**PSYCH 302. Research Methods in Psychology**

**Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Gilman 2305**

**Instructor: Lisa Larson, Ph. D., 2349 W Lagomarcino (RENAMED from 216)**

# Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

# Fall, 2019

# lmlarson@iastate.edu

**Teaching assistant:** Kelly Kane (kakane@iastate.edu) 159 West Lagomarino (soon to be 1444 Lago) **TA Office Hours** – 9:30 – 11 am Mondays; 1 pm – 2:30 Tuesdays

\*If neither time works for you, please email TA in advance to set up a meeting.

**Course overview:** Discussion of and experience in designing research studies, collecting and analyzing data, and preparing research reports in psychology.

**Course goals:**

1. Development of skills and confidence in basic research design.

2. Practice in the writing of a research manuscript. Students will generate a correlational research manuscript based on their own ideas using an archival data.

3. Development of an independent research project based on your own ideas. Students will generate and complete a research project and present it to the class.

**Relevant Learning Goals for ISU Psychology Majors**

**Goal 2: Develop an understanding of scientific inquiry and demonstrate critical thinking**

2.3 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

**Goal 3: Understand the role of ethics and diversity in human behavior**

3.2 Demonstrate an understanding of the IRB process in research

**Goal 4: Be able to communicate effectively in the discourse of psychology**

4.1 Demonstrate skill in APA style writing

4.2 Demonstrate skill in visual and oral presentation of information

**Prerequisites: Stat 101; Psych 301**

**Required readings:**

Morling, B. (2015). *Research Methods in Psychology*. New York, NY: Norton & Company, Inc. (2e)

**Evaluation:** A total of 585 points is possible in the course:

Quizzes based on Text 100 points (10 points for each of 10 chapters, drop lowest score ( + 10 points)

Assignments 1-6: 90 points (15 points each)

Draft of Correlational Paper 45 points (15 points each for draft of introduction/references, methods, and Results/Discussion

Final Correlational Project Paper: 75 points

Draft of intro/references, Methods, 45 points (15 points each for intro, methods, and Results/Discussion)

Independent Project: 75 points

Data Collection 40 points (10 points each of 4 days)

Class Presentation 75 points

Feedback on Project 20 points (5 points each of 4 presentation days)

Class Participation 20 points

 (includes attendance and critiquing studies and assignments during class)

Final letter grades will be determined based on the following scale:

A 93-100% C 71-74%

A- 90-92% C- 67-70%

B+ 87-89% D+ 63-66%

B 83-86% D 59-62%

B- 79-82% D- 55-58%

C+ 75-78% F 0-54%

**Deadlines:** Assignments will be discussed in class on the day before they are due, and many of the assignments will build off of previous ones. Therefore, assignments must be handed in on the due date. Assignments will be accepted in hard-copy form only.

**Class Participation:** This component includes coming to class, discussing during class, and providing feedback to peers.

**Chapter Quizzes:** Chapter quizzes will be from the *Research Methods in Psychology text (2e).* They occur on Tuesdays usually and will generally be multiple choice and short answer, 5 to 10 questions.

**Assignments:** The assignments 1 to 5 break down the components of the Correlation paper project and Assignment 6 helps with the independent project. Assignments will be made available on Canvas. We will also be working on the assignments during class.

**Correlation Project:** The design is correlational. You will generate research hypotheses from the archival data set available on Canvas that includes demographic variables, three campus environment variables, three psychological need satisfaction variables, one academic self-efficacy variable, and two outcome variables. Your analyses will include one campus environment variable, one of the psychological need satisfaction variables or the academic self-efficacy variable, and one outcome variable. Each of you will tailor your own choices based on your interests. We will be working on the components of the paper. You will receive 15 points for each component (e.g., intro/references, methods, and results/discussion. The final Correlation project will include the title page, abstract, introduction, methods, results, discussion, and references. The final paper is due on October 22. Hard copies of the paper need to be provided. NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED. THE PAPERS WILL BE DUE BY class time.

**Independent Research Project:** The independent research project will be based on an original idea you have. You will receive 15 points for each component (e.g., intro, methods results/discussion. You must manipulate an independent variable. You will collect data in class. Data collection cannot take more than 12 to 15 minutes. The independent research project should be no more than 15 pages of text. The final independent project is due the Tuesday of finals week **Dec. 17** by 5 p.m. NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

**Class Presentation:** Near the end of the semester you will present your independent research project to the class in a 15-minute presentation.

