Introduction to Research Methods
PSYC 18

Fall 2025   Section 80   Fully Online   3 Unit(s)   08/20/2025 to 12/08/2025   Modified 08/16/2025

👤 Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Neelam Rattan

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--- When contacting me by email, please write "PSYC 1" in the subject line.--- I check email regularly during the workday and I will respond to inquiries within 24 hours during the week and 48 to 72 hours during the weekend.

🕐 Course Information

Class Days/Time: Asynchronous

Classroom: Online

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday from 7:30PM – 8:30PM or by appointment Office hours end on 12/4/2025.

---You are encouraged to visit me during virtual office hours or to contact me via email or phone, whenever a need arises. Do visit my office hours in case you have questions regarding assignments, grades etc. Please discuss with me any concerns you may have regarding our class as soon as possible (**before** the quiz, exam, etc.) & do not wait too long to get in touch with me. You are most welcome to come to my office hours multiple times. This allows us to get to know you better. Drop in to chat about anything that you find interesting in the course and get your questions answered. I am very aware that students can have important familial, community, spiritual, and/or religious obligations. It is my endeavor to be as flexible as I can, to support your learning. Kindly reach out to me to let me know of your needs, so we can work together to develop solutions and seek out ways to enhance your learning experience.

Course Format

Instructional Mode & Course Structure: Asynchronous

This course will follow an *online format* using asynchronous mode of instruction. Lectures will be posted online on Canvas. There will also be of online delivery of instructional material provided by your instructor, viewing PowerPoint slides, viewing videos online (e.g., YouTube clips). For purposes of clarity course schedule gives a detailed information of the material that will be covered and material you are required to read before each class. Hence this course seeks to provide you with an exciting educational experience through varied techniques.

Interactive activities will be completed online. Online interactive activities will be both at the individual level (e.g., taking online quizzes), along with online group discussions. For online discussions, discussion questions will be posted on the Canvas discussion board, each student will be required to give their response to the posted question. They are also required to respond to a response posted by a classmate. Each discussion will be followed by your instructor's commentary.

Quizzes & Exams will be conducted online comprising of take-home quizzes as well as exams. Final Exam will be on the date and timing as per the University Final exam schedule.

Evaluation and feedback will be provided through online means.

Course Description

This course provides you with an exciting journey into the varied kinds of research conducted in Psychology. It is this very research that gives our discipline the status of a scientific discipline that has evolved out of the depths of metaphysics and philosophy. Defined as a science of soul, then mind, then consciousness and finally behavior, psychology has traversed many paths before emerging as a discipline that embraces experimentation, that analyzes human and non-human behavior, that delves into theoretical as well as applied issues and concerns. Hence research studies are the hallmark of psychology. Therefore, a major goal of this course is to enhance your critical thinking skills as you evaluate research-based evidence. Another goal of this course is to develop the ability to design your own research, become proficient in writing and presenting it.

From the catalog: Psychological research methods and design (experimental, quasi-experimental [correlational], and descriptive investigations) covering observation, instrumentation, and the collection, analysis, interpretation, and reporting of research data as illustrated through a review of original research in a variety of the sub-disciplines of psychology.

Prerequisites: PSYC 001 or equivalent and STAT 095 or equivalent

✱ Classroom Protocols

Course Policies/Expectations

Inclusive Classroom Statement:

Our endeavor will be to work together to develop a learning community that is inclusive and respectful of the diversity in this class, which may be reflected by differences in race, culture, age, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity/ expression, socioeconomic background, and a host of other social identities including our varied life experiences. Expressions of different ideas, opinions, and beliefs will be encouraged and appreciated. Listening to different viewpoints can provide myriads of opportunities for intellectual and personal development and growth.

