychological Association.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Quizzes (8 x 20 = 160 points)

A quiz on the reading will be due every week as listed on the course schedule. Quizzes will be completed online and you will have 30-40 minutes to complete the quiz. You may use your textbooks and study materials, but failing to do the chapter reading beforehand will significantly hurt your chances of completing the quiz within the allotted time. Each student's lowest score will be dropped and replaced by the median of his or her quiz scores. All questions are based on the class textbook (Sheperis). Quizzes will not be scored *after* their due dates. Please note that MACC has encountered instances of students using websites that archive test bank questions. You may find yourself tempted to simply google the questions and find the answers. Please be aware that this is a very serious matter and the offense will be treated as a matter of academic dishonesty. If suspected you are using these resources, *at the instructor's discretion*, you will be given a 0 for the quiz in question and the protocol for academic dishonesty will be initiated which may result in you failing the course. We expect you to hold yourself to a high standard of integrity and cheating in this manner is not consistent with MACC culture or values.

2. Article Review and Critique (3 x 25 = 75 points)

Students will write a 2-page critique in which you analyze one scientific, peer-reviewed article discipline of psychology and discuss how the results of the study may benefit the surrounding

community and/or society as a whole. See detailed instructions in Assignments.

3. Research Proposal Paper (200 points)

The final project is an Applied Research Proposal. Students will develop a research question, conduct a literature review, and propose a research design to test their questions/hypotheses. See detailed instructions in Assignments.

4. Survey Design and Program Evaluation - In-Class Activities (25 points each)

Survey Design: As mental health clinicians, we rely on surveys as one of the main feedback tools with our clients and the public, therefore, creating effective surveys is a crucial skill. In this in-class activity, students will work in small groups to design a survey that may be used to answer a specific quantitative research question. During allotted class time during Week 4, students will meet as groups to devise a topic related to counseling and create a survey to measure variables that will serve to answer a specific question. The survey will be disseminated to classmates and this data will be analyzed for presentation to the class at the end of the week. **Program Evaluation:** During class, your group will meet to devise a program evaluation on an identified program of need. Your Program Evaluation may be worked on over two class meetings. In the first meeting, you will begin by brainstorming ideas within your group and identifying a program of interest. By the end of the second class period, you should have a brief presentation ready that follows all of the domains outlined in the assignment guidelines. This presentation will be approximately 10 minutes in length and cover all aspects of your evaluation.

5. Weekly Discussions (120 points)

Students will participate in weekly discussions throughout this course to supplement in-person peer interactions. Please see each discussion board for instructions. Grading: the initial post is worth 5 points and responses are worth 2.5 points each (or 5 points if only one is required). Each component will be graded independently (including the application of the late policy). Note that initial posts are due by Friday and peer interactions are due by Sunday at midnight.

APA Papers

<u>All</u> papers written in the Graduate Counseling program should be in APA style. Here are some helpful websites to help you write and format your paper:

- <u>APA 7th Edition Help File (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/46796/pages/apa-7th-edition-help-file)</u>
- The OWL at Purdue: APA Style → (https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/)

All papers should include the following sections unless indicated otherwise:

- 1. Title page
- 2. Abstract
- 3. Main body with headings
- 4. Reference page



Please check the APA Manual or the websites for further formatting helps.

This course meets PLNU and WASC credit hour policy requirements for contact hours as evidenced by the table below (3 credit units):

Distribution of Course Hours

Assignments	Pre-Course Hours	Course Hours	Post-Course Hours
Face-to-face Class Sessions		40	
Online Participation in forums, groups, etc.	5		5
Reading	10	5	10
Writing		10	20
Other Assignments and Learning Activities	5	5	5
Exams & Quizzes	4	5	5
	24	65	45
TOTAL HOURS			134

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Point Distribution by Assignment

Assignments	Points
Intro Discussion Board Post	10
Reading Quizzes	160
Article Reviews	75
Data Collection and Display Presentation	50
Research Proposals	200
Group Presentation	120
Academic Honesty Verification	5
Online Citi Training	10
In Class Participation	33
Total	643



Students must achieve a minimum grade of B- to pass this class.

NOTE: It is your responsibility to maintain your class schedule. Should the need arise to drop this course (personal emergencies, poor performance, etc.); you have the responsibility to first contact the professor. Then if no accommodations can be made, you are responsible to follow through (provided the drop date meets the stated calendar deadline established by the University).

Late Policy

Note: this is NEW as MACC late work policy has changed! Assignments submitted up to 24 hours past the due date will be deducted 25% of the grade. Assignments submitted up to 48 hours past the due date will be deducted 50% of the grade. Any assignment turned in after 48 hours past the due date will receive no credit. Students are encouraged to alert the professor if an assignment is anticipated to be late. Professors can extend these late penalties if arrangements are made in advance.

