

**Psychology 2856G Section 530
Research Methods in Psychology II
2018-2019**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Building on students' knowledge of design and ethical issues in psychological research, this course will introduce more complex designs and data analysis. Students will design and conduct an original research project and communicate the findings in an APA-style written report.

Prerequisite(s): At least 60% in Psychology 2855F/G

Antirequisite(s): Psychology 2800E

COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Elizabeth Kelly

Office: UH 365

Email: ekelly6@uwo.ca

Office Hours: Mondays 12:30am-1:30pm and by appointment.

Time and Location of Lecture: Mondays 8:30am-10:30am (BR 202)

Time and Location of Lab: Mondays 10:30am-12:30am (BR 202)

COURSE MATERIALS

- (Required): Myers, A., & Hansen, C. (2012). *Experimental Psychology (7th edition)*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.
- note: this is the same textbook used for PSY 2855 Research Methods 1
- (Recommended): American Psychological Association (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.)*. Washington, DC: Author.
- Other course information and materials, such as announcements, grades, assignment instructions, and lecture slides, will be posted on OWL. Note that lecture slides are outlines only and cannot take the place of attending lectures.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND BRESCIA COMPETENCIES

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- critique published experimental work in psychology and formulate new research ideas
(Brescia competencies: critical thinking, inquiry and analysis)
- design and conduct a research study in psychology
(Brescia competencies: problem solving)
- demonstrate the ability to conduct research in an ethical manner
(Brescia competencies: problem solving, social awareness and engagement)
- recognize and compare within-subjects, between-subjects, and mixed factorial designs in psychology
(Brescia competencies: critical thinking, inquiry and analysis)
- present a proposal for a research study
(Brescia competencies: communication)
- communicate an entire research project in an APA-style written report
(Brescia competencies: communication)

COURSE FORMAT

This course builds on the skills and information presented in Psychology 2855: Research Methods I. Students will be exposed to more complicated experimental designs and data analysis. In particular, the skills gained will be foundational to written work and oral presentations required in upper-year psychology courses, especially the honours thesis course. The lecture and lab components of the course will occur in adjacent time slots with a break between them.

Lecture format

Our class meetings will be a mixture of lecture and activities. Topics will follow the schedule given below, although lectures will also introduce material that is not in the textbook. You are responsible for all of the material from class meetings and the material in the textbook. Any exceptions will be announced in class. If you miss class, you should arrange to borrow notes from another student.

Lab format

The lab is an important component of this course and is meant to give you hands-on experience with understanding research design and how it is implemented in psychology. You will gain experience working with primary research articles in psychology and communicating studies orally and in writing. You will also propose and conduct an original research study based on prior published work and complete ethics documents for the study.

EVALUATION

The final course mark consists of two components: lecture/textbook material (50%) and lab work (50%). Students must pass both the lecture component and the lab component to receive an overall passing mark in the course.

Evaluation summary

Lecture (50%)	Test	20%
	Final exam	30%
Lab (50%)	Research participation (OPL)	3%
	Research proposal presentation	8%
	Ethics documents	4%
	Research report	35%

Lecture evaluation

There will be one test and one cumulative final exam in this course based on lecture material and the textbook. The **test (20%)** plus the cumulative final **exam (30%)** make up the lecture portion (50%) of the total course mark. The test and exam are each 2 hours and may include questions in several formats, including multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, definitions, short answer, and essay. Without exception, students are required to take both the test and the exam in order to receive a passing overall mark in the course. Make-ups require approval by an academic advisor. Make-ups may consist of any of the above question formats. The test will be in class. The cumulative final exam will be during the April exam period (date, time, and location TBA once scheduled by the university registrar).

Lab evaluation

In the lab portion of the course, you will propose and conduct an original research study, usually with two or three other students (see overview of final research reports, below), as well as other activities. Performance in the lab component of the course will be assessed based on the research proposal presentation (8%), ethics documents (4%), the final research report (35%) and participation in online experiments (3%). These requirements make up the lab portion (50%) of the final course mark.

Research proposal presentation (8%) You and your research partners will create a PowerPoint presentation on your proposed study. All members of the research team will receive the same mark for the presentation. Participation in the presentation is required in order to receive a mark for the team's presentation. Therefore, if a student fails to attend the presentation without appropriate approval for accommodation, their presentation mark will be 0.

Ethics documents (4%) One set of ethics documents including a letter of information, informed consent form, debriefing form, and study materials will be handed in by each group. All group members will receive the same mark for the ethics documents.

Final research report (35%) After gathering and analyzing data for your project, you will write a full APA-style research report. This report will be submitted both in hard copy and to turnitin via the course Owl page. While the proposal presentation, ethics documents, data collection, and data analysis are completed as a team, the final written research report must be written individually.

Online experiment participation (3%) You will participate in three Online Psychology Laboratory (opl.apa.org) experiments (1% each) that will inform our lectures. Your data is never linked to your identity. In order to have class members' data to include in the appropriate lecture, each experiment has a deadline of mid-night Thursday before the pertinent lecture the next week. To earn credit for

participating in an experiment (1% for each experiment for a maximum of 3%), you must complete the experiment before the deadline. Experiments may be completed at any time before the deadline. Experiments may also be completed after the deadline, although no credit will be earned after the deadline. Since participation is time-sensitive, no make-ups will be offered.