Classroom Protocol

1. "Netiquette" -- Please use these general guidelines when emailing me and/or when posting on the class discussion boards. When emailing your professor (me):

-- Indicate your class in the subject line of your email (e.g., PSYC 18)

-- Please address me by my formal title, (e.g., Professor or Dr. Rattan) and not MRS. Rattan or Hey! When you send emails to your instructors, it is a "formal" mode of communication. So, it is good practice for you to write your emails as you would if you were sending any type of professional/formal email.

-- Allow at least 24-48 hours for a reply from me.

-- Do Email Me in Advance to:

-- Set up an individual Zoom/phone appointment to talk with me during my regular office hours or outside of my regular office hours if your schedule conflicts with them

-- Inform me of any emergency/medical/family situation that may affect your ability to complete a course activity/assignment/quiz BEFORE the due date.

-- Do not email me to ask when due dates are for activities/assignments/quizzes. Those are all listed on your course schedule and can be easily found there.

2. Students' responsibilities/expectations

 I expect your safe and full participation in our online sessions. This entails being free from any distractions including driving, the consumption of drugs/and or alcohol and /or multitasking.

a. Students are expected to **check announcements on Canvas regularly** to view course lectures, participate in class activities, complete assignments, and keep updated regarding course announcements.

b. Students are expected to turn in their own individual work independently without any outside help of any kind.

c. All assigned work should be submitted on the specified date.

d. All the written assignments are to be proof-read paper before being turned in and checked for Punctuation, Grammar, Spellings. Your papers are to be typewritten, double-spaced, 12 pitch-font, one- inch margins, using Times New Roman font. On a sheet attached to the front of all your papers, Title of your

paper, your Name, Course, Course Number, Semester/Year, and Due Date are to be included. Written work should follow the guidelines described in the American Psychological Association Publication Manual (7th Ed.).

e. Late work Policy (for assignments, quizzes & exams): Five percent will be taken off from your grade per day for work submitted up to a week late. Work that is late by more than a week will not be accepted.

f. No credit will be awarded for emailed.

g. This course will follow this syllabus to the extent However, timing, and specific nature of topics and activities may change. In case of any such changes, these will be clearly stated and mentioned, and emailed to you in advance, as well as posted under Announcements on Canvas. You are responsible for noting down any changes made to the class syllabus.

h. Discussion boards posts -- When posting on the course discussion boards, please be respectful of one another's opinions/beliefs/observations even when they are different or conflict with your own. It is expected that we ALL behave with respect and tolerance for each other, despite any differences we have. Please refrain from any personal attacks, insults, etc. I hope the Discussion board posts will be a place where we can all feel comfortable to interact with one another and engage in thoughtful "conversation" as a class.

i. Make up exams: You will be allowed to reschedule an exam only under extraordinary and well-documented circumstances. It is your responsibility to notify me before the date of the exam, either via email or by leaving me a voicemail including your name, and telephone number. a make-up without appropriate written documentation will result in partial credit (i.e., points will be deducted). If you are not able to obtain such documentation and you have a serious and extenuating circumstance that has prevented you from fulfilling a requirement as scheduled, notify me as soon as possible. Depending on the circumstances, you may be allowed a make-up. If you have any questions/issues regarding any of these policies, please email me directly to discuss them.

3. Academic Integrity

For some assignments students may be required to upload their work to Turnitin.com to ensure that material is not plagiarized. In case of material being found to be plagiarized the student will be accorded a failing grade (F). The student will also be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development for further action.

- Students are expected to turn in their own individual work independently without any outside help of any kind of artificial intelligence tools like ChatGPT for your assignments. Your originality, your creativity and your distinctive style may be lost when your over rely on Apps such as ChatGPT. If you choose to use generative AI tools in violation of this policy please remember that:
- they are typically trained on limited datasets that may be out of date. Further they have been trained on datasets that contain assumptions and will replicate those ways of thinking about the world. Hence these platforms are bias laden. Consequently, critical thinking strategies are of paramount importance when engaging with AI-generated text.

