

## Psych 2 – Research Methods in Psychology

Spring, 2021  
Psych 2 – V0475  
3.0 credit hours  
Mark Winter, PhD

**Instructor Contact Information:** **Canvas Message** – Go to the Help Icon (bottom left) on the class homepage. This is the best method as I receive a notification and it is stored in Canvas for easy access. **Instructor Email** - You can also reach me at [mark-winter@redwoods.edu](mailto:mark-winter@redwoods.edu) as I usually check my email daily. This works but mixes with other work activities. **Canvas Module** – Each week there is a link in Modules for a “Question for the Instructor.” This is a place to ask questions of general interest to all students. This is not a method for individual or private communication. I check this site every couple days. **Phone Message** – N/A this semester. **Office Hour** – Individual Zoom meetings are available upon request.

**Course Description:** This course surveys various psychological research methods with an emphasis on research design, experimental procedures, descriptive methods, instrumentation, and the collection, analysis, interpretation, and reporting of research data. Research design and methodology will be examined through a review of research in a variety of the subdisciplines of psychology. **Prerequisites:** Psych 1 General Psychology and Math 15 Statistics.

### Course Learning Outcomes:

1. Explain the basic principles of the scientific method including developing and testing hypotheses, and choosing a research design.
2. Critically evaluate research reports and synthesize research findings in a paper written in APA format.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of general research designs, experimental and non-experimental methods, and standard research practices.
4. Explain the ethical treatment of human and animal participants in research and the institutional requirements for conducting research.
5. Assess the generalizability of study results.

**Required Text:** Morling, B., Research Methods in Psychology (2018; 3<sup>rd</sup> edition). Norton Publishing. ISBN: 9780393617542.

**Student Readiness:** Are you ready for online classes? Please take about 15 minutes to review what it means to take an online class by watching the Introduction to Online Learning presentation at: <https://apps.3cm mediasolutions.org/oei/01-Introduction-to-Online-Learning/index.html>

**Canvas Help:** There are Canvas instructions and additional help with preparation for taking an online course at College of the Redwoods at: <http://redwoods.edu/online/>

**Student Accessibility:** College of the Redwoods is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or Disability Services and Programs for Students (DSPS). Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS based on their campus location:

- Eureka: 707-476-4280, student services building, 1<sup>st</sup> floor
- Del Norte: 707-465-2324, main building near library
- Klamath-Trinity: 530-625-4821 Ext 103

*During COVID19—DSPS will email approved accommodations for distance education classes to your instructor. Last minute arrangements or post-test adjustments usually cannot be accommodated.*

### **Login instructions for Canvas:**

1. Open your web browser and go to <https://redwoods.instructure.com>
2. Your Username is the same as your **WebAdvisor User ID** (e.g., flast123 - first initial + lastname + last 3 digits of your student ID number.) Your initial password is your 6-digit birthdate (mmddyy).
3. Once logged in, on top left-hand side of the screen you should see a drop down menu of your Courses.

**Computer Skills:** Online courses require adequate computer skills. You should be able to navigate the course website, open and download files, use a word processor with either Microsoft word (.docx) or be able to convert files to portable document format (.pdf), and submit files to the class website. It is your responsibility to meet the technological demands of the course.

### **Computer Requirements:**

- **Internet Access:** I would recommend broadband services from cable, DSL, or satellite providers as there are required multimedia assignments. You need to have reliable access to the internet at least two times a week for 16 weeks. Anticipate problems with your computer and internet access (including power outages) by not waiting until the last minute to submit assignments. It is your responsibility to meet the class deadlines.
- **Computers:** You should plan on doing the majority of your work (especially exams and assignments) from a reasonably recent model laptop or desktop computer. *Do NOT plan to participate in this class solely from a portable device.*
- **Portable Devices:** You can use recent model portable devices (such as Android or iOS phones & tablets) for some assignments in this class. You may lose some Canvas functionality that requires a laptop or desktop computer. If you use your portable device for *some* of your class work, use the free Canvas app (called “Canvas by Instructure”) available in iTunes (for iOS) and the Google Play Store (for Android).
  - **Do not** try to connect to Canvas using a web browser on a portable device. Your experience with Canvas will be a lot better using the app.
- **Browsers** - You will need to use the most recent version of one of the following browsers in order to best access the course and activities; Mozilla Firefox (10 or higher), Chrome (54.0.2840.99 m or higher), or Safari (1.2 or higher). Canvas is required for the optional remote exam proctoring. Do not use Internet Explorer as it does not work properly with Canvas.

