

Advanced Research Methods in Psychology PSYC 118

Fall 2026 Section 40 In Person 3 Unit(s) 08/19/2026 to 12/07/2026 Modified 07/27/2026

Course Information

Class Days/Time:

Lecture: SH 313

Tue/Thur 1:30 pm – 2:20 pm

Lab: DMH 236

Tue 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Thur 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Course Description and Requisites

Descriptive, correlational, quasi-experimental, and experimental approaches: design, methodology, and analysis. Experience designing, conducting, analyzing, and presenting (verbal and written) research findings. Topics include: hypothesis testing, validity, reliability, scales of measurement, questionnaire development, power, statistical significance, and effect size.

Prerequisite: Lower division GE complete; STAT 95, PSYC 18, PSYC 100W with a "C" or better (or departmental approval), Upper division standing, Psychology or Behavioral Science majors only.

Letter Graded

Classroom Protocols

Communication

If you have any questions or concerns please message me either on Canvas messaging or my email (hannah.suozzi@sjsu.edu (<mailto:hannah.suozzi@sjsu.edu>)). The Subject Line should begin with the class (PSYC 118) followed by the topic of the email.

During weekdays, I will try to respond within 24hrs.

Recording Lectures

- Recording Lectures are permitted but must acquire consent from the instructor. The instructor is required to announce the use of recording but will keep students anonymous.

- Lecture recordings are not to be disseminated. This means that they cannot be given to other students or posted online without consent.
 - Recorded material is for study purposes only
- Group discussions are not to be recorded

Participation

Because this course involves a group project, all members of a group are required to attend class and provide equal amounts of effort in class work. Student are also required to partake in lab assignments.

Program Information

Program learning outcomes (PLOs) are skills and knowledge that students will have achieved upon completion of the Psychology BA degree. Each course in our curriculum contributes to one or more of these PLOs. The PLOs for the Psychology BA degree are:

1. Knowledge Base of Psychology. Students will be able to demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.
 2. Research Methods in Psychology. Students will be able to design, implement, and communicate basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretations.
 3. Critical Thinking Skills. Students will be able to use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and a scientific approach to address issues related to behavior and mental processes.
 4. Applications of Psychology. Students will be able to apply psychological principles to individual, interpersonal, group, and societal issues.
- Values in Psychology. Students will value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. *Understand the differences between research methods, mainly correlational and experimental.*
2. *Recognize the needed ethics to perform psychological research in a way that provides informed consent, protects participant anonymity, and mitigates participant discomfort.*
3. *Collect, analyze, and interpret data from real participants through a psychological lens.*
4. *Connect real world contexts and experiences to research questions, building them out into a comprehensive research study.*
5. *Record and report research studies using APA Format.*

Course Materials

Social science research: Principles, methods, and practices
(Revised Edition)

Author: Anol Bhattacharjee

Edition: revised edition

Optional

Availability: Canvas

Price: open availability

Bhattacharjee, A. (2012). *Social science research: Principles, methods, and practices (Revised Edition)*.

PDF is available in Canvas files

Available as a physical copy on Amazon: https://www.amazon.com/Social-Science-Research-Principles-Practices/dp/1475146124/ref=sr_1_1

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

Students will need access to a computer/tablet that can run Jamovi and must have access to Canvas and Google docs, forms, slide, and sheets (or equivalents).

Jamovi can be downloaded through their website: <https://www.jamovi.org/>

Be aware that the Cloud version is not always available but can be used on iPads while Desktop is always available but cannot be used on tablets.

Course Requirements and Assignments

"Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practical. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus."

Final Examination or Evaluation

"Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment."

The final evaluation for this course is the Final Research report and the Final Research presentation.

Quizzes

Weekly online quizzes covering course content of that week

Made up of 5 questions: multiple choice, True or False, and fill in the blank

Always due Friday at 11:59 pm

Lowest Score is dropped

Percentage of grade: 14%

Lab Assignments

Non-paper related lab assignments

Always due Fridays 11:59pm

Percentage of grade: 14%

Paper Sections

The Final Paper is made up of 4 main sections: Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion

Drafts of each section are due Fridays 11:59 pm (see schedule)

Paper sections are graded on Individual Effort, Formatting, and Subsection Adherence

Percentage of grade: 42%

Final Paper

Complied version of *corrected* paper sections

Includes: Title Page, Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, and References

Graded on: Formatting and Adherence to Section instructions

Percentage of grade: 17%

Final Presentation

Group Presentation: 10 to 12 minutes of presenting research study and results.