- they rely on language patterns to predict what an answer to a prompt should look like and hence are are not geared to "thinking" about the right response in a way a student would.
- there is "AI hallucination", which means AI will make up things that seem convincing but are not.
- additionally, generative AI datasets are trained on pre-existing material, including copyrighted material; therefore, relying on a generative AI tool may result in plagiarism or copyright violations.
- the goal of generative AI tools is to produce content that seems to have been produced by a human, not to produce accurate or reliable content; therefore, relying on a generative AI tool may result in your submission of inaccurate content.
- it is your responsibility—not the tool's—to assure the quality, integrity, and accuracy of work you submit in any college course.
- you will need to check for accuracy, statistics, citations, data which is generated by AI.
- In case you are using any AI please [cite your sources (https://library.sjsu.edu/chatgpt/citingchatgpt)](https://library.sjsu.edu/chatgpt/citingchatgpt)
- If plagiarism or cheating is detected, then you will be contacted, a meeting will be set up to discuss the matter, since [academic integrity (https://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/docs/SJSU-Academic-Integrity-Policy-F15-7.pdf)](https://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/docs/SJSU-Academic-Integrity-Policy-F15-7.pdf) is of paramount importance at SJSU.

4. Zoom Office Hours Protocol

Use of Camera: It is recommended that you have your camera on in Zoom during office hours. If for any reason that is not possible update your Zoom profile by adding your profile picture. This link provides guidance in [customizing your profile (https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201363203-Customizing-your-Profile)](https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201363203-Customizing-your-Profile): https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201363203-Customizing-your-Profile

Zoom Office Hours Etiquette

- Mute Your Microphone: To help keep background noise to a minimum, make sure you mute your microphone when you are not speaking.
- Be Mindful of Background Noise and Distractions: Find a quiet place to "attend" office hours to the greatest extent possible
  - Avoid video setups where people may be walking behind you, people talking/making noise, etc.
  - Avoid activities that could create additional noise, such as shuffling papers, listening to music in the background, etc. Avoid sitting with lights or windows behind you.
- Position Your Camera Properly: Be sure your webcam is in a stable position and focused at eye level. Avoid sitting with lights or windows behind you. Ensure that your audio and video are functional.
- Limit Your Distractions/Avoid Multitasking: You can make it easier to focus on the meeting by turning off notifications, closing or minimizing running apps, and putting your smartphone away (unless you are using it to access Zoom).
- Use Appropriate Virtual Backgrounds: You can use Zoom's [virtual background (https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/210707503-Virtual-Background)](https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/210707503-Virtual-Background) at https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/210707503-Virtual-Background
- If using a virtual background, it should be appropriate and professional and should NOT suggest or include content that is objectively offensive or demeaning.
- Mute your mic unless you are speaking, you can quickly unmute your mic by holding the spacebar down.
- Place your laptop on a flat stable surface.

- If using your phone to access the Zoom meeting, position the device horizontally, not vertically and when speaking, look directly into the camera.
- Listen deeply to whomever is speaking in the virtual room. Try not to interrupt, and if you do, apologize.

Recording Zoom Classes: This course or portions of this course (i.e., lectures, discussions, student presentations) will be recorded for instructional or educational purposes. The recordings will only be shared with students enrolled in the class through Canvas. The recordings will be deleted at the end of the semester. If, however, you would prefer to remain anonymous during these recordings, then please speak with the instructor about possible accommodations (e.g., temporarily turning off identifying information from the Zoom session, including student name and picture, prior to recording).

5. **Regarding letter of recommendation**-only students who have taken a minimum of 3 classes with me and earned a grade of A in each of these classes will be considered for a letter of recommendation.

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 Goals

Course Learning Goals:

This course aims to help you:

1. Understand basic tenets of science and apply those to the field of psychology.
2. Explain terminology and processes of psychological research.
3. Demonstrate psychology information literacy.
4. Connect scientific reasoning to developing psychological research study
5. Examine experimental method and critically assess its strengths and limitations.
6. Learn how experimental and non-experimental studies are conducted.