Grade Scale

Standard Grade Scale Based on Percentage of Points Earned				
Α	В	С	D	F
A 93-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F ≤ 59
A- 90-92	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	
	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

Grading policies:

A: Exemplary: The student has demonstrated a quality of work and accomplishment far beyond the formal requirements and shows originality of thought and mastery and application of knowledge, skills and attitudes presented in the course.

B: Proficient: The student's achievement reflects expectable achievement by demonstrating a proficient grasp and application of course concepts, skills, and attitudes presented in the course.

C: Marginal: The student has only partially demonstrated an inconsistent and correct grasp and application of the basic concepts, skills, and attitudes presented in the course.

F: Unacceptable: The student has failed to demonstrate grasp and application of course concepts, skills, and attitudes either through insufficient and incomplete presentations, or consistently incorrect and unprofessional presentations.

COURSE POLICIES

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.

1. Academic Honesty

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. As explained in the university catalog, 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. Violations of university academic honesty include cheating, plagiarism, falsification, aiding the academic dishonesty of others, or malicious misuse of university resources. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for a) that particular assignment or examination, and/or b) the course following the procedure in the university catalog. Students may appeal also using the procedure in the university catalog. See Academic Policies in the current PLNU catalog_ (<a href="https://catalog.pointloma.edu/) for further information.

2. Identity Fraud

Committing identity fraud is considered particularly serious and could have legal as well as institutional implications. Any student who has another individual impersonate or in any other way commit identity fraud in any course, assignment, exam, or any type of academic exercise will be permanently suspended from Point Loma.

3. Final Examination Policy

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. The final examination schedule is posted on the <u>Class Schedules</u>
(http://www.pointloma.edu/experience/academics/class-schedules) site. No requests for early examinations will be approved.

4. Participation

Your participation (think of this as 'contribution') in the course is monitored and graded. Your interaction with the course content, the instructor, fellow students, and the learning process directly influences your level of success in the course. You need to demonstrate that you have truly completed the assigned readings, shared what you learned from them, and demonstrate understanding and application of the concepts presented. Participation in the course will benefit your overall online experience as well as the experience of others in the course.

5. Classroom Etiquette

Students are expected to actively engage in an adult learning environment. Behaviors that disrupt the classroom environment and interfere with the learning of others are prohibited. Examples include talking with other students during a presentation or when others are speaking, texting, gaming, internet browsing, or reading non-course related materials. All pagers, cellphones, and other electronic communication devices will be turned off at the beginning of class. Tablets and computers are allowed in class for note-taking purposes only, unless otherwise directed by the instructor. Arriving late and leaving early are strongly discouraged and disruptive to the class.

Respect each person's opinions. Be considerate while your peers are speaking and actively engage them only when they have completed their point. Discourteous comments and side conversations will not be tolerated and will be addressed openly and directly by the instructor. Should a student's behavior become disruptive to the productivity of the course they will be asked to leave the classroom and not receive credit for attendance.

6. 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
Technology and System Requirements
Mailto:(https://help.pointloma.edu/TDClient/1808/Portal/KB/ArticleDet?ID=108349) page. Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work. If you do need technical help you may click on the HELP button (located on the top-right corner of Canvas) and choose from whom you want assistance, or you may contact the campus help desk (619.849.2222).

7. University Catalog

For additional Point Loma policy items, review the latest <u>Point Loma Nazarene University Catalog</u> (https://catalog.pointloma.edu/index.php).

8. Confidentiality of Course Discussion and Assignments

Materials posted to the class discussion or to an assignment thread are for class use only. Students and faculty are to protect the confidentiality of all classroom materials and should never transmit any classroom materials without specific written permission of the person quoted and the instructor.

9. Academic Accommodations

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities. 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 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan ("AP") to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester. 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 and/or if they do not wish to utilize some or all of the elements of their AP in that course. 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.

10. Spiritual Care

PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as a whole person. To this end we provide resoul



our Graduate and Adult Degree Completion students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith. At the Mission Valley (MV) campus we have an onsite chaplain, Rev. Gordon Wong, who is available during class break times across the week. If you have questions for, desire to meet or share a prayer request with Rev. Wong you can contact him directly at mvchaplain@pointloma.edu or gordonwong@pointloma.edu. Rev. Wong's cell number is 808-429-1129 if you need a more immediate response. In addition, on the MV campus there is a prayer chapel on the third floor which is open for use as a space set apart for quiet reflection and prayer.

