



*background and expertise to teach this course. This section must include your qualifications related to the content of this course. Additional information can be added to the Faculty Contact information in Canvas.]*

### **NOTICE OF CONTENT:**

In this course, we will discuss a variety of topics and explore numerous examples to help you learn. Some assignments might ask you to reflect on your own personal experiences and beliefs. The content of this course and discussions about trauma, in particular, may bring about unexpected and unsettling reactions. Responses to trauma are often strategies that individuals have developed to keep themselves safe, and therefore really reflect strength and resiliency. Recognizing how trauma affects all of us is an important part of skill-building for creating trauma-informed individuals, services, and systems. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time during the course if you would like to discuss, privately, your reactions to the content we are reviewing and/or the discussions we are having.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course provides an introduction to the fundamental principles and techniques of research methodology in psychology. The course will help students become more critical research consumers, and provide the background necessary for further undergraduate and graduate studies in psychology. Students will learn how to design, conduct, and analyze research studies.

**Pre-Requisite(s):**           ENG 310 and MAT 308

### **MAJOR LEARNING GOALS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

#### **GOAL A:**

Explore how and why researchers study human behavior.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:



- C-4 Explain and create operational definitions of variables.
- C-5 Describe independent and dependent variables.
- C-6 Describe the concepts of reliability and validity.
- C-7 Discuss issues related to generalizing research results.

**GOAL D:**

Explore the various types of research methodology.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

- D-1 Explain the difference between quantitative and qualitative research.
- D-2 Describe different types of observations (e.g., naturalistic versus systematic).
- D-3 Explain case studies.
- D-4 Explain when it is appropriate to use surveys to study human behavior.
- D-5 Discuss issues related to constructing survey questions.
- D-6 Compare/contrast in-person interviews with telephone surveys and web surveys.
- D-7 Explain a basic experiment.
- D-8 Describe the difference between independent groups, repeated measures, and matched pairs design.
- D-9 Compare/contrast the use of various types of research methodology for different research questions.

**GOAL E:**

Explore the results of a research study.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

- E-1 Explain frequency distributions, descriptive statistics, and correlations.
- E-2 Explain the importance of statistical significance.
- E-3 Analyze data using descriptive statistics.
- E-4 Identify parts of a results output.
- E-5 Report data from a research study.

**GOAL F:**

Practice information literacy skills using scholarly research.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

- F-1 Describe the anatomy of a research article.
- F-2 Describe the research problem and research question in studies.
- F-3 Explain the purpose of a literature review.
- F-4 Describe the qm



please review the question posted and formulate a response by synthesizing your ideas with supporting details from the text. Your initial discussion board post should be at least 5-7 sentences with proper grammar and spelling. Remember to use in-text citations and references in APA format for the information shared from course materials. It is important that everyone participate in the course discussion so that we can all benefit collectively from individual perspectives on each important topic. Participation means contributing an original post to a topic and commenting on at least two fellow students' contributions. Your initial post should be posted mid-week to allow time for classmates to respond. Your responses to peers should be thoughtful (not just "I agree" and contain content and critical thinking).

**Assignments:**

Throughout the course, you will complete various written assignments that will allow you to apply what you are learning in the weekly materials to an aspect of research. Each activity will focus on a different knowledge set or skill. Details about each activity are posted in the Canvas course.

**SmartBook Activities:**

You will complete SmartBook Activities for chapters from our textbook. These SmartBook Activities will help reinforce the concepts being covered in the course.

**Quizzes:**

You will be evaluated on your understanding of the material by taking multiple-choice quizzes based on the chapters covered in the course. Each quiz has 20 questions. There is no time limit for the quizzes but there is only one attempt permitted per quiz.

**Article Presentation:**

At the end of the course, you will submit an article presentation where you are to take

the concepts covered in the course to dissect the contents of a research article. This analysis will be presented using a Kaltura video..



## **INSTRUCTOR RESPONSIBILITIES:**

### **Course Communication:**

I will use Course Announcements in Canvas to provide any updates related to our course. This could include modifications and clarification of assignments as well as information related to course meetings. I am here to help and will answer any questions you have. I will respond to any emails from you within 24-48 hours. If it has been longer than 48 hours, please reach out again as I may not have received your email.