7. Demonstrate application of the various methods used in experimental psychology.
8. Use PsycINFO and other sources to access scholarly articles from peer-reviewed journals.
9. Gain knowledge, understanding and application of APA ethical guidelines in research.
10. Demonstrate familiarity with APA style.

📊 Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO):

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

1. Explain basic principles of the scientific method.
2. Critically evaluate research reports.
3. Synthesize a body of research findings.
4. Develop and test hypotheses.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of general research designs, experimental and non-experimental methods, and standard research practices.
6. Select appropriate research designs to test hypotheses.
7. Explain the ethical treatment of human and animal participants in research and the institutional requirements for conducting research.
8. Assess the generalizability of study results.
9. Demonstrate proficiency in APA style.

📖 Course Materials

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Christensen, L.B., Johnson, R, B., & Turner, L.A. (2020). *Research Methods: Design and Analysis* (13th ed.). Pearson. ISBN:978-0135719305

Other materials

Regular and reliable access to a computer and internet connection that can support typical multimedia applications (e.g., streaming audio/video).

Suggested Readings:

- American Psychological Association (2019). *The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). Washington, D.C. American Psychological Association.
- Leary, M.R. (2016). *Introduction to Behavioral Research Methods* (7th) Pearson. ISBN: 978-0134414409
- Smith, R.A., & Davis, S.F. (2016). *The Psychologist as Detective*. Pearson Education. ISBN: 978-0-13-400346-7
- Stanovich, K.E. (2018). *How to think straight about psychology* (11th ed.). Pearson Education. ISBN: 978-0134478623
- Pelham, B.W., & Blanton, H. (2013). *Conducting Research in Psychology* (4th ed.). Wadsworth Cengage Learning. ISBN: 978-0-495-59819-0

Useful Websites

- APA Style Tutorials (https://apastyle.apa.org/instructional-aids/tutorials-webinars)
- Owl APA Style Resource (https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/)
- American Psychological Association (https://www.apa.org/)
- San José State University Website (http://sjsu.edu/): http://sjsu.edu
- Department of Psychology's Website (http://psych.sjsu.edu/): http://psych.sjsu.edu

Library Liaison

Bailey, Christa

Phone: 408-808-2422

Email: christa.bailey@sjsu.edu (mailto:christa.bailey@sjsu.edu)

☰ Course Requirements and Assignments

Course Canvas Site

The course Canvas site is the main online resource for this course. Use of this site and the information provided is the primary way we will conduct class and participate in all course activities. The site will be updated regularly throughout the semester. This site is organized into course modules and contains the following course material:

- Syllabus and tentative course schedule
- Course announcements
- Discussion boards
- Class activities/assignments
- Course Paper Assignments
- Video lectures with slides
- Zoom links for class meetings & office hours
- Exam study guides

- Quizzes & Exams

The course is "synchronous" (held during the regular class time). All course exams will be taken during your regularly scheduled class time, except for the final (see class schedule for specific date).

 About Canvas:

- **Login URL:** [Canvas (https://sjsu.instructure.com/)](https://sjsu.instructure.com/)

Please note that it should NOT have the "www" at the start of the URL like many other websites.

- **Username**: SJSU 9-digit ID number.
- **Password:** Self-generated password for your SJSUOne account
- **Courses:** Once logged into Canvas, you will see your course or courses listed in the Courses Heading on the top of the page. From the dropdown menu, click on the course name, and you will be entered into the course. Note: That link will not be active until the start date of the course.

 It is recommended that you visit the Canvas website.This website offers a number of Quick Start Learning Guides to help you navigate Canvas tools. Also, detailed guides can be found at [(https://community.canvaslms.com/community/answers/guides/canvas-guide)Canvas Quick Guide for Students (https://www.sjsu.edu/cfeti/software/canvas/student-resources/canvas-student-quick-guide.p)](https://community.canvaslms.com/community/answers/guides/canvas-guide)

For issues related to Canvas, please contact the eCampus Help Desk**.** The Help Desk can give technical support for issues encountered in Canvas Courses.