11. Copyright Policy

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COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

Weekly Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Reading Due	Assignment
1a	Intro, Ethics LIGHT WEEK: No F2F Class	Sheperis, Chp. 1 and 2	Reading Quiz
1b	Reviewing Literature LIGHT WEEK: No F2F Class	Sheperis, Chp. 3 Pyrczak Chp. 4	
2a	Methodology 9/4 Labor Day: No F2F Class	Sheperis, Chp. 4	Reading Quiz
2b	Basic Statistical Concepts	Sheperis, Chp. 5	Article Review #1 Due
3а	Planning and Designing a Research Study	Sheperis, Chp. 6	Reading Quiz
3b	Experimental Research Designs	Pyrczak Chp. 9	Research Proposal Second

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4a	Survey Research	Sheperis, Chp. 13	Reading Quiz
4b	Survey Research		Article Review #2 Due In-class: Survey Design Project
5a	Qualitative Research Designs	Sheperis, Chp. 9-12	Reading Quiz
5b	Mixed Method and Other Designs	Sheperis, Chp. 14 Pyrczak Chp. 5	Research Proposal Section 2 Due
6a	Data Analysis	Sheperis, Chp. 7, 17	Reading Quiz
6b	Interpretation	Pyrczak Chp. 10	Article Review #3 Due
7a	Program Evaluation	Sheperis, Chp. 16	Reading Quiz
7b	Program Evaluation		Research Proposal Section 3 Due
8a	Presentation	Sheperis, Chp. 18	Reading Quiz
8b	Course Wrap Up		Final Research Proposal Due

Note: Instructor reserves the right to make syllabus and assignment adjustments which in her/his judgment are appropriate and are supported in terms of learning objectives.





Date	Details	Due
	Session 1 Agenda	to do: 2pm
Mon Aug 28, 2023	Academic Honesty Verification Statement (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/	9420 due by 11:59pm
Wed Aug 30, 2023	Session 2 Agenda	to do: 2pm
	WK1: Introductions (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/	'9420இந்e by 11:59pm
Sun Sep 3, 2023	WK1: CITI Training - Protecting Human Subjects (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/	9420 <u>92</u> by 11:59pm
	WK1: Discussion 1 - Identifying Gaps in Research and Knowledge (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/	due by 11:59pm <u>1942084)</u>
Mon Sep 4, 2023	Session 3 Agenda	to do: 2pm
	Session 4 Agenda	to do: 2pm
Wed Sep 6, 2023	In Class Discussion - Variables (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/	942089 e by 11:59pm
	WK1: Reading Quiz - Chapters 1, 2 and 3 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/	9420 due by 11:59pm
Sat Sep 9, 2023	WK2: Reading Quiz - Chapters 4 and 5 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/	19420 due by 1

Date	Details Due
Sun Sep 10, 2023	WK2: Article Review #1 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/9420@e by 11:59pm
Mon Sep 11, 2023	Session 5 Agenda to do: 2pm
Wed Sep 13, 2023	Session 6 Agenda to do: 2pm
Sat Sep 16, 2023	WK3: Reading Quiz - Chapter 6 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/942060)e by 11:59pm
Sun Sep 17, 2023	WK3: Research Proposal Section 1 - Formulating Research Questions due by 11:59pm (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/942094)
Mon Sep 18, 2023	Session 7 Agenda to do: 2pm
Wed Sep 20, 2023	Session 8 Agenda to do: 2pm
	WK4: Survey Design - In-class Activity (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/942100) due by 3pm
Sat Sep 23, 2023	WK4: Reading Quiz - Chapter 13 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/942063) 11:59pm
Sun Sep 24, 2023	Mid-Course Survey (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/9420@7)e by 11:59pm
	WK4: Article Review #2 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/942086e by 11:59pm
Mon Sep 25, 2023	Session 9 Agenda to do. zpm

Date	Details	Due
Wed Sep 27, 2023	Session 10 Agenda	to do: 2pm
Set Sen 20, 2022		<u>du</u> e by 11:59pm
Sat Sep 30, 2023	₩K5: Research Proposal Section 2 - Literature Review (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/9420	<u>due</u> by 11:59pm
	Session 11 Agenda	to do: 2pm
Mon Oct 2, 2023	In Class Activity - Lit Review and Discussion (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/9420	due by 11:59pm
Wed Oct 4, 2023	Session 12 Agenda	to do: 2pm
Sat Oct 7, 2023	WK6: Reading Quiz (Chapters 7 and 17) (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/9420	<u>գս</u> е by 11:59pm
Sun Oct 8, 2023	WK6: Article Review #3 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/9420	8 70e by 11:59pm
Mon Oct 9, 2023	Session 13 Agenda	to do: 2pm
Wed Oct 11, 2023	Session 14 Agenda	to do: 2pm
Sat Oct 14, 2023	WK7: Reading Quiz - Chapter 16 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/9420	<u>du</u> e by 11:59pm
Sun Oct 15, 2023	Program Evaluation In-class Assignment	due by



Details Date Due

WK8: Final Research Proposal

Sun Oct 22, 2023

(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/70370/assignments/942099) by 11:59pm