### **Rubrics:**

I will provide rubrics for assessments so you know how your learning will be assessed. I will use these rubrics when grading all assignments.

### **Writing:**

In addition to content, I will also provide feedback on writing, including clarity of writing, spelling and grammar, and correct use of APA formatting. There are writing and APA format resources posted in our Canvas course.

### **Feedback & Grading:**

I will grade and provide feedback on all assignments in Canvas within 5 days of the due date of the assignment. I will keep the Grade Center in Canvas up to date so you will always have up-to-date information on your progress in the course. I will calculate final grades approximately 1 week after Week 7's assignments are due. Final grades will be based on the [Wilmington University Undergraduate Grading Scale](#). NOTE: Any assignments not submitted by the assignment due date will be assigned a 0 automatically. If assignments are submitted after the due date, I will follow the late assignment policy listed below.



materials in this course.

**Writing:**

Being able to write effectively is something that every employer desires of employees. Upon graduation from WilmU, you should be able to demonstrate your ability to write well. Therefore, an important component of this course, and all Psychology and Organizational Dynamics courses, is to help you develop your writing skills. Part of your grade for each writing assignment will be based on your ability to express your thoughts clearly and concisely using correct spelling, grammar, and APA 7th Edition formatting, required for all Psychology and Organizational Dynamics writing assignments. Please see each assignment's rubric for complete information about how assignments will be graded, and review the APA resources if you are unsure about how to correctly format your paper. If you need additional writing instruction, please visit the [Student Success Center's website](#) and/or access OnlineTutoring via Canvas. If you have any questions about these free resources, please ask me.

**Rubrics:**

To better understand how your assessments will be evaluated, please review the rubrics found in Canvas BEFORE completing your assignments. By doing so, you can focus on the specific areas that will help you effectively demonstrate your ability to meet the learning goals.

**Submission of Assignments:**

All assignment due dates are posted in the course syllabus as well as in the course calendar. It is important that all assignments be completed by the due date to facilitate your learning. Early is better. The old saying, "don't put off tomorrow what you can do today" applies here. Things will come up when you least expect it – try to be proactive when it comes to your learning in the course.

**Feedback & Grading:**

Please review the feedback that I provide and your progress in the course regularly. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

**COURSE EXPECTATIONS AND POLICIES:****Attendance:**

Active involvement in the course's weekly assignments will help you learn the material and be successful. I will take attendance each week. For an online course, students are marked 'present' when at least one content-based assignment is completed (an Introduction Discussion Board does not count). For face-to-face and Online Live courses, students are marked 'present' when they attend the class session. Failure to do the above may be considered an unexcused absence without prior approval by the course instructor. According to University policy, if you are absent the first two weeks of class, you will be administratively dropped from the course by the Registrar's office.

**Late Assignment Policy:**

Each week's assignments build upon the week prior. Because I will be providing constructive feedback so you can improve upon your assignments each week, it is imperative that you submit your assignments on time. Therefore, I will use the following late assignment policy in this course.

**For each day that the assignment is late, I will take off x% (suggestion is 5%) of the total points.**

**INSTRUCTORS -**



**Academic Integrity:**

Representing another person's words, presenting closely paraphrased thoughts, or using others' work as your own is dishonest and constitutes plagiarism. We take academic integrity very seriously at Wilmington University. As stated on the Wilmington University webpage, 'Academic Integrity':

"To ensure the honesty, fairness and fundamental values of the intellectual environment at Wilmington University, students are expected to pursue learning with integrity, dignity, and responsibility toward others. Students are expected to be attentive to proper methods of documentation and acknowledgement in all academic work." (Retrieved August 7, 2023 from

## COURSE SCHEDULE

<b>Week</b>	<b>Content/Topics</b>
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<b>Week 6</b> <b>[dates]</b>	Chapter 12: Understanding Research Results: Description and Correlation	Chapter 12 SmartBook Activity Week 6 Application Activity - Data Analysis Chapter 12 Quiz
<b>Week 7</b> <b>[dates]</b>	Chapter 14: Generalization	Week 7 Discussion - Generalization Chapter 14 SmartBook Activity Chapter 14 Quiz Article Presentation