- Phone: (408) 924-2337
- Submit a help ticket using the following URL: [https://isupport.sjsu.edu/ecampus (https://isupport.sjsu.edu/ecampus)](https://isupport.sjsu.edu/ecampus)
- While logged into Canvas, click on the word **Help** in the lower left corner of the screen (near the bottom of the global navigation menu).

https://guides.instructure.com/m/4212

Course Requirements and Assignments

Participation: We will engage in a variety of online activities, including demonstrations, group discussions, quick-writes, videos, and interactive games. Participation in these activities are crucial for doing well in the course. Participation will be worth 35 points.

Participation activities comprise of:

- Introductory Discussion – "Getting to Know You" worth 10 participation points. To be completed on the assigned Discussion Board on **9/11/2025 at 11:59 p.m.**
- Plagiarism tutorial worth 10 participation points due on **9/16/2025 at 11:59 p.m.**

Complete this Tutorial by visiting: [Plagiarism Tutorial (https://library.sjsu.edu/az/tutorials/plagiarism)](https://library.sjsu.edu/az/tutorials/plagiarism)

In order to get credit students must receive 90% and above on the plagiarism tutorial and this is due on 9/16/2025 hence take screenshots of your results and drop them in the assigned Dropbox folder on canvas.

- Chapter 17 PowerPoint presentations worth 15 participation points due in class on **12/4/2025.**

Research Proposal: You are to write a literature review as well as a research proposal for this assignment. You will receive instructions in class and assigned readings that discuss the best way to approach writing a literature review. In order to show your understanding of research and your writing skills, you will write a research proposal addressing the topic discussed in your literature review. This paper is divided into two main parts:

1. Submitting Research Question Assignment (total worth 20 points)describing your research topic is to be submitted in the assigned Dropbox folder on Canvas on 9/23/2025 by 11:59 P.M.

2. Research Proposal Submission: Complete Research Proposal worth 50 points, is due in the assigned Dropbox folder on Canvas on 10/28/2025 by 11:59 P.M.

All the written assignments are to be proofread before being turned in and checked for punctuation, grammar, and spelling. Your papers are to be typewritten, double-spaced, 12 point-font, one-inch margins, using Times New Roman font. On a sheet attached to the <u>front</u> of all your papers: Title of your paper, your Name, Course, Course Number, Semester/Year, and Due Date are to be included. Written work should follow the guidelines described in the American Psychological Association Publication Manual (7th Ed.). For some assignments students may be required to upload their work both in class and to Turnitin.com to ensure that material is not plagiarized. In case of material being found to be plagiarized the student will be accorded a failing grade (F). The student will also be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development for further action.

Exams: There will be three class exams, each comprising of multiple-choice, true/false, questions each worth 1 point. Exam 1 will be out of a total of 55 points, and Exam 2 and 3 will each be worth 50 points. You are to take your exams as per the schedule of your section you are officially registered in. Taking the exam in another section than your own will result in a grade of zero.

Study Guides will be provided for Exam 1, 2, 3 & Final Exam.

Schedule of Quiz & Exams:

- Quiz 1 due on 8/26/2025 at 11:59 P.M. (on Psychology is Born & Chapter 1 of Stanovich text)
- First Exam (Chapters 1-4) will be held on 9/30/2025, worth 55 points.
- Second Exam (Chapters 5-8) will be held on 10/23/2025, worth 50 points.
- Third Exam (Chapters (9-11) will be held on 11/20/2025, worth 50 points.
- Final Exam: The syllabus for the final exam will include Chapters 12, 13, 14, and 17. There will be 60 multiple choice type questions, each item worth a point.
- Final Exam on Canvas on 12/11/2025 from 5:30P.M. to 7:30P.M. **Technical difficulties & Internet connection issues**: Canvas autosaves responses a few times per minute as long as there is an internet connection. If your internet connection is lost, Canvas will warn you but allow you to continue working

on your exam. A brief loss of internet connection is unlikely to cause you to lose your work. However, a longer loss of connectivity or weak/unstable connection may jeopardize your exam.

