

RESEARCH METHODS IN SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY, COLLEGES OF ARTS AND LETTERS
24623 PSY 4700 - 901

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Course Website: [Blackboard Learn](#)
Credit Hours: Variable (2-4)
Offered: Spring, 2021
Class Location: On-line course

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION

A hybrid course developed to provide students experiences that provide training in designing and conducting research in social psychology, includes work on research projects.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This is a multi-faceted experiential learning course designed to provide students with knowledge about research and the research process in experimental social psychology. The field of experimental social psychology seeks to answer varied research questions about social life by utilizing the experimental method of manipulating variables and measuring their influence. One goal of this advanced research methodology course is for students to learn about theoretical, empirical, and statistical issues relevant to experimental social psychology. A second goal is for students to gain a deeper understanding of the decisions involved in conducting experimental social psychology research. A final goal is to provide a hands-on learning experience about the research process in social psychology.

**This semester, the entire course will occur remotely.*

SPECIAL NOTE

-19 virus things can

change at any time so please be patience and understanding as we move through the semester. I also ask that you keep me informed of concerns you may have about class, completing course work/assignments timely and/or health concerns related to COVID.

PREREQUISITES

Students are expected to have previously taken Principles of Psychology (PSY1010) and Statistical Methods (PSY2100).

MEETING TIMES/DAYS

This is an on-line course, with synchronous class meetings held many Fridays at noon through Blackboard Collaborate. Students will also schedule individualized times throughout each week where they will complete experiential research learning tasks (described below).

WEBSITE

We will use Blackboard and Blackboard Collaborate for our class. Presentation materials, reading materials, and grades will be located in Blackboard. Class meetings, discussions, chats, and presentations will occur in BlackBoard Collaborate. Additional course activities may occur through other services, such as Zoom, Webex, Slack, and communication through UT email.

<https://blackboard.utdl.edu/webapps/login/>

<http://utlv.screenstepslive.com/s/student/m/56924>

READINGS & MATERIAL

1. Primary source empirical research articles on the topic of experimental social psychology.

Readings will be provided on-line on the course Black Board page.

2. Research Methods in Social Psychology (2nd Edition). Aronson, Ellsworth, Carlsmith, & Hope Gonzales (McGraw-Hill; ISBN-10: 0070024669). This text provides a guide for the process of experimentation: focusing on asking the right questions, translating questions into a workable ethical design, setting up data collection, designing reliable and valid dependent variables, avoiding bias, conducting the post-experimental interviews, and writing up research results. Readings from this book will be provided on-line on the course Black Board page.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Be trained and certified in ethical psychological research practices
- Be able to conduct a literature search on social psychological topics
- Be able to develop social psychological research hypotheses
- Be able to develop experimental protocols that test research hypotheses
- Be able to evaluate social psychological research study designs

COMPUTER SKILL REQUIREMENTS

2. Completing Meeting Assignments. Four weeks of the term students are asked to complete an assignment related to our class meeting topics. The due dates for these assignments are given on the course schedule below. These assignments will be explained in more detail the week prior to their due date. These assignments will be submitted in the assignment room in our course Blackboard page.

3. Read assigned journal articles and textbook chapters. Depending on the week, students may have chapters from our textbook or journal articles to read. These readings will be used to facilitate our discussion of research in our class meetings. All readings will be indicated on the syllabus and posted on Blackboard. All students in the course (regardless of whether they sign up for 2, 3, or 4 credit hours) are expected to complete this component of the course.

4. Complete hands-on experiential research tasks. As part of the experiential learning component of the course, students will be assigned to specific research-related tasks involving research in social psychology. To facilitate this, students will set aside time each week to complete these tasks. Students who sign up for 4 credit hours will complete 12 hours of experiential learning tasks per week, students who sign up for 3 credit hours will complete 9 hours of experiential learning tasks per week, and students who sign up for 2 credit hours will complete 6 hours of experiential learning tasks per week (3 hours per credit hour taken). These tasks will include a combination of the following:

- Data Collection

- Enter, code, and analyze data. An important step in the research process is correctly entering, coding, and analyzing data. Basically, research participants

Third, students should complete their hands-on experiential research tasks each week. In total, each student will complete approximately 6 hours of experiential research tasks each week when signed up for 2 credit hours, 9 hours per week when signed up for 3 credit hours, and 12 hours per week when signed up for 4 credit hours (3 hours per credit hour). Earning all the points assumes that the student has been reliable, responsible, and productive in his/her lab tasks and with his/her contributions to the research. More specifically, this means demonstrating good attendance for experiential sessions, following task procedures, completing tasks in a timely manner (e.g., allocating research credit daily, finished assigned tasks on time each week), and showing care with tasks (e.g., not making data entry errors). Points will be deducted from this score as issues arise. Moreover, if students do not follow the procedures laid out in the syllabus, they may be asked to drop the course. When students are not following the syllabus, the instructor may also remove the student from the course (resulting in an IW) or assign the student from the course. ents will be given written and/or oral warnings before a forced withdrawal

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CLASS M

Academic and Support Services

Please follow this link to view a comprehensive list of [Student Academic and Support Services](http://www.utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/departments.html) (<http://www.utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/departments.html>) available to you as a student.

Safety and Health Services and UT Students

Please use the following link to view a comprehensive list of [Campus Health and Safety Services](#) available to you as a student.

Inclusive Classroom Statement

In this class, we will work together to develop a learning community that is inclusive and respectful. Our diversity may be reflected by differences in race, culture, age, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, socioeconomic background, and a myriad of other social identities and life experiences. We will encourage and appreciate expressions of different ideas, opinions, and beliefs so that conversations and interactions that could potentially be divisive turn, instead, into opportunities for intellectual and personal development.

Resource Related to Sexual or Gender-based Violence and Harassment

The University of Toledo cares greatly about the health and well-being of our students, staff, and faculty, and takes all sexual or gender-based violence and harassment very seriously. If you have experienced sexual assault, sexual harassment, intimate partner violence, and/or stalking and want a confidential place to obtain support and information, please contact the Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness on the main campus in Health and Human Services Room 3017. You can call 419.530.2497 during regular business hours and 419.530.3431 for 24-hour assistance from a trained advocate. In-person, walk-in appointments are also available Monday-Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness provides free and confidential advocacy and counseling services to students, faculty and staff. The YWCA H.O.P.E. Center also can be accessed as an off-campus confidential resource at 419.241.7273. Faculty, teaching assistants, and other university employees are mandated reporters of any incidents of sexual or gender-based violence or harassment. Thus, any disclosures of sexual or gender-based violence or harassment on or off campus made to faculty or teaching assistants, or other university employees must be forwarded to the Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Office will then contact you regarding your rights, your option to participate in the investigation, interim safety measures and/or academic accommodations, and the need to proceed with an investigation (even if none is requested). Your participation in the process is voluntary. You may call 419.530.3152 to file a complaint or visit the following website for more information and resources: <http://www.utoledo.edu/title-ix/>. Policies relating to Title IX can be found at: <http://www.utoledo.edu/title-ix/policies.html>.