Syllabus

PSY 255 Research Methods in Psychology

General Information

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Department Social Science

Course Prefix PSY

Course Number 255

Course Title Research Methods in Psychology

Course Information

Catalog Description This course is the culmination of the AS degree in psychology. It will facilitate the hands-on exploration of scientific methods employed in the field of psychology and guide the conceptualization, design, creation, and execution of a semester-long project. The course will require students to examine, evaluate, and synthesize the knowledge and skills learned to this point, and to construct a meaningful reflective narrative of themselves as learners. It will also provide the opportunity to apply various topics within the field, (e.g. consciousness, motivation, learning, memory, cognition, etc.) in order to explain an aspect of behavior, or to propose a solution to a problem or challenge in the community. Students must be matriculated in the AS Psychology degree program and have completed three semesters of coursework in the major. In addition, students are required to present a minimum of two semester-long projects (e.g., literature reviews, research design projects) from previous psychology coursework. Matriculation in the AS Psychology degree, completion of three semesters in the degree program, and completion of two 200-level PSY course are required.

Credit Hours 3

Lecture Contact Hours 3

Lab Contact Hours 0

Other Contact Hours 0

Grading Scheme Letter

Prerequisites

None

Co-requisites

None

First Year Experience/Capstone Designation

This course is designated as satisfying the outcomes applicable for status as a Capstone Course

SUNY General Education

This course is designated as satisfying a requirement in the following SUNY Gen Ed categories
None

FLCC Values

Institutional Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course
Vitality, Inquiry, Perseverance, and Interconnectedness

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Explore the cultural, social, and ethical impact of different psychological theories/approaches on both the individual and the community.

2. Conduct research or program evaluation.

3. Apply psychological principles to the cultural, social, and ethical challenges in the student's community and daily life.

4. Investigate a specific field or component of professional practice within the broader field of psychology.

Outline of Topics Covered

1. Ethics in psychology
a. Developing a good research idea
b. Conducting an ethical project
c. Replicability
2. The Research Question
a. Forming a hypothesis
b. Theory-based hypotheses
3. Qualitative Research Methods
a. Project design

b. Data collection, analysis
4. Community-based research
a. Theoretical and conceptual background
b. Interviewing
c. Observations, fieldwork, other data collection
a. Analysis of data in community-based qualitative research
5. Quantitative Research Methods
a. Project design, data collection, analysis
b. Variables and control
c. Unanticipated influences
d. Cross-cultural issues
6. Using Statistics to Answer Questions
a. Power and effect size
b. Internal and external validity
7. Writing and Assembling an APA-Format Research Report
a. Presenting and publishing research
8. Frontiers in psychology
a. Cyber psychology
b. Imaging technology
c. Big Data
d. Grand Unifying Theory

Program Affiliation

This course is required as a core program course in the following program(s)

AS Psychology