**Student Commitment:** Your commitment will require at least as much time as you dedicate to a traditional class. A typical three credit hour class will require about nine hours per week. You will need to carefully read textbook chapters and watch online video lectures and assigned videos, participate in online discussions, complete weekly quizzes/midterm/final exam, and submit written assignments in docx or pdf. Conscientiousness, organizational skills, attention to details, self-discipline, and college-level reading and writing are critical for success.

**Instructor Commitment:** I dedicate as much or more time to this class compared to a traditional class. I will access the class website regularly (usually daily) and respond to posted questions and messages within 48 hours. Additionally, I read every discussion forum post and occasionally participate. There is also regular instructor-based communication with weekly announcements, lecture videos, evaluative feedback to your discussion posts, assignment and exam feedback, and emails/messages to students who fall behind.

**Class Discussions (130 points):** Each week has a discussion based on an “Everyday Research” prompt. You will receive up to a maximum of 10 points for postings and responses to other peoples’ postings (see scoring below). This is an important and required part of the class. The discussion forum is accessed in Modules at the class website. *For the first half of the semester minor editing is possible after a post. The lowest score will be dropped for the final grade.*

**Primary Post** -- 6 points possible --Your primary post must:

- **Answer the 5 question prompts** (1 point per prompt)
- **Posted before** the Thursday deadline (M-Th =1 point; F-S .5 point)

**Reply Postings** -- 4 points possible – Each of your **two reply posts** must:

- **Include TWO (different) of the following:**
  - **COMPLIMENT:** *I like...*
  - **COMMENT:** *I agree that ... because ... I disagree that ... because*
  - **CONNECTION:** *I have also ...*
  - **QUESTION:** *I wonder ...*
- **Meet** the 100 word minimum length (- 1 point for each reply <100 words)

**Chapter Quizzes (195 points):** Chapter quizzes consist of 15 timed multiple-choice items (each worth 1 pt.) **based on a mix of lecture videos and assigned text reading.** Quizzes are available beginning Mondays the week chapters are presented and until the deadlines on Sundays at 11:59 pm. Quiz scores are displayed immediately, missed items after the second attempt, and correct answers are displayed after the Sunday deadline for one week. You are limited to a total of 20 minutes for each quiz. While technically an open-book quiz, you will not have time to search and find all of the answers. You should take each quiz twice with the higher score recorded in the gradebook. *The lowest score will be dropped for your final grade.*

**Exams (100 points):** The midterm and final exams each consist of 10 short essay questions based on the lecture videos and readings from the textbook. They have a 60 minute time limit, and are open-book. Study guides are available one week before the exams.

**Assignments (100 points):** There are seven written assignments including finding, evaluating, and synthesizing research in an APA style paper. Assignments are available at the modules link in Canvas. All assignments will be submitted electronically using Canvas.

Dates	Topics	Graded Assignments
<b>Week 01</b> Jan 16 – Jan 24	<b>Psychology is a Way of Thinking</b>	<b>Chapter 1</b> Discussion and Quiz
<b>Week 02</b> Jan 25 – Jan 31	<b>Sources of Information</b>	<b>Chapter 2</b> Discussion and Quiz Assignment #1
<b>Week 03</b> Feb 01 – Feb 07	<b>Three Claims, Four Validities</b>	<b>Chapter 3</b> Discussion and Quiz
<b>Week 04</b> Feb 08 – Feb 14	<b>Ethical Guidelines</b>	<b>Chapter 4</b> Discussion and Quiz Assignment #2
<b>Week 05</b> Feb 15 – Feb 21	<b>Identifying Good Measurement</b>	<b>Chapter 5</b> Discussion and Quiz
<b>Week 06</b> Feb 22 – Feb 28	<b>Surveys and Observations</b>	<b>Chapter 6</b> Discussion and Quiz Assignment #3
<b>Week 07</b> March 01 – March 07	<b>Sampling</b>	<b>Chapter 7</b> Discussion and Quiz
<b>Week 08</b> March 08 – March 14	<b>Midterm Exam</b>	<b>Midterm Exam</b>

Dates	Topics	Graded Assignments
March 15 – March 21	<b>Spring Break</b>	
<b>Week 09</b> March 22 – March 28	<b>Bivariate Correlational Research</b>	<b>Chapter 8</b> Discussion and Quiz Assignment #4
<b>Week 10</b> March 29 – April 04	<b>Multivariate Correlational Research</b>	<b>Chapter 9</b> Discussion and Quiz
<b>Week 11</b> April 05 – April 11	<b>Simple Experiments</b>	<b>Chapter 10</b> Discussion and Quiz Assignment #5
<b>Week 12</b> April 12 – April 18	<b>Experiments and Confounding Variables</b>	<b>Chapter 11</b> Discussion and Quiz
<b>Week 13</b> April 19 – April 25	<b>Experiments and Multiple Independent Variables</b>	<b>Chapter 12</b> Discussion and Quiz Assignment #6
<b>Week 14</b> April 26 – May 02	<b>Quasi-Experiments and Small-N Designs</b>	<b>Chapter 13</b> Discussion and Quiz
<b>Week 15</b> May 03 – May 09	<b>Replication and Generalization</b>	<b>Chapter 14</b> Discussion and Quiz Assignment #7

