

Seminar in Psychological Research

PSY-4321-010

Spring 2022

A-139



*Archer College of Health and
Human Services*

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Office Hours: M: 10 to 12

W: 10 to 2

F: 10 to 12 pm (virtual)

Or by appointment

Course Information

Course Description

This course is designed to provide students with practical experience in the scientific process by collecting and analyzing data, and reporting their finding in the form of both an in-class presentation and in a written research report that follows APA style format. Additionally, students will be encouraged to read and analyze contemporary research published scientific psychological journals.

Course Credits

3 credits

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses

PSY-3321

Prerequisite Skills

Accessing Internet websites (including Blackboard), use of ASU Library resources, and proficiency with Microsoft Word and/or PowerPoint are expectations for this course.

Student Learning Outcomes

Student Learning Outcomes By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:	Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:
Design and conduct an empirical study.	Written report, group presentation
Communicate research findings both orally and in written APA form	Written report, group presentation
Discuss empirical findings of current studies investigating psychology	Written report

Course Delivery

This is a face-to-face course with learning resources and supplemental materials posted in Blackboard.

Required Texts and Materials

No textbook is required. Mandatory reading material and supplemental information will be provided via Blackboard

Recommended Texts and Materials

Students find it useful to rent a copy of IBM SPSS (student version) for the semester. JAMOVI is a similar program that students also use and is a free open source program. I do not provide technical support for either of these programs. SPSS is provided on campus at most accessible computer stations (computer labs and library) but JAMOVI is not provided. If you plan on working at home with either program, the following section on what is needed for online classes is a good place to determine if your home computer is ok to use.

To participate in one of ASU's distance education programs, you need this technology:

- A computer capable of running Windows 7 or later, or Mac OSX 10.8 or later
- The latest version of one of these web browsers: Internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari
- Microsoft Office Suite or a compatible Open Office Suite
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- High Speed Internet Access
- Ethernet adapter cable required (wireless connections can drop during tests and Collaborate sessions)
- Webcam

Refer to Angelo State University's Distance Education website for further technology requirements: [Angelo State University's Distance Education Website](#)

Topic Outline (Subject to change at the Professor's discretion)

This course will be organized, broadly, in the following way. This class is adaptive to the individual class dynamic. In other words, the pace of the class is determined largely by how the class is performing. This is why there are no specific dates listed on the schedule below. I will make announcements throughout the semester about specific assignments and when exams will be given and when they are due.

*schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor

Date	Topic(s)
1-18	Introduction
1-20	Discussion of research ideas
1-25	Research discussion
1-27	Research discussion
2-1	Research discussion/Ethics
2-3	Ethics continued
2-8	Ethics Certificate Due/IRB discussion
2-10	Group presentation of project proposals/IRB work
2-15	IRB work
2-17	IRB protocol due
2-22	Media lab/Sona
2-24	Media Lab/Sona schedules
3-1	Put on Sona/Psych Data/Begin data collection

2-27	Data collection
3-3	How to write a manuscript
3-5	Literature review
3-3	Writing an Introduction
3-8	Writing a Methods section
3-10	Analyzing/interpreting data
3-15	Spring Break
3-17	Spring Break
3-22	Writing a results section
3-24	Writing limitations
3-29	Writing a Discussion section
3-31	Writing reference page
4-5	Write abstract
4-7	SWPA conference no class, continue writing
4-12	How to present/draft due
4-14	How to present
4-19	Group work
4-21	Group work
4-26	Group work
4-28	Group work

5-3	Group work
5-5	Group work
5-10	Final (presentations): Final paper due by 12:30 p.m., hard copy, no emails

Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval: Students will be required to request and gain IRB approval before collecting data via the online forms (located on blackboard).

Presentation: Students will be required to deliver a 20-25 minute presentation of their research findings along with their group members at the end of the semester. Format guidelines will be distributed.

Research Report: Students will be required to write and submit an 8-page (not including cover page, abstract page or reference page(s)) APA style research paper.

Communication

Faculty will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

Written communication via email: All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, include the course name and number (Research seminar, 4321) in the subject line.

Virtual communication: Office hours and/or advising may be done with the assistance of the telephone, Collaborate, Skype, etc.

