

# SYLLABUS

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**Code:** PSYC 245

**Title:** Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Social Science Research

**Division:** Social Sciences & Education **Department:** Psychology

**Course Description:** Students will find, read and analyze published research in the Behavioral and Social Sciences. Students will engage in and analyze various methods of social science research and also learn the fundamentals of descriptive and inferential statistics. Students will be introduced to the use of computers and use state-of-the-art statistical programs and will begin to develop effective research and data analysis skills.

Students will have the option of enrolling in an additional one credit laboratory course designed to develop their skills in research design and statistical and data analysis using statistical software packages.

**Prerequisites:** MATH 021 or passing score in algebra on Basic Skills Test and at least one of the following courses with a "C" or better: PSYC 105, PSYC 106, SOCI 101, CRJU 101 or POLI 101.

**Corequisites:**

**Prerequisites or Corequisites:**

**Credits:** 3

**Lecture Hours:** 3

**Lab/Studio Hours:** 0

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**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK/MATERIALS:**

*Textbooks (3): Experimental Psychology* by Kantowitz, Roediger, Elmes  
*Essentials of Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences* by Gravetter & Wallnau  
*Essentials of Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences Study Guide* by Gravetter

*NOTE: ADDITIONAL READINGS ARE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE INSTRUCTOR*

*Important Note:* Individual instructor addendums, which may be obtained through the Psychology Department (MAN 127), will note the exact editions of these required texts.

**ADDITIONAL TIME REQUIREMENTS:**

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize scientific methods, manipulate some components of experiments, and use a variety of statistical procedures (MATHEMATICAL/SCIENTIFIC REASONING).
- Apply this core knowledge to work with basic statistical information and measurement requirements such as reliability and validity (CRITICAL THINKING).
- Illustrate and analyze how these topics have contributed to the development of critical and analytical thinking about information constantly flowing from the media (CRITICAL THINKING; HISTORICAL/SOCIETAL ANALYSIS).

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## GRADING STANDARD:

100-93% =	A
92-90% =	A-
89-87% =	B+
86-83% =	B
82-80% =	B-
79-77% =	C+
76-70% =	C
69-65% =	D
Less than 65% =	F

There will be exams and written assignments. Details vary from instructor to instructor. Individual Instructor Addendums are available from the Learning Assistant in the Psychology Department (located at the lower level of the MAN building).

## COURSE CONTENT:

PLEASE NOTE; YOUR INSTRUCTOR MAY CHOOSE TO VARY THE ORDER OF TOPICS PRESENTED BELOW.

### Topics - Unit 1:

- Research Methods Overview: Descriptive & Experimental
- Experiments
- Design of Experiments
- Quasi-Experiments & Descriptive Statistics (measures of central tendency)
- Descriptive Statistics (measures of variability)

### Topics - Unit 2:

- Correlations
- Inferential Methods: z-scores
- Inferential Methods: probability & standard error
- Inferential Methods: hypothesis testing concepts

### Topics - Unit 3

- The t-test
- ANOVA
- Multivariate Statistics
- Computer Software

## DEPARTMENT POLICIES:

- Attendance is expected and contributes significantly to performance in this course.
- You are responsible for any work done in class that you miss.
- Class will begin and end on time. Lateness or early departure is not acceptable behavior, nor is walking in and out of the classroom during class time. Instructors may penalize such activities.
- Instructors may set a limit on the number of absences allowed. Individual instructor addendums detailing specific attendance policies are to be obtained through the psychology department (MAN 127).
- **During lecture**, periods of class explanation, and when fellow students are speaking to the class, students are expected to use proper courtesy and refrain from using technologies.
- **ALL Cell Phones** and **Beepers** must be turned **OFF** during class time.
- Students are not permitted to use CD players or computers, etc... to play music during class time.
- The use of **IRC**, **AIM** and other instant messaging (chat) programs are not permitted during a class.
- **E-mail** must be professional and well written. As this is a college-level course it is expected that text messages are concise and prepared in full sentence form.

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- Any e-mail that does not fully disclose the name of the student will be automatically interpreted as **SPAM** (unwanted junk mail) and be **deleted unopened**.
- Copying and pasting from the internet without a reference as well as purchasing materials online and misrepresenting them as your own work is considered **plagiarism** and is contrary to the BCC student conduct code.

## **COLLEGE POLICIES:**

For information regarding:

- ◆ Brookdale's Academic Integrity Code
- ◆ Student Conduct Code
- ◆ Student Grade Appeal Process

Please refer to the [BCC STUDENT HANDBOOK AND BCC CATALOG](#).

## **NOTIFICATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

Brookdale Community College offers reasonable accommodations and/or services to persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who wish to self-identify must contact the Disabilities Services Office at 732-224-2730 (voice) or 732-842-4211 (TTY) to provide appropriate documentation of the disability, and request specific accommodations or services. If a student qualifies, reasonable accommodations and/or services, which are appropriate for the college level and are recommended in the documentation, can be approved.

## **ADDITIONAL SUPPORT/LABS:**

The Instructor addendum will be distributed on the first day of class. This addendum will contain specific information about instructor information (hours, office, phone, email), the class schedule, required assignments, and individual instructor class policies.

Additional tutoring can be obtained from the Learning Assistant in the Psychology Department located in the MAN Building Room 127. Please call 732-224-2546 for an appointment.

*The syllabus is intended to give student guidance in what may be covered during the semester and will be followed as closely as possible. However, the faculty member reserves the right to modify, supplement, and make changes as the need arises.*