



Online Course Syllabus

PSY 401

Social Behavioral Research

Spring 2024

Contact Information

Instructor Name: Rene Wallace

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Instructor Office Hours: Online by appointment via Zoom or phone call

Course Description and Prerequisites

A culmination of the procedures psychologists use to study behavior, cognition, and emotion. This includes a thorough review of the literature, the design of a study based on the research, and the opportunity to present both. (Prerequisite: PSY 315)

Course Objectives

The purpose of this course is to help students learn the basics of research in the social and behavioral sciences. Students will gain understanding in methods of research, ethics, data collection and interpretation and preparing that data for future presentations and publications.

Required Textbooks

Methods in Behavioral Research, 14th Edition. Paul C. Cozby and Scott C. Bates. Textbook may be purchased anywhere textbooks are sold.

ISBN-978-1-260-20558-9

Course Requirements and Assignments

This course will consist of four live Zoom meetings, ten discussion board posts, five applied content assignments, and one presentation that will occur during the final Zoom meeting. This course does not have exams so that students may apply the concepts and framework for research in the psychological sciences to possible real life opportunities in students' futures.

Applied Content Assignments- (50 points total, 10 points each)

There will be five applied content assignments where students apply what is being taught about research throughout the semester and quasi-conduct their own research. This research is not intended for publication or presentation in a professional setting and will simply be a learning experience for students. Although the content will not be presentable for professional purposes, the methods learned will be applicable and transferable to many areas in the psychological sciences. **Specific instructions for each assignment will be given in the Canvas assignment instructions.**

Assignment #1- CITI certifications

Assignment #2- IRB draft/ Research Proposal

Assignment #3- Data Collection

Assignment #4- Poster Draft

Assignment #5- Journal Article Research for Publication

Research Presentation- (20 points)

During the final Zoom meeting of the semester, students will present their research to the class using the poster they created for Assignment #4.

Discussion Posts- (20 points total, 2 points each post)

There will be ten discussion board posts due for DB grades. These posts will go along with students' weekly reading in the textbook. The student's initial discussion board post is due every Wednesday by 11:59pm and the student's response to at least two other students' posts is due by Friday at 11:59pm weekly (see calendar for due dates.) Missing the initial post means the student cannot comment on another student's post, this will result in a two point loss. Missing the two response posts will result in a one point loss, and missing one response post will result in a half-point loss.

Live Zoom Meetings- (10 points, 2.5 points each)

There will be four live Zoom meetings students must attend throughout the semester worth 2.5 points each. One will be in the beginning of the semester, one at the end, and two in between. It is imperative students attend ALL four meetings.

Zoom Meeting Agendas-

- The **first** meeting will take place **January 16, 2024, at 7am**. We will cover the syllabus and get to know each other a bit.
- The **second** meeting will take place **February 19, 2024, at 7am**.
- The **third** meeting will take place **March 18, 2024, at 7am**.
- The **fourth** meeting will take place **April 22, 2024, at 7am**.

Late Work Policy

Late work will not be accepted without prior approval. Typically, I only accept late work for significant unforeseen health or emergency reasons. You have all the due dates from the first day of class and are expected to work ahead so that when you have "one of those weeks" or something comes up like a cold or sick child, you are already prepared. One minute late is still late and will receive a grade of zero. Sometimes Canvas takes a while to upload your submission, especially for larger files, keep this in mind and do not wait to upload assignments at the last minute.

Online Course Information

In an online course at Criswell College:

1. Instructors and all students enrolled in that course meet using video-conferencing technology at scheduled class times through the course of a semester or term in order to meet 25–30% of the direct faculty instruction required by the college's Credit Hour policy.
2. The remaining direct faculty instruction is delivered using other means such as:
 - Lectures/instruction for students to watch asynchronously
 - Online content modules in which instructor provides feedback to student work
 - Tests/quizzes on which instructor provides feedback
 - Discussion boards on which instructor provides feedback

Canvas: Criswell College uses Canvas as its web-based learning tool to host/deliver all instructional materials, discussions, assessments, files, and other peripheral tools and applications that support teaching and learning. In online courses at Criswell College, instructors design and use Canvas to:

- organize course content on a module basis using organizational tools within Canvas,
- control the timing of course requirements through module control or assignment due dates to ensure that students are engaged for the full length of the semester or term,
- accept assignments from students only inside the Canvas course (emailed assignments are not acceptable),
- provide written feedback on assignments only within Canvas, preferably through Speedgrader,
- use the Announcement or e-mail feature in Canvas to communicate to the students rather than by broadcasting to a class email listserv outside of Canvas.

Zoom in Canvas is used for all synchronous class sessions.