Evaluation and Grades

Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

Assessment	Points of Total Grade
Activities/Participation	10 pts/10%
IRB proposal	25 pts/25%
Presentation	25 pts/25%
Research Report	40 pts/40%
Total	100%

Grading System

Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.

Extra Credit: Up to 5 points (5%) may be earned by writing a short career paper.

The following grading scale is in use for this course:

A = 90.00-100

B = 80.00-89.99

C = 70.00-79.99

D = 60.00-69.99

F = 0-59.99

Teaching Strategies

Students are expected to be “active learners.” It is a basic assumption of the instructor that students will be involved (**beyond the materials and lectures presented in the course**) discovering, processing, and applying the course information using peer-review journal articles, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, and discussing course material and clinical experiences with their peers.

Assignment and Activity Descriptions

Research topic selection: Students will be placed into groups and within their group they will collaborate and decide on a research topic. Students will then work together on the same research project throughout the entire semester in a collective effort; however, each student must write his/her own research paper individually.

Ethical Training: Students will be required to complete online ethical training before data collection may commence. The following link will take you to the main page of the training site.

<https://about.citiprogram.org/en/homepage/>

Instructions on how to register for the training module can be found in course materials section Blackboard.

IRB application, and informed consent forms (online and in-person study) can be found in the course materials section of Blackboard.

Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy

Late Work Policy

There will be No makeup assignments *except* in cases of serious illness or some other extreme event such as a death in the family. Evidence of the event (i.e. doctor's note) may be required.

General Policies Related to This Course

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](#)¹
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)²

Student Responsibility and Attendance

Professional behavior during class is expected, which includes (a) participating in class discussions and group activities, as well as listening attentively when fellow students are contributing to class discussion, (b) reading the assigned material prior to each class and coming to class with questions to clarify any ideas in the readings that are unclear and (c) arriving to class on time and not leaving early. No electronic devices (cell phones, ipods, recorders, etc.) should be used during class without instructor permission.

Often, I am asked at the end of the semester after exams and all other material has been turned in, the following question, or version of it:

“Is there anything I can do to improve my grade, extra credit? Anything at all? I won't graduate if I don't pass this class!”

The answer to all of these questions is simply, No. There is nothing I can ethically do at this point in the semester. It is fundamentally unfair to students that you received special privileges or points that they did not receive. Do not even ask.

When should you ask about your grade and/or performance? When you are concerned or need clarification at any time during the semester. Naturally, you should ask if there may be an error of calculating your final grade. Lastly, I expect and want you to come to my posted office hours when you have any question about the class, need help, or just want to visit. If you can't make it during my regularly scheduled office hours you should email me to see if we can arrange an alternative meeting time. I care about your success in this, and all of your courses. I cannot help you, however, if I am unaware of the problem. Please utilize the resources at your disposal and let me help you when you need it.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Health and Human Services adheres to the university's [Statement of Academic Integrity](#).³

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the [Student Disability Services website](#).⁴ The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford

Director of Student Disability Services

Office of Student Affairs

325-942-2047

dallas.swafford@angelo.edu

Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

Incomplete Grade Policy

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 [Grading Procedures](#)⁵ for more information.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's [Academic Integrity policy](#)⁶ in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the [ASU Writing Center](#).⁷

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for [Observance of Religious Holy Day](#)⁸ for more information.

Copyright Policy

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

Syllabus Changes

The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content. If changes become necessary during this course, the faculty will notify students of such changes by email, course announcements and/or via a discussion board announcement. It is the student's responsibility to look for such communications about the course on a daily basis.

Title IX at Attnangelo State University

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual

intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form

Face to face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

Phone: 325-942-2022

Email: michelle.boone@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State's policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

Student Evaluation of Faculty and Course

Students in all programs are given the opportunity to evaluate their courses and the faculty who teach them. Evaluations are most helpful when they are honest, fair, constructive, and pertinent to the class, clinical experience, or course. Faculty value student evaluations, and use student suggestions in making modifications in courses, labs and clinical experiences.

Angelo State University uses the IDEA (Individual Development and Educational Assessment) system administered through Kansas State University for all course evaluations. The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administers IDEA for the entire university, online and has established a policy whereby students can complete course evaluations free from coercion.

End of Syllabus

¹ <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/>

² <https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/>

³ <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php>

⁴ <https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/>

⁵ <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures>

⁶ <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php>

⁷ https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php

⁸ <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of>