

Psychology 366: Research (Part II)

3 credits

Spring 2009 (MWF 11:00 – 11:50)

Instructors: Dr. Kerrie Baker 120 Curtis Hall x 3426
Office Hours: by appointment

Required Text and Materials:

1. Orcher, L.T. (2005). *Conducting Research: Social and Behavioral Science Methods*. Los Angeles, CA: Pyczak Publishing.
2. American Psychological Association (2001). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th Ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
3. A variety of materials will be needed during the semester, including but not necessarily limited to: computer disks, poster board, and double-sided tape. All of these materials will be used in putting together different aspects of your project. You will be informed when materials are needed for class.

Recommended Resources:

1. All of your textbooks, handouts, and notes from PSY 211 (Experimental Methods) and PSY 212 (Statistical Methods) courses or equivalent.
2. Several internet sites that provide specific examples of the 5th edition of the APA style: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_apa.html
<http://www.uwsp.edu/psych/apa4b.htm>

Description: Provides the student with an opportunity to initiate and complete a research project and to discuss current research relevant to the interest of class members. Students will write an APA format manuscript and present their research results at an undergraduate psychology conference at the end of the semester. Students must successfully complete both semesters (PSY 365 & PSY 366) to receive credit.

Pre-requisites: A grade of C or better in PSY 211-212, a grade of C or better in PSY 365, and junior standing.

Course Objectives: Together, Psychology 365 and 366 are designed to allow the psychology student to demonstrate and apply their knowledge in one or more content areas of psychology, as well as in research methods and use of statistics. To this end, each student will design and conduct a novel empirical investigation, analyze the data, and present her findings in written and oral formats. In order to successfully complete this course, each student must demonstrate the following course outcomes:

- critical and creative thinking
- advanced literature search technique using paper and electronic sources
- ability to conduct methodologically and ethically appropriate research
- professional-quality writing skills and demonstration of the APA writing style
- enhanced public-speaking/presentation skills

Teaching Format: This course will make use of some lecture, discussion of progress and research issues, and in and out of class assignments that all lead to the completion of a research project. Most of the work will need to be completed outside of class with guidance from the instructor.

Attendance: Given the nature of this class, we will not be meeting every scheduled class time. During times designated as “*individual*” you will not be expected to meet in the classroom; instead, you should use the time wisely and work in the computer lab, library, etc. on your research project. **You will be expected to maintain a high level of motivation and productivity, working independently on your project.** However, I will be available in my office much of the time, and you should consider me as a resource. For those days designated as “*meeting*”, you will be expected to meet with me. For those days not designated as “*individual*” or “*meeting*”, we will meet together as a class. Attendance **will** be taken, and you are responsible for all assignments and material that is covered. Attendance, timeliness, as well as active participation in all classes (including practice presentations) will be considered when computing final grades. We will cover a great deal of information over the course of the semester, and adhering to the timeline on the syllabus will ensure completion of your project.

It should be noted that you **must** attend and present your project at both the LVAIC psychology conference and the CCC Health and Wellness conference to pass this course. Failure to do so at both conferences will lead to an automatic failure of this course.

Academic Conduct:

Plagiarism and Cheating: All Cedar Crest College students are expected to be familiar with and fully supportive of the college’s policy regarding the honor code and academic integrity (e.g., cheating on tests, copying other students’ work, plagiarism). These rules apply to the completion of any type of homework, feedback on homework progress, and completion of exams. Any violation will be officially reported to the Provost’s Office for inclusion in the student’s record and will have the appropriate penalties applied.

Classroom Environment: Appropriate classroom behavior is expected and should be free from distraction (e.g., late arrivals, early departures, inappropriate conversation, cell phone use). Use of computers at times and in manners other than those authorized (e.g., checking e-mail, playing games, web surfing, using printers) is very distracting to others and will NOT be tolerated. Care must be taken to protect the rights of all students and faculty to enjoy a courteous, respectful classroom environment. See CCC’s Student Guide for more information regarding the enforcement of these policies.

Disabilities: Students with documented disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss these needs with me during the first two weeks of class. Students with disabilities who wish to request accommodations should contact the Advising Center. According to college policy, documentation must be provided to me before accommodations will be made.

The Research Project: During the spring semester, you will complete your research project that you started in the fall semester. Specifically, you will be expected to satisfy all IRB revisions called for (if not already done), prepare materials for conducting your research (sign-up sheets, consent forms, materials to be read or viewed, questionnaires, etc.), schedule location and times for your research to be carried out, conduct your research in a timely manner, analyze your data using statistical procedures (SPSS), put together a complete APA format manuscript, make a PowerPoint-aided oral presentation of your research at the LVAIC Conference, and present a poster of your research at CCC's Health & Wellness Conference. My goal for all of you is that you have a sense of accomplishment in carrying out a high quality research project, producing a professional manuscript, and making a polished presentation. When all is said and done, you will be very proud of the work you put in!!