**Weeks, Topics, Readings, and due dates in the course;**

**NOTE: Quiz dates and Assignment and Paper due dates are always noted first and in Bold Print.**

**Week 1. Aug 27** Overview/ Introduction / Student information sheet done in class /

**Week 1. Aug 29 /** Chapter 1: Psychology is a Way of Thinking AND Chapter 2: Sources of Information: Why Research is Best and How to Find It Assignment 1 assigned

**Week 2. Sept 3rd Quiz Chapter 1, 2** / Generating and refining Research Hypotheses

**Week 2. Sept 5th**  **Assignment 1 due** / Chapter 3: Three Claims, Four Validities: Interrogation Tools for Consumers of Research /

**Week 3. Sept. 10th** **Quiz Chapter 3** / Assignment 2 assigned / Literature Searches /Meet in the Library Room 32 /

**Week 3. Sept. 12th Assignment 2 due /** Chapter 5: Identifying Good Measurement / Generating research question for correlational study;

**Week 4. Sept 17 / Quiz Chapter 5**: Chapter 8: Bivariate Correlational Research and Part of Chapter 9 (pg. 235 – 254). – Walking you through SPSS archival data set and generating research hypotheses/ Assignment 3 assigned

**Week 4. Sept 19 / Quiz Chapter 8 -9 (only pgs. 235 -254 in chap. 9)/ Assignment 3 due** / Chapters 6 -7: Surveys and Observations: Describing What People Do; Sampling: Estimating the Frequency of Behaviors and Beliefs / Assignment 4 assigned Presentation by TA

**Week 5. Sept 24** / **Quiz** Chapters 6-7 / **Assignment 4 due** / Assignment 5 assigned Presentation by TA

**Week 5. Sept 26 Assignment 5 due** / Chapter 10: Introduction tothe simple experiment / Introduction / Draft of introduction assigned

**Week 6. Oct 1 Quiz Chapter 10** / Chapter 11: More on Experiments: Confounding and Obscuring Variables/ Draft of method assigned

**Week 6. Oct 3 Quiz Chapter 11** / **Draft of Intro/Refs Due**; Draft of results, discussion assigned/Peer review of introduction and refs

**Week 7. Oct 8**  **Draft of method due /** Chapter 12: Experiments with More Than One Independent Variable / **/** Peer review of method

**Week 7. Oct 10**  **/ Draft of results, discussion, and Tables 1 and 2 due** / Peer review of results, discussion, and Tables 1 and 2

**Week 8. Oct 15** **Quiz Chapter 12**/ Sign up for individual meetings / Assignment 6 assigned

**Week 8. Oct 17** Working out logistics of independent project / Instructor/TA assistance with method

**Week 9. Oct 22** **Assignment 6 due** and **Final Correlation Paper is turned in /**Individual meetings with instructor and/or teaching assistant

**Week 9. Oct 24** Rough draft of intro and references assigned Instructor/TA assistance with method

**Week 10. Oct 29 Rough draft of introduction and references due** / Rough draft of method assigned / Instructor/TA review of introduction/refs / Materials for data collection for people on Oct 31st due

**Week 10. Oct 31** Data collection / Materials for data collection for people on Nov.5th due (5)

**Week 11. Nov 5** Data collection / Materials for data collection for people on Nov 7th due (4)

**Week 11. Nov 7** Data collection (4) **/**Materials for data collection for people on Nov. 12th

**Week 12. Nov 12** Data collection(4)

**Week 12. Nov 14 Rough draft of methods due** / Peer review of methods /Lab dealing with data entry / Rough draft of results, discussion, and Table assigned

**Week 13. Nov 19** **Quiz Chapter 4 /** Chapter 4: Ethical Guidelines for Psychology Research/

**Week 13. Nov 21 Rough draft of results, discussion, and Table due** / Peer review of results, discussion Giving presentations

**Nov 26, Nov 28 Thanksgiving break**

**Week 14. Dec 3** Presentations (5)

**Week 14. Dec 5** Presentations (4)

**Week 15. Dec 10** Presentations (4)

**Week 15. Dec 12** Presentations (4) /wrap up/evaluation

**Week 16. Dec 17 Final independent projects are due** by 5 p.m. No late papers will be accepted. No exceptions.

**Academic Integrity:** Please respect the work of others by giving them the credit they deserve. Plagiarism or cheating of any sort will not be tolerated and will be dealt with on an individual student basis. For more information about ISU’s policy on academic integrity <https://www.policy.iastate.edu/policy/SDR#4.2.1> and <https://www.studentconduct.dso.iastate.edu/academic-misconduct/armfacultystaff>

### **Accommodations:**

Iowa State University is committed to assuring that all educational activities are free from discrimination and harassment based on disability status. Students requesting accommodations for a documented disability are required to work directly with staff in Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to establish eligibility and learn about related processes before accommodations will be identified. After eligibility is established, SAS staff will create and issue a Notification Letter for each course listing approved reasonable accommodations. This document will be made available to the student and instructor either electronically or in hard-copy every semester. Students and instructors are encouraged to review contents of the Notification Letters as early in the semester as possible to identify a specific, timely plan to deliver/receive the indicated accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are not retroactive in nature and are not intended to be an unfair advantage. Additional information or assistance is available online at [www.sas.dso.iastate.edu](http://www.sas.dso.iastate.edu), by contacting SAS staff by email at accessibility@iastate.edu, or by calling 515-294-7220. Student Accessibility Services is a unit in the Dean of Students Office located at 1076 Student Services Building.

**Quiz Makeup and Paper deadline extension policy**: A student may be unable to take a quiz on the scheduled date or turn in a paper on the assigned date. A makeup date for the quiz and an extension deadline for the paper will be given under the following conditions: (a) serious illness or (b) death in the family. I need documentation except for unusual circumstances.