Dates	Topics	Graded Assignments
<b>Finals</b> May 06 – May 12	<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>

**Grade Distribution:** **A**=94% and above, **A-**=90-93%, **B+**=88-89%, **B**=84-87, **B-**=80-83%, **C+**=78-79%, **C**=65-77%, **D**=60-64%, **F**=59% and below

**Student Code of Conduct:** Please familiarize yourself with the [Student Code of Conduct \(AP 5500\)](#). It requires you to do your own work. All essays, postings, and exams must be completed by you without assistance. Do not use *any source* except the textbook or instructor’s lectures in your writing/postings without proper citation. In cases involving **academic dishonesty**, determination of the grade and your status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the instructor. In such cases where the instructor determines that you have demonstrated academic dishonesty, you may receive a failing grade for the assignment.

Student participation that **disrupts the instructional setting** will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: failure to adhere to instructor’s directions; vulgar or obscene language; racist, sexist, or other forms of prejudice, and; personal intimidation. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. Simply put, please follow the guiding principles of kindness and empathy in your communication, especially discussion postings.

**Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies:**

- *Classes begin: 1/16/21*
- *MLK Jr. Birthday (all campuses closed): 1/18/21*
- *Last day to add a class: 1/22/21*
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 1/29/21*
- *Last day to petition to file P/NP option: 2/12/21*
- *Lincoln’s Birthday (all campuses closed): 2/12/21*
- *President’s Day (all campuses closed): 2/15/21*
- *Last day to petition to graduate or apply for certificate: 3/04/21*
- *Spring Break (no classes): 3/15/21 – 3/20/21*
- *Last day for student-initiated W (no refund): 4/02/21*
- *Last day for faculty-initiated W (no refund): 4/02/21*
- *Final examinations: 5/08/21 – 5/14/21*
- *Semester ends: 5/14/21*

**Setting Your Preferred Name in Canvas:** Students have the ability to have an alternate first name and pronouns to appear in Canvas. Contact [Admissions & Records](#) to request a change to your preferred first name and pronoun. Your Preferred Name will only be listed in Canvas. This does not change your legal name in our records. See the [Student Information Update form](#).

**Academic Support and Resources:** The following online resources are available to support your success as a student:

- [CR-Online](#) (Comprehensive information for online students)
- [Library Articles & Databases](#)
- [Canvas help and tutorials](#)
- [Online Student Handbook](#)
- [Counseling](#) offers assistance to students in need of professional counseling services such as crisis counseling. Resources, tools, and trainings regarding health, mental health, wellness, basic needs and more designed for California community college students, faculty and staff are available on the California Community Colleges [Health & Wellness website](#). [Wellness Central](#) is a free online health and wellness resource that is available 24/7 in your space at your pace.

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

- [Academic Support Center](#) for instructional support, tutoring, learning resources, and proctored exams. Includes the Math Lab & Drop-in Writing Center
- [Library Services](#) to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- [Multicultural & Diversity Center](#)

Special programs are also available for eligible students include

- [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services \(EOPS\)](#) provides services to eligible income disadvantaged students including: textbook award, career academic and personal counseling, school supplies, transportation assistance, tutoring, laptop, calculator and textbook loans, priority registration, graduation cap and gown, workshops, and more!
- The TRiO Student Success Program provides eligible students with a variety of services including trips to 4-year universities, career assessments, and peer mentoring. Students can apply for the program in [Eureka](#) or in [Del Norte](#)
- The [Veteran's Resource Center](#) supports and facilitates academic success for Active Duty Military, Veterans and Dependents attending CR through relational advising, mentorship, transitional assistance, and coordination of military and Veteran-specific resources.
- Klamath-Trinity students can contact the CR KT Office for specific information about student support services at 530-625-4821

**Regular Contact:** The instructor will initiate regular effective contact and maintain substantive interaction by including elements such as timely (within one week) and substantive feedback using a scoring rubric on course assignments including discussion forums/exams and access to correct answers on weekly quizzes. Instructor-prepared materials (videos and/or lectures) are used to create a virtual equivalent of face-to-face classes.

*While I make every effort to follow the standards and schedule of this syllabus there may be times when changes are necessary. I will inform the class through the announcement board and/or class messages of any changes. There is no extra credit available.*