



Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
PSY-285	Research Methods	6
Prerequisites	Department	Semester
PSY-110, PSY-111	Social Sciences	Fall
Type of Course	Field	Language of Instruction
Required	Psychology	English/Greek
Level of Course	Lecturer(s)	Year of Study
1 st Cycle	Dr Menelaos Apostolou	2 rd
Mode of Delivery	Work Placement	Co-requisites
Face-to-Face	N/A	None

Course Objectives:

The main objectives of the course are to:

- Provide psychology students with an overview on the “scientific method” of research. It is an introduction on how to do quality research in psychology. By definition it also assists students in developing skills in analyzing the research work of others – at least from a methods perspective.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of what research method types are available to undertake research
2. Identify what makes a research topic “important”
3. Demonstrate an understanding of what is the role of theory in research
3. Identify theory relevant to an important research question
4. Demonstrate an understanding of how to develop a testable research question from an important topic
5. Explain what makes research “valid” or “invalid”
6. Explain what are the various threats to research validity
7. Demonstrate an understanding of how can threats to validity can be controlled
8. Explain what assists in making research “reliable” or “unreliable”

9. Explain what is research design and why is it so important to research
10. Explain how to choose between alternative possible research designs
11. Evaluate a research project report from methods perspective

Course Content:

1. Curiosity, Creativity, and Commitment.
2. Research as a Process of Inquiry
3. The Starting Point: Asking Questions
4. Data and the Nature of Measurement.
5. Statistical Analysis of Data
6. Field Research: Naturalistic and Case-Study Research
7. Correlational and Differential Methods of Research
8. Hypothesis Testing, Validity, and Threats to Validity
9. Controls to Reduce Threats to Validity
10. Single-Variable, Independent-Groups Designs
11. Correlated-Groups and Single-Subject Designs
12. Factorial Designs
13. A Second Look at Field Research: Field Experiments, Program Evaluation, and Survey Research
14. Final Preparations before Data Collection
15. Writing a Research Report: APA Publication Style

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Interactive Lectures, Lab Presentations, Project, Lab Tutorials, Practical Exercises

Assessment Methods:

Project, Mid-Term Exam, Final Exam.

Required Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
The Psychologists as detective 6th edition	Smith, R. A. & Davis, S. F.	Pearson	2012	0205859070

Recommended Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
SPSS Survival Manual (6th edition)	Pallant, J.	Open University Press	2016	033526154X