Other technical difficulties: Immediately email the instructor a current copy of the state of your exam and explain the problem you are facing. Your instructor may not be able to respond immediately or provide technical support. However, the copy of your exam and email will provide a record of the situation. Contact the SJSU technical support for Canvas at:

CFETI@sjsu.edu (mailto:CFETI@sjsu.edu)

Phone:408(924)(2337)

https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/support/

If possible, complete your exam in the remaining allotted time, offline if necessary. Email your exam to your instructor within the allotted time or soon after.

Final Examination or Evaluation

As per University policy S17-1 Final Exam (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-1.pdf) which states that

"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."

 ***IMPORTANT: Take special note of the <u>Final Exam date and time.</u> Final exams are scheduled by the University to minimize conflicts based on class schedules.

Because final exams are scheduled for some time after the last day of instruction, it is IMPORTANT that you keep to that scheduled date/time so you can complete the course and your grade can be submitted to the University by the University's grading deadline.

 Final Exam for our class will be on 12/11/2025 on from 5:30P.M. to 7:30P.M.

Workload and Credit Hour Requirements

As per the University Policy S16-9, Course syllabi (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf)

"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 practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus."

✔ Grading Information

Grading Scale:

Grade	Points	Percentage
A plus	338 to 350	97 to 100%
A	324 to 337	93 to 96%
A minus	314 to 323	90 to 92%
B plus	303 to 313	87 to 89 %
B	289 to 302	83 to 86%
B minus	279 to 288	80 to 82%
C plus	268 to 278	77 to 79%
C	254 to 267	73 to 76%
C minus	244 to 253	70 to 72%
D plus	233 to 243	67 to 69%
D	219 to 232	63 to 66%
D minus	209 to 218	60 to 62%

Breakdown

Class Participation	35 Points
Quiz 1	20 Points
Three Exams	155 Points

Class Participation	35 Points
Final Exam	60 Points
Research Question Assignment	20 Points
Research Proposal	60 Points
Total	350 Points

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See University Policy S90-5 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs./S90-5.pdf. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the SJSU catalog, at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

Attendance and Participation

Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading. However, students are expected to attend all meetings for the courses in which they are enrolled as they are responsible for material discussed therein, and active participation is frequently essential to ensure maximum benefit to all class members. In some cases, attendance is fundamental to course objectives; for example, students may be required to interact with others in the class. Attendance is the responsibility of the student. Participation may be used as a criterion for grading when the parameters and their evaluation are clearly defined in the course syllabus and the percentage of the overall grade is stated. The full policy language can be found at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-3.pdf (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-3.pdf)

Timely Feedback on Class Assignments

Per University Policy F13-1 (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf), all students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.

Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays

[University Policy S14-7 (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf)](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf) states that San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's Catalog Policies section at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes. Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at [http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/ (http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/)](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/).

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- "Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material."
- It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor's process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.
- In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- "Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent."
- For this class, each class session will be recorded via zoom, this is solely for the purpose allowing students in this class to have access to the lecture in case they missed a class. The recorded lecture will be shared with students who are enrolled in this class.

Academic Integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/SO7-2.pdf requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/ (http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/).

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf (http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at http://www.sjsu.edu/aec (http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) to establish a record of your disability.

In 2013, the Disability Resource Center changed its name to be known as the Accessible Education Center, to incorporate a philosophy of accessible education for students with disabilities. The new name change reflects the broad scope of attention and support to SJSU students with disabilities and the University's continued advocacy and commitment to increasing accessibility and inclusivity on campus.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center at http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/ (http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/) located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit Peer Connections website at http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu (http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu/) for more information.