Students needing assistance with Canvas should contact the Canvas Help Support line at (844) 358-6140. Tech support is available at this number, twenty-four hours a day.

Attendance

Students are responsible for enrolling in courses for which they (1) anticipate being able to attend every on-campus class session on the day and time appearing on course schedules, or (2) participating in academically related activities as identified in online-course schedules including synchronous class sessions conducted remotely by video, and then making every effort to do so. When unavoidable situations result in absence or tardiness, students are responsible for acquiring any missed information. Professors are not obliged to allow students to make up missed work. Per their independent discretion, individual professors may determine how attendance affects students' ability to meet course learning objectives and whether attendance affects course grades. Professors apprise students of such information in course syllabi.

Students receiving grants, loans, or scholarships must meet specified requirements of various departments at the college and should consult relevant sections of the *Academic Catalog*. To ensure such funds will not be forfeited, students are responsible for contacting the proper departments to ascertain any specific course participation requirements and consequences of not meeting such requirements. Students receiving grants, loans, or scholarships should consult the Financial Aid office.

While Criswell College is a non-attendance taking institution, it nevertheless must demonstrate that students begin their courses in order to comply with Federal Aid regulations. Accordingly, students must participate in

academically related activities during census periods. Failure to meet this requirement will result in students being administratively dropped from courses.

Academically related activity is defined as any course-related activity that may be used as evidence of attendance. Examples include:

- physical presence in a classroom during a class session with the instructor present,
- participation in a synchronous remote video class session with the instructor present,
- submission of an academic assignment, quiz, or exam,
- participation in an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction,
- participation in a study group or discussion board that is assigned by the instructor,
- documentation showing that the student and a faculty member corresponded about the academic subject of the course.

NOTE: Logging into a Canvas course alone and logging into a Synchronous Online class session without active participation or with the camera off are not considered attendance.

NOTE: A census period begins on the first day of a semester/term and runs through the end of the last day to drop courses. During the census period, attendance data is collected in order to demonstrate compliance with Federal Aid regulations. There is no census period for winter terms since there is no last day to drop courses.

Grading Scale

All assignments in this course add up to 100 points. 100 points is equal to an A+. Please use the grading scale below to see how your points equate to letter grades.

A	93-100	4.0 grade points per semester hour
A-	90-92	3.7 grade points per semester hour
B+	87-89	3.3 grade points per semester hour
B	83-86	3.0 grade points per semester hour
B-	80-82	2.7 grade points per semester hour
C+	77-79	2.3 grade points per semester hour
C	73-76	2.0 grade points per semester hour
C-	70-72	1.7 grade points per semester hour
D+	67-69	1.3 grade points per semester hour
D	63-66	1.0 grade point per semester hour
D-	60-62	0.7 grade points per semester hour
F	0-59	0.0 grade points per semester hour

Incomplete Grades

Students requesting a grade of Incomplete (I) must understand that incomplete grades may be given only upon approval of the faculty member involved. An "I" may be assigned only when a student is currently passing a course and in situations involving extended illness, serious injury, death in the family, or employment or government reassignment, not student neglect.

Students are responsible for contacting their instructors prior to the end of the semester, plus filing the appropriate completed and approved academic request form with the Registrar's Office. The "I" must be removed (by completing the remaining course requirements) no later than 60 calendar days after the close of the term or semester in which the grade was awarded, or the "I" will become an "F."

Academic Honesty

Absolute truth is an essential belief and basis of behavior for those who believe in a God who cannot lie and forbids falsehood. Academic honesty is the application of the principle of truth in the classroom setting. Academic honesty includes the basic premise that all work submitted by students must be their own and any ideas derived or copied from elsewhere must be carefully documented.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- cheating of any kind,
- submitting, without proper approval, work originally prepared by the student for another course,
- plagiarism, which is the submitting of work prepared by someone else as if it were his own, and
- failing to credit sources properly in written work.

Institutional Assessment

Material submitted by students in this course may be used for assessment of the college's academic programs. Since programmatic and institutional assessment is done without reference to specific students, the results of these assessments have no effect on a student's course grade or academic standing at the college. Before submitting a student's work for this type of assessment, the course instructor redacts the work to remove anything that identifies the student.

Institutional Email Policy

All official college email communications to students enrolled in this course will be sent exclusively to students' institutional email accounts. Students are expected to check their student email accounts regularly and to respond in an appropriate and timely manner to all communications from faculty and administrative departments.

Students are permitted to setup automatic forwarding of emails from their student email accounts to one or more personal email accounts. The student is responsible to setup and maintain email forwarding without assistance from college staff. If a student chooses to use this forwarding option, he/she will continue to be responsible for responding appropriately to all communications from faculty and administrative departments of the college. Criswell College bears no responsibility for the use of emails that have been forwarded from student email accounts to other email accounts.

