

**Psyc 2331: Research Methods Summer 2025**  
**Monday through Thursday, 10:30-12:20 –Live via Zoom**

**Contact Information:**

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**Required Text:**

American Psychological Association. (2019). *Publication manual* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Stocks, E. L. (2013). *A practical guide to doing experimental and quasi-experimental research in psychology*.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

The purpose of this course is to provide a broad introduction to the fundamentals of science and scientific methodology. We will cover topics such as the philosophy of science, basic statistics, experimental and non-experimental research designs, and writing/presenting the results of scientific research. My goal is to teach you enough about science and methodology so that you can not only understand the methods and results of the scientific research you read or hear about, but also that you may design and conduct your own research projects in the future.

**Course Mechanics:**

Lecture Notes & Assigned Readings: Partial lecture notes for certain topics in the course will be available for download from the course website (e.g., statistical analysis). The remaining topics are covered in great detail in the course text, which should also be viewed as partial lecture notes. I ask that you download the relevant sections of the text and additional notes and that you bring them to class so that you can add to them information from the lecture. The text chapter(s) associated with each lecture, if applicable, are listed on the syllabus. Not all lectures are associated with readings from the text. In such cases, please read through the lecture notes carefully. When text readings are assigned, please complete them prior to attending the lecture(s) scheduled for that week.

Bonus Readings: The course website also contains links to online articles that may be of interest to you. Although these readings are not always directly relevant to the course material, it is my hope that each bonus reading will provide interested students with a “real world” example to which the course material, and the knowledge you’ve gained from it, may be applied.

Study Guides, Practice Exams, and Other Study Aids: In addition to the text and partial lecture notes, study guides and practice exams will be available for download from the course website.

Exams and Grading: Your grade for the course will be based on **three non-cumulative exams**, each worth 100 points, and a research report (also worth 100 points). **Be warned: I do not allow make-up exams!** In the event that you miss one of the regularly scheduled exams, you will be given an opportunity to replace it by taking a **cumulative final exam**. Only those students who have missed a regularly scheduled exam will be allowed to take the cumulative final exam.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory. In the event of excessive absenteeism, **I reserve the right to lower your final course grade by one or more letters. Specifically, missing more than 25% of class meetings will reduce your course grade by one letter. Missing more than 40% of the class meetings will result in an automatic F in the course.**

Grade Detail:

<u>Source</u>	<u>Points Possible</u>	<u>Grade Range (Total Points)</u>
Exam 1	100	A = 360 - 400
Exam 2	100	B = 320 - 359
Exam 3	100	C = 280 - 319
Research Report	100	D = 240 - 279
Total = 400 points		F = 239 or less

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Lecture Topic</i>	<i>Assigned Readings</i>
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**Part I: Basics of Scientific Research**

(6/1): Orientation and Overview		
(6/2): Overview of Methods & Theory in Science		Chs. 1 & 2
(6/3): Reviewing the Literature (Group Activity)		Ch. 3 (Phase II only)
(6/4): Hypothesis Development & Design Issues		Ch. 3 (Phase III only)
(6/8): Pre- & True Experimental Designs		Ch. 4
(6/9): Quasi-Experimental Designs & Operationalizing IVs and DVs		Chs. 5 & 6
(6/10): Ethics & Creating Cover Stories/Reducing Bias		Chs. 7 & 8

➔ (6/11) **Exam #1 – Administered Online**

**Part II: Statistics & Complex Designs**

(6/15): Logistics of Doing Research and Descriptive Statistics		Ch. 9, Ch. 10, & LN
(6/16): Inferential Statistics I		Ch. 11 + LN
(6/17): Inferential Statistics II		Handout
(6/18): Inferential Statistics II cont. and Writing Results Sections		Handout
(6/22): Factorial Designs, & Interpreting Interactions		Chs. 12 & 4 + LN

➔ (6/23) **Exam #2 – Administered Online**

**Part III: Issues Beyond Design**

(6/24): Within-Subject (Own Control) Designs and Writing Issues		Chs. 13 & 14
(6/25): Descriptive and Correlational Methods		Ch. 5 + LN
(6/29): Sampling and Survey Design		Ch. 5 + LN

(6/30): Review Session

➔ **Written Project Due**

➔ (7/1) **Exam #3 – Administered Online**

**(7/2): Make-up Cumulative Final Exam will be held (ONLY FOR PEOPLE WHO MISS AN EXAM)**

## University Policies

### Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.nhp>

### Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

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### State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

**Disability/Accessibility Services:** In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Tyler at Texas offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible a diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the **New Student application**. The **Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR)** office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

### Student Absence due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

### Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

### Social Security and FERPA Statement:

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

### Emergency Exits and Evacuation:

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

### Student Standards of Academic Conduct

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

(i) "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student's test paper;
- using during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes". The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or information about an unadministered test, test key, homework solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
- taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of U. T. Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and,
- misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.

(ii) "Plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the submission of it as one's own academic work offered for credit.

(iii) "Collusion" includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.

### CEP Vision and Mission and Program Standards

#### Vision

The College of Education and Psychology is nationally recognized and respected for its academic programs and opportunities. It is a center of academic excellence, scholarly inquiry, and public service. The College prepares leaders to meet the critical challenges of the 21st Century, to make significant contributions to local and global communities, and to work toward individual and cultural equity.

#### Mission

The mission of the College of Education and Psychology is to provide a positive environment that fosters the acquisition of knowledge and skills. The mission is individually and collectively realized through a community of scholars that contributes to knowledge through scholarly inquiry; organizes knowledge for application, understanding and communication; and provides leadership and service. Additionally, the College is committed to affirming and promoting global perspectives, cultural diversity, and respect for individual differences as a means of enhancing learning, service, and scholarship.