Late policy

Due dates in this course will be strictly enforced. Work to be turned in (both hard copies and electronic copies submitted to OWL) is due at the start of the class meeting. Items that are submitted after such time will be considered late and subject to a 5% mark deduction. A 5% mark reduction will be enforced for each subsequent day work is late. For example, for a Monday due date:

Work submitted after 8:30 am on Monday or later that day: -5%

Work submitted Tuesday: -10%

Work submitted Wednesday: -15%

Work submitted Thursday: -20%

Work submitted Friday: -25% (weekends count as 1 day)

All work submitted after the lab or class meeting has ended should be submitted to the drop box outside the Dean's office where it will be date stamped and placed in the instructor's mailbox.

Accommodation

Accommodation for late work or missed exams will only be provided with the approval of an academic advisor. There are no exceptions to this rule. It is the student's responsibility to contact an academic advisor before, on, or very soon after (within days) a due date for which accommodation is being requested.

Overview of research projects

Students, usually working in teams of four (depending on class size), will be asked to generate their own research topics and, once approved, will conduct an original study. Evaluation will be based on an in-class presentation, ethics materials, and a final written research report. Each student must participate in their team's data collection process in order to access the final data for their written research report. In short, in order to use the data for your report, you need to help collect it.

Research Topics: There are some topics that cannot be approved for student research projects. Students will not be allowed to investigate sensitive matters which are typically dealt with by professionals only, such as psychopathology, depression, suicide, criminality, or topics deemed to unduly focus on areas of personal sensitivity (e.g. sex lives, drug habits, liquor consumption, etc.). Some possible research topics include personality traits, attitudes, values, mood, memory processes, educational psychology, problem solving, humour, and the interrelationships between these variables.

Ethics: Before any research can be conducted, the research team must receive research ethics approval for its project. *Any individual conducting research without ethics approval will receive an immediate failing grade in the entire course (course grade of F, 40%).* Research with human subjects is governed by university regulations and by provincial and federal laws that ensure the welfare of the subjects and the integrity of scientific research. Conducting research without the appropriate ethics review and approval is a serious offence. Each student project is reviewed for ethics approval. It is expected that students will conduct their research at Brescia and will request participation from students on Brescia property. Students are not allowed to solicit research participation off of Brescia University College

property. It is expected that students will behave in an ethical and respectful manner. Participants cannot be coerced into participating in a study, nor harassed if they choose to not participate. It is important that student researchers abide by the statement in the letter of information, which clearly states that individuals may withdraw from the study at any time with no penalty. It is expected that when dealing with the data that they collect, students will respect confidentiality and privacy. Laws and regulations governing scientific research require that research materials be kept after the conclusion of the study and presentation of the research data. Thus, questionnaires and other data records, and all signed consent forms must be submitted to the instructor with the research report at the completion of the course for proper storage and eventual destruction. Note that the final research report will not be considered “handed in” (i.e., late penalties will apply) until all materials have been submitted. *Failure to submit questionnaires and other research materials and signed consent forms will be considered a breach of ethics and will result in a failing grade (grade of F, 40%) for the course.*

SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Text	Lab Topic
1	Jan. 7	Course overview - register for OPL (opl.apa.org)		How to generate a research idea - complete OPL (Be a Juror, due Jan. 10) - complete tri-council ethics tutorial
2	Jan. 14	Basic between-subjects designs (review)		How to develop a research design - research teams announced and ideas discussed - complete OPL (Self Reference, due Jan. 17)
3	Jan. 21	Within-subjects designs I	11	Preparing a research proposal presentation - research idea consultations in groups - complete OPL (Word Recognition, due Jan. 24)
4	Jan. 28	Between-subjects factorial design I	10	Preparing ethics docs - research design consultations in groups
5	Feb. 4	Research proposal presentation session I		Research proposal presentation session II
6	Feb. 11	Between-subjects factorial design II Ethics docs due	10	How to write Introduction and Method sections
	Feb. 18	<i>Reading Week</i>		
7	Feb. 25	Test (ch. 10, 11, & lectures)		Preparing for data collection - proposal and ethics doc feedback consultations in groups
8	Mar. 4	Choosing a statistical test	14	How to write a Results section

9	Mar. 11	Drawing conclusions and Meta-analysis	15	How to write Discussion and Abstract sections
10	Mar. 18	Analyzing data in SPSS (in computer lab room 206)		Creating APA-style figures and tables (in computer lab room 206)
11	Mar. 25	Within-subjects designs II: Small Ns	12	Preparing a research report - research data consultations in groups
12	Apr. 1	Other advanced designs and issues		Group project outcomes discussion with class
13	Apr. 8	Course debrief Research reports and materials due		No lab
	TBA	Exam (ch. 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, & lectures)		

2018-19 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation.

Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated.

Students must submit their documentation along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements for classes/labs/tutorials, arranging Special Exams or Incompletes, re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawals without academic penalty

Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required** if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded from: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf. The student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** adequate to support a request for academic accommodation.

The full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness can be viewed at: http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds are not normally considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> or the list of official sessional dates in the Academic Calendar, see the Sessional Dates tab at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/index.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate and warranted.

It is important to note that the Academic Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory

(http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_68).

4. SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20 .

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, she may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are

sufficient grounds for the appeal. For information on academic appeals you can consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the Academic Calendar http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14.

Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

6. PREREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from the Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

7. SUPPORT

Support Services

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/>. The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>.

Mental Health and Wellness

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can learn more about mental health and wellness at Brescia at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/mental-health-wellness/>. Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Health and Wellness at Western, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html, for information about how to obtain help for yourself or others.

Sexual Violence

All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/sexual-violence/>.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.