SJSU Writing Center

"The San José State University Writing Center offers a variety of resources to help students become better writers, and all of our services are free for SJSU students. Our mission is to enhance the writing skills of SJSU students so they can communicate clearly in any setting (informal, academic, or professional). We accomplish this goal through creating original writing resources, offering workshops, and conducting one-on-one and small-group tutoring sessions.

The SJSU Writing Center has two locations: We conduct drop-in tutoring sessions in Clark Hall, Suite 126; we conduct scheduled appointments on the second floor of the MLK Library. We also offer online tutoring sessions using the Zoom web conferencing platform. All appointments can be made online at sjsu.mywconline.com.

All our writing tutors have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment, register for a workshop, or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the Writing Center website at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter (http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter).

SJSU Counseling and Psychological Services

The SJSU Counseling and Psychological Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Carlos in the new Student Wellness Center, Room 300B. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide confidential consultations on issues of student mental health,

campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit Counseling and Psychological Services website at http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling (http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling).

Spartan Support Network

"Our campus has developed the Spartan Support Network to bring students together with specific campus resources promoting academic success. I have agreed to participate in this program and may refer you to it if I believe you need the services provided by Spartan Support Network to succeed in this course."

The Academic Counseling Center for Excellence (ACCESS) in the Social Sciences provides General Education advising, academic and graduation planning, mandatory Freshman Advising, probation advising, Statistics and Writing tutoring, career counseling, and Reinstatement and Former Student Returning (FSR) Advising for undergraduate students majoring or intending to major in any of the departments in the College of Social Sciences (COSS). We are committed to helping you develop a clear path to graduation and supporting your academic success.

- Location: Clark Hall 240
- Phone: (408) 924-5363
- Email: socsci-success@sjsu.edu (mailto:socsci-success@sjsu.edu)

Hours of Operation: Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am - 4:30

🏛 University Policies

Per University Policy 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) web page. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

📅 Course Schedule

Introduction to Research Methods, 47673, Sections 80, Fall 2025

1. Tentative Course Schedule
2. Note: The schedule is subject to change with fair notice. You will be notified in class, as well as via email, and announcements posted on canvas.

Week/Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/21	Introduction and Review Psychology is Born A Peep into the History of Psychology & About the four Pillars of Science
2	8/26 8/28	Psychology is Alive & Well Readings: Stanovich, K.E. (2018). *How to think straight about psychology* (11th ed.). Pearson Education Chapter 1 - Psychology is Alive and Well ***Quiz 1 on Psychology is Born & Chapter 1 of Stanovich text due 8/26/2025 by 11:59 P.M. on Canvas*** Explaining Research Question Assignment & Research proposal Paper
3	9/2 9/4	Introduction to Scientific Research Readings: Christensen, L.B., Johnson, R, B., & Turner, L.A. (2020). *Research Methods: Design and Analysis* (13th ed.). Pearson. Chapter 1 - Introduction to Scientific Research
4	9/9 9/11	Causation & Data Collection Data Readings: Christensen, L.B., Johnson, R, B., & Turner, L.A. (2020). *Research Methods: Design and Analysis* (13th ed.). Pearson. Chapter 2 - Research Approaches and Methods of Data Collection **Introductory Discussion – "Getting to Know You" worth 10 participation points. To be completed on the assigned Discussion Board on 9/11/2025 at 11:59 p.m.** Chapter 2 continued