Grading: The culmination of this semester's work is the final research paper. All assignments, including drafts of each section of the paper, are due on the date specified below. **Assignments or drafts that are not turned in during class time on the due date will result in a deduction of 20 points each day.** The final research paper, due at the end of the semester, will be graded using the "Criteria for Evaluation of Final Research Paper" sheet that is attached. The oral presentation will be graded using the "Criteria for the Oral Presentation" sheet, and the poster presentation will be graded using the "Criteria for the Poster Presentation" sheet that is also attached.

Your final grade will be assigned on the basis of the percentage of points you earn this semester, across all assignments, with a maximum of 900 points available:

Abstract	50 pts.
Results Section (w/ Figures)	100 pts.
Practice Presentation #1	50 pts.
Final Presentation #2 at CCC	200 pts.
Oral LVAIC Presentation	100 pts.
CCC's H&W Poster	100 pts.
Final Manuscript	300 pts.
Total Available:	900 pts.

(Reminder: Any points lost as a result of missed due dates will be deducted.)

A	93.0-100%	B-	80.0-83.3%	D+	67.0-69.9%
A-	90.0-92.9%	C+	76.7-79.9%	D	60.0-66.9%
B+	86.7-89.9%	C	73.0-76.6%	F	below 60%
B	83.4-86.6%	C-	70.0-72.9%		

Note: You must get a grade of C or better in this course to have the course count for the Psychology major or minor. All requirements for this course must be completed to pass the course with a grade of C or better.

Semester Schedule: The following is a schedule of the topics to be covered on approximate dates. Changes in this schedule may be necessary, and you will be notified in advance when these situations arise.

Date	Material to be Discussed	Assignment Due
1/19	Project Updates & Schedule	
1/21	Data Collection Protocol Validity (Chpts. 20 & 21)	
1/23	Dress Rehearsal	
1/26	Dress Rehearsal	
1/28	Statistics & SPSS Refresher (Chpts. 16-19)	
1/30	SPSS Refresher & Database Setup	
2/2	Data Collection (<i>individual</i>)	
2/4	Data Collection (<i>individual</i>)	
2/6	Data Collection (<i>individual</i>)	
2/9	Check-in & Update	Revised Proposal Due
2/11	Data Collection (<i>individual</i>)	
2/13	Data Collection (<i>meeting</i>)	Database Consult (<i>set up meeting with me</i>)
2/16	Data Collection (<i>meeting</i>)	Database Consult (<i>set up meeting with me</i>)
2/18	Data Collection (<i>meeting</i>)	Database Consult (<i>set up meeting with me</i>)
2/20	Writing Results (Chpt. 23)	
2/23	Writing Abstracts	H&W Conference Abstract Due
2/25	Analyses & Results (<i>meeting</i>)	Results Consult (<i>set up meeting with me</i>)
2/27	Analyses & Results (<i>meeting</i>)	Results Consult (<i>set up meeting with me</i>)
3/2	Analyses & Results (<i>meeting</i>)	Results Consult (<i>set up meeting with me</i>)
3/4	Analyses & Results (<i>meeting</i>)	Results Consult (<i>set up meeting with me</i>)
3/6	Analyses & Results (<i>meeting</i>)	Results Consult (<i>set up meeting with me</i>)
3/9 – 3/13	Spring Break—No Class	
3/16	Abstract Peer Evaluation	Results Section (w/ Figures) Due Draft Abstract Due in Class (copies will be exchanged)
3/18	Writing Discussion (Chpt. 23)	Abstract due
3/20	Discussion (<i>individual</i>)	LVAIC Conference Abstract Submission (Note: Date is subject to change, depending on DeSales' proposal deadlines)

Date	Material to be Discussed	Assignment Due
3/23	Effective Presentations	
3/25	Work on Presentations <i>(individual)</i>	
3/27	Presentation Peer Evaluation	Copies of printed slides
3/30	Work on Presentations <i>(individual)</i>	
4/1 *	Practice Presentations #1	Presentation #1
4/3 *	Practice Presentations #1	
4/6 *	Practice Presentations #1	
4/8 *	Practice Presentations #1	
4/10 & 4/13	NO CLASS- BREAK	
4/15 *	Final Presentations #2	Presentation #2
4/17 *	Final Presentations #2	
4/18 (Saturday) Times to be Announced	LVAIC Conference (DeSales University)	Oral Presentation
4/20	Work on Poster <i>(individual)</i>	
4/22	Poster Peer Evaluation	Draft Poster Slides
4/24, 4/27	Work on Manuscript <i>(individual)</i>	
4/28 (Tuesday) 10:00 to 12:00	CCC Health & Wellness Conference	Poster Presentation
4/29, 5/1, 5/4	Feedback on Manuscript <i>(meeting)</i>	Feedback Consult <i>(set up meeting with me)</i>
5/5 (Tuesday)	Celebration!	Final Manuscript Due

* Presentation sessions will be scheduled for 11:00-12:30 and all students must attend.

** Assignments due on days without full class meetings must be submitted to me by 11:00 a.m., or they will be considered late and will be penalized.