Additional 3 min for questions

Graded on: Clarity, Quality of Slides, Time Adherence (within 10 to 12 min), Individual Time Presenting (should be roughly equal), Delivery, and Questions

Percentage of grade: 10%

iClicker

Posed questions asked in class will be answered via iClicker and will count as a point for answering and not accuracy.

Percentage of grade: 3%

✓ Grading Information

Grades will be rounded to 2 decimal points

Breakdown

Grade	Range	Notes
A+	96 to 100	
A	93 to 95	
A-	90 to 92	
B+	86 to 89	
B	83 to 85	
B-	80 to 82	
C+	76 to 79	
C	73 to 75	
C-	70 to 72	
D+	66 to 69	
D	63 to 65	
D-	60 to 62	
F	Below 60	

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9 \(PDF\)](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on the [Syllabus Information](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>) web page. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Course Schedule

When	Topic	Notes
Lecture Week 0	Syllabus	Lab: NO LAB
Lecture Week 1	Scientific Thinking	Ch 1 and 2 <u>Due 08/28:</u> -Lab Assignment(s): 3 Research Topics/Questions -Quiz 1
Lecture Week 2	Ethics	Ch 16 <u>Due 09/04:</u> -Lab Assignment(s): Citi Training & Group Proposal Draft -Quiz 2
Lecture Week 3	Sampling	Ch 8 <u>Due 09/11:</u> -Lab Assignment(s): Jamovi download and Power Analysis -Quiz 3
Lecture Week 4	Survey Design	Ch 9 <u>Due 09/18:</u> -Lab Assignment(s): Literature Review Matrix -Quiz 4
Lecture Week 5	Experimental Design	Ch 10 <u>Due 09/25:</u> -Lab Assignment(s): Research Design; Hypotheses -Quiz 5

When	Topic	Notes
Lecture Week 6	Research Design Approval Meetings	Teams will schedule a meeting with me (30 mins for Survey study, 1 hr for Experimental study) during office hours, class time, and lab hours. Meetings will take place in my office (DMH 232) or over Zoom <u>Due 10/02:</u> -Lab Assignment: Design Approval -No Quiz
Lecture Week 7	APA Formatting	<u>Due 10/09:</u> -Lab Assignment(s): Introduction Section -Quiz 6
Lecture Week 8	Descriptive Statistics	Ch 14 <u>Due 10/16:</u> -Lab Assignment(s): Methods Section -Quiz 7
Lecture Week 9	Inferential Statistics	Ch 15 <u>Due 10/23:</u> -Lab Assignment(s): Jamovi Practice -Quiz 8
Lecture Week 10	In-Class Jamovi Workshops	We will be working on completing study statistics using Jamovi. <u>Due 10/30:</u> -Lab Assignment(s): Study Statistics -No Quiz
Lecture Week 11	Presenting Research Studies	<u>Due 11/06:</u> -Lab Assignment(s): Results Section -Quiz 9

When	Topic	Notes
Lecture Week 12	Discussion Instructions	<u>Due 11/13:</u> -Lab Assignment(s): Discussion Section
Lecture Week 13	Presentation Meetings	Optional meetings are open during office hours, lecture hours, and lab hours to discuss presentation slides
Lecture Week 14	No Class	Thanksgiving *No Class or Lab 11/26*
Lecture Week 15	Presentations (Rounds 1 and 2)	2 Groups will go each day. Peers can leave a Peer-Review to earn extra credit (Peer-Reviews are due by the end of the day) Lab- Paper Workshop
Final Exam Perion Dec 15th 12/15/2026 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM SH 313	Presentations (Round 3)	6 Groups will present. Peers can leave a Peer-Review to earn extra credit (Peer-Reviews are due by the end of the day) <u>Due 12/15:</u> -Final Paper