

PSYC 2990 Research Analysis in Psychology Spring 2008

Lecture: TTR 2:00-3:15pm
Instructor: Rich Suplita
Office: 218 Psychology
Phone: 705-542-3100
Email: rsuplita@uga.edu

Labs: (3) Vary by Course Call Number
Instructors: Sabrina Drollinger, Bryan Dawson
Emails: TBA in lab
Office: TBA in lab
Office hours: TBA in lab

Required Text:

1. Pagano, R. R. (2007). *Understanding Statistics in the Behavioral Sciences, 8th Edition*. Wadsworth: Belmont, CA.

Required Materials:

A calculator that at least does square root functions, No. 2 pencils for exams,
Printed copies of all of the relevant charts for each exam.

Course Objectives: The main objective of this course is to enhance your understanding of how psychologists analyze and report research data. By the end of the course, you should understand why a researcher has approached a particular research question as she/he has. Moreover, given a typical set of research data, you should be able to explain the proper method of analyzing these data. Additionally, you will be able to interpret the meaning of graphical depictions of data (e.g. bar graphs, frequency distributions, line graphs, scatterplots, and so on), and you will gain a basic understanding of commonly reported statistics. The laboratory component of the course will allow you to use statistical software to analyze hypothetical data sets and to report your results in an acceptable format.

Attendance: Due to the extensive overlap between the course material for this class and that for STAT2000, attendance is not required. I have implemented this policy to benefit those of you who may already have a firm grasp on the course content. That being said, you will be expected to demonstrate mastery of the material on *three* exams during the semester in addition to a *comprehensive* final. Therefore, unless you are certain that you have mastered or can master this material on your own, you owe it to yourself to be in attendance as frequently as possible. Please note that I will not provide notes to those missing class. Please take the opportunity to meet one or two of your classmates so that you can get the notes from them should you miss class. If you feel that you are falling behind in your understanding of the relevant concepts, I urge you to make an appointment with me as soon as possible, and I will do my best to assist you. However, I will feel little obligation to go out of my way to help those who wait until the day before the exam to notify me of their need. Come to class, stay on top of the readings, work the practice problems at the end of each unit, and I will be more than happy to work with you.

Exams: There will be four exams, three during the semester and a comprehensive final on the date and time scheduled by the registrar. Do to the size of the class, exams will be compatible with scantron grading (i.e., multiple choice and matching items). You will want to double check your work on exams, especially on items requiring calculations. Due to the format, there will not be an opportunity for partial credit, and—as will become obvious—one error early in a hypothesis test can lead to the wrong answer for several of the subsequent questions. Bottom line: Calculate carefully, and double check your answers! I doubt that there will be any extra credit available, so do yourself a favor and do well from the get go.

PLEASE NOTICE: If you know that you will be unable to take an exam on the designated day, you must contact me in person (read: *not* via email) **at least two calendar weeks prior to the exam**. You will be required to take an alternate version of the exam at an earlier time. Make ups will only be granted in the event of real emergencies or medical exigencies and will require proper documentation. **No documentation or inadequate documentation = ZERO!**

How Your Grade Will Be Determined:

Exam One: 100 points
Exam Two: 100 points
Exam Three: 100 Points
Final Exam: 200 Points

These points will constitute 2/3 (66.7%) of your final **course** grade.

Lab: 1/3 (33.3%) of your final **course** grade

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

X > 90	A
88 > X > 90	A-
86 > X > 88	B+
82 > X > 86	B
78 > X > 82	B-
76 > X > 78	C+
72 > X > 76	C
68 > X > 72	C-
66 > X > 68	D+
62 > X > 66	D
58 > X > 62	D-
Below 58	F

Academic Honesty: All University students are expected to be familiar with and to abide by the guidelines for ethical scholarship set forth by the University and delineated in The Academic Honesty Guidelines outlined in the UGA Student Handbook and University Honor Code (<http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/ah.pdf>). All work is expected to be your own. The minimum penalty for academic dishonesty is failure of this course. Please note that I am ethically bound to report all instances of academic dishonesty. In other words, if I become aware of an infraction, there will be a “zero tolerance” policy for reporting the infraction to the Office of the Vice President for Instruction.

Students with Disabilities: If any student has circumstances requiring special attention or accommodation, please contact me as soon as possible. Your information will be held confidential.

Schedule On Next Page

Tentative Schedule

It is virtually impossible to make a semester-long schedule at the beginning of the semester, as certain topics will take longer to cover than anticipated, while others we'll cover relatively quickly. Therefore, I may periodically announce changes to this tentative schedule. In no event will exam dates be advanced.

Date	Chapter(s)	Notes
8-Jan	1 & 2	
10-Jan	1 & 2	Last Day of Drop/Add
15-Jan	3 & 4	
17-Jan	3 & 4	
22-Jan	5	
24-Jan	5	
29-Jan	EXAM ONE	
31-Jan	6 & 7	
5-Feb	6 & 7	
7-Feb	6 & 7	
12-Feb	8	
14-Feb	8	
19-Feb	9	
21-Feb	9	
26-Feb	EXAM TWO	
28-Feb	10	
4-Mar	11	Midpoint Withdrawal Deadline
6-Mar	11	
18-Mar	12	
20-Mar	12	
25-Mar	13	
27-Mar	13	
1-Apr	EXAM THREE	
3-Apr	14	
8-Apr	14	
10-Apr	15	
15-Apr	15	
17-Apr	16	
22-Apr	17	
24-Apr	17	
1-May	FINAL EXAM	3:30-6:30 PM