Week/Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
5	9/16 9/18	Formulating Research Question Readings: Christensen, L.B., Johnson, R, B., & Turner, L.A. (2020). *Research Methods: Design and Analysis* (13th ed.). Pearson. Chapter 3 – Identifying Research Questions and Forming Hypotheses **Plagiarism Tutorial Due in the assigned Dropbox folder on Canvas on 9/16/2025, by 11:59p.m. ** Chapter 3 continued
6	9/23 9/25	It is all about Ethics Readings: Christensen, L.B., Johnson, R, B., & Turner, L.A. (2020). *Research Methods: Design and Analysis* (13th ed.). Pearson. Chapter 4 – Ethics Measuring Variables & Sampling **Research Question Assignment due in the assigned Dropbox folder on Canvas on 9/23/2025 by 11:59 P.M.** Chapter 4 continued
7	9/30 10/2	Foundations of Research ***Exam 1 on Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 of Christensen et al. (2020) text during class time on Canvas on 9/30/2025, by 11:59P.M.*** Chapter 5 -Measuring variables and Sampling
8	10/7 10/9	Foundations of Research Readings: Christensen, L.B., Johnson, R, B., & Turner, L.A. (2020). *Research Methods: Design and Analysis* (13th ed.). Pearson. Chapter 6 - Research Validity Chapter 6 continued

Week/Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
9	10/14	Foundations of Research Readings: Christensen, L.B., Johnson, R, B., & Turner, L.A. (2020). *Research Methods: Design and Analysis* (13th ed.). Pearson.
	10/16	Chapter 7 - Control Techniques in Research Chapter 7 continued
10	10/21	Conducting Research Readings: Christensen, L.B., Johnson, R, B., & Turner, L.A. (2020). *Research Methods: Design and Analysis* (13th ed.). Pearson. Chapter 8 - Procedures for Conducting a Research Study
	10/23	***Exam 2 on Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8 of Christensen et al. (2020) text due on Canvas on 10/23/2025, by 11:59P.M.**
11	10/28	Research Design Readings: Christensen, L.B., Johnson, R, B., & Turner, L.A. (2020). *Research Methods: Design and Analysis* (13th ed.). Pearson. Chapter 9 - Research Design **Research Proposal due 10/28/2025 in the assigned Dropbox folder on Canvas by 11:59 P.M.**
	10/30	Chapter 9 continued
12	11/4	Experimental Methods Readings: Christensen, L.B., Johnson, R, B., & Turner, L.A. (2020). *Research Methods: Design and Analysis* (13th ed.). Pearson. Chapter 10 - Quasi Experimental Designs
	11/6	Chapter 10 continued

Week/Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
13	11/11 11/13	^^^Veterans' Day-Campus Closed^^^ Readings: Christensen, L.B., Johnson, R, B., & Turner, L.A. (2020). *Research Methods: Design and Analysis* (13th ed.). Pearson. Chapter 11 - Single-case Research Design
14	11/18 11/20	Nonexperimental Methods, Qualitative & Mixed Methods Research Readings: Christensen, L.B., Johnson, R, B., & Turner, L.A. (2020). *Research Methods: Design and Analysis* (13th ed.). Pearson. Chapter 12 - Nonexperimental Quantitative Research Methods Chapter 12 continued
15	11/25 11/27	Nonexperimental Methods, Qualitative & Mixed Methods Research Readings: Christensen, L.B., Johnson, R, B., & Turner, L.A. (2020). *Research Methods: Design and Analysis* (13th ed.). Pearson. Chapter 13 - Survey Research ^^^Thanksgiving Day-Campus Closed^^^
16	12/2 12/4	Nonexperimental Methods, Qualitative & Mixed Methods Research Readings: Christensen, L.B., Johnson, R, B., & Turner, L.A. (2020). *Research Methods: Design and Analysis* (13th ed.). Pearson. Chapter 14 Qualitative and Mixed Methods Research Chapter 14 continued ***Chapter 17 PowerPoint Presentations due Today***

Week/Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
Final Exam	12/11	Final Exam on Canvas from 5:30P.M.-7:30P.M. {There will be 50 multiple choice type questions, each item worth a point from Chapters 12, 13, 14, & 17 of Christensen et al. (2020) text}.

Week/Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
Final Exam	12/11	Final Exam on Canvas from 5:30P.M.-7:30P.M.