UNIVERSITY of NICOSIA

Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
PSY-396	Research Experience	6
Prerequisites	**Department**	**Semester**
PSY-145, PSY-195, PSY-299, PSY-395	Social Sciences	Spring
Type of Course	**Field**	**Language of Instruction**
Required	Psychology	English
Level of Course	**Lecturer(s)**	**Year of Study**
1st Cycle	Dr Nuno Ferreira	3rd
Mode of Delivery	**Work Placement**	**Co-requisites**
Face-to-face	N/A	None

Course Objectives:

This course is strongly based on the assumption that the students have successfully completed the prerequisites of Research Methods and Statistics.

It is intended to review and build upon the knowledge and skills developed in these courses. It will continue exposing students to the study of scientific methods.

This course is designated to offer advanced psychology students hands-on experience in doing psychological research. Quantitative as well as qualitative approaches will be generated. This is not an introduction to psychological methodology but an application of it.

- Utility in the Curriculum: This class forms part of the department's core teaching in “Quantitative and Qualitative Methods”, 'Methodological & statistical practice' for the purposes of Europsy recognition of the degree.

Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Review and improve their understanding of scientific method and statistics.
2. Be able to apply the key characteristics of research design

3. Be efficient in statistical skills for the analysis of data obtained in psychological research
4. Be able to develop a testable research question from an important topic.
5. Develop a deep understanding of what makes research “valid” or “invalid”.
6. Develop an understanding of how to identify and control threats to research validity.
7. Be able to choose among alternative research designs
8. Be able to identify what assists in making research “reliable” or “unreliable”?
9. Expand on the use the SPSS computer programs for the statistical analyses of the data produced.
10. Be able to write a research report in APA style.
11. Be able to identify and deal with the major ethical dilemmas that a researcher faces.

Course Content:

1. Idea-generating phase
2. Problem-definition phase
3. Procedures-design phase
4. Observation phase
5. Data-analysis phase
6. Interpretation phase
7. Communication phase

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures, Lab Presentations, Lab Tutorials, Practical Exercises and Assignments.

Assessment Methods:

Practical Portfolio, Research Proposal, Project, Final Exam.

Required Textbooks / Readings:

Coolican, H. (2019). *Research methods and statistics in psychology*. Routledge. ISBN 9781315201009

Field, A. (2024). *Discovering statistics using SPSS* (6th ed.). SAGE. ISBN 9781529630008

Recommended Textbooks / Readings:

Pallant, J. (2020). *SPSS survival manual: A step-by-step guide to data analysis using IBM SPSS*. Routledge. ISBN 9781003117452