Disabilities

Criswell College recognizes and supports the standards set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and similar state laws, which are designed to eliminate discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities. Criswell College is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualifying students, faculty, and employees with disabilities as required by applicable laws. For more information, please contact the Student Services Office.

Intellectual Property Rights

Unless otherwise specifically instructed in writing by the instructor, students must neither materially nor digitally reproduce materials from any course offered by Criswell College for or with the significant possibility of distribution.

Research and Writing Standards

The default writing style for written assignments in Criswell College Courses is the latest edition of *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses and Dissertations* by Kate Turabian. However, instructors are free to require alternative writing styles in their courses. These styles include but are not limited to the American Psychological Association (APA), Chicago Manual of Style, Modern Language Association (MLA), and Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) writing guides.

Resources and Support

Student Services: The Student Services Office exists to foster and encourage success in all areas of life—physical, intellectual, spiritual, social, and emotional. Students are encouraged to reach out for assistance by contacting the office at 214.818.1332 or studentservices@criswell.edu. The Student Services Office also works with local counseling centers to ensure that every student has access to helpful mental health resources. More information can be found at [Criswell College Mental Health Resources](#), and students may contact the Director of Student Services if they have any questions.

Wallace Library: Students can access academic resources and obtain research assistance by contacting or visiting the Wallace Library, which is located on campus. For more information, email the Wallace Library at library@criswell.edu. Offsite login information is available in Canvas in the “Criswell Student Training Course” under “Library Information.”

Tutoring Center: Students are encouraged to consult with tutors to improve and enhance their skills and confidence in any subject matter taught at the college. Tutors have been recommended by the faculty to ensure that the tutor(s) are qualified to serve the student body. Every tutor brings experience and expertise in an effort to provide the proper resources for the subject matter at hand. To consult with a tutor, students can schedule an appointment through Calendly (<https://calendly.com/criswell-tutoringcenter>) or by visiting the Tutoring Center located on the second floor in room E203. For questions, call 214.818.1373 or email at tutoringcenter@criswell.edu.

Course Outline/Calendar

Social Behavioral Research, Spring 2024

Date	Assignment Due	Date	Assignment Due	Date	Assignment Due
Tuesday January 16, 2024	Zoom #1 at 7am	Wednesday, January 17, 2024		Friday, January 19, 2024	
Monday, January 22, 2024		Wednesday, January 24, 2024	DB #1 Due	Friday, January 26, 2024	DB #1 Response Due
Monday, January 29, 2024		Wednesday, January 31, 2024	DB #2 Due	Friday, February 2, 2024	DB #2 Response Due
Monday, February 5, 2024	Assignment #1 Due	Wednesday, February 7, 2024	DB #3 Due	Friday, February 9, 2024	DB #3 Response Due
Monday, February 12, 2024		Wednesday, February 14, 2024	DB #4 Due	Friday, February 16, 2024	
Monday, February 19, 2024	Zoom #2 at 7am	Wednesday, February 21, 2024		Friday, February 23, 2024	DB #4 Response Due
Monday, February 26, 2024	Assignment #2 Due	Wednesday, March 28, 2024	DB #5 Due	Friday, March 1, 2024	DB #5 Response Due
Monday, March 4, 2024		Wednesday, March 6, 2024	DB #6 Due	Friday, March 8, 2024	DB #6 Response Due
Monday, March 11, 2024	SPRING BREAK	Wednesday, March 13, 2024	SPRING BREAK	Friday, March 15, 2024	SPRING BREAK
Monday, March 18, 2024	Zoom #3 at 7am	Wednesday, March 20, 2024		Friday, March 22, 2024	
Monday, March 25, 2024	Assignment #3 Due	Wednesday, March 27, 2024	DB #7 Due	Friday, March 29, 2024	DB #7 Response Due
Monday, April 1, 2024		Wednesday, April 3, 2024	DB #8 Due	Friday, April 5, 2024	DB #8 Response Due
Monday, April 8, 2024		Wednesday, April 10, 2024	DB #9 Due	Friday, April 12, 2024	DB #9 Response Due
Monday, April 15, 2024	Assignment #4 Due	Wednesday, April 17, 2024	DB #10 Due	Friday, April 19, 2024	DB #10 Response Due

Monday, April 22, 2024	Zoom #4 at 7am	Wednesday, April 24, 2023		Friday, April 26, 2024	
Monday, April 29, 2024	Assignment #5 Due	Wednesday, May 1, 2024		Friday, May 3, 2024	