UCONN UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

PSYC 2100WQ Principles of Research Methods Avery Point

Syllabus Spring 2025

Excluding materials for purchase, syllabus information may be subject to change. COURSE SCHEDULE HERE

Course and Instructor Information

Course Title: PSYC 2100WQ

Credits: 4

Professor: Jamie Kleinman, PhD

Room: ACD 314

Email: Jamie.kleinman@uconn.edu (preferred contact method)

Telephone: 860-405-9216

Office: ACD 103C

Student Hours/Availability: Posted in www.nexus.uconn.edu. Unless specified meetings will take

place in ACD 103C OR via Webex: https://uconn-cmr.webex.com/meet/jmk01002

Course Materials

- 1. Research Methods Textbook and Top Hat 1 Semester Subscription
- 2. https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/
- 3. Additional readings or videos as determined by professor

Course readings and media are available within HuskyCT, through either an Internet link or Library Resources

Course Description

Principles of research methods in psychology focusing on statistical analyses, research design, ethics, and creation of an APA (American Psychological Association) style research proposal. Ordinarily this course should be taken in the fourth or fifth semester. This is a W-course and a paper with at least 15 revised and edited pages (about 3750-4250 words) will be assigned. To pass the course, students must pass the writing component.

Course Learning Objectives

By the end of the semester, students should be able to:

- 1. Analyze basic statistical problems using a formula sheet and calculator.
- 2. Determine which statistical tool is appropriate given a specific research question.
- 3. Analyze basic statistical problems using computer software programs like SPSS and Excel.
- 4. Develop a hypothesis and propose a multi-part ethical research proposal.
- 5. Draft and revise written work while incorporating feedback from peers and the instructor.
- 6. Compose their proposal in written form in an APA-style paper.
- 7. Discuss their proposal in an oral form in small and large groups.

Course Outline

Module 1: Getting Started with Research and Descriptive Statistics

Week 1-Thinking Like a Scientist (Distributions)

Week 2-Scientific Enterprise (Central Tendency)

Week 3-Communication Science (Variability)

Week 4-Ethics (Relative Standing)

Week 5-Quantitative and Descriptive Research (Associations)

Week 6-Review and Exam

Module 2: Descriptive Studies and Experimental Methods

Week 7-Observation (Four Distributions)

Week 8-Measurement (Hypothesis Testing)

Week 9-Survey Scales (T-test)

Week 10-Independent Groups (ANOVA)

Week 11-Repeated Measures (RM ANOVA)

Week 12-Complex Designs (Factorial ANOVA)

Week 13-Qualitative Methods and Quasi-Experiments (Chi-square)

Week 14- Review and Exam

Course Requirements and Grading

This course is graded using a model called specifications grading. The point of specifications grading is to have you focus on skill development and mastery as opposed to striving for numerical grades.

- All work will be judged as "passing" or "does not meet the standard."
- To receive credit (pass), submitted work must meet a minimum standard for professionalism and informational accuracy:
 - Exams: earning a score of 70 or higher
 - Assignments: submitting 'B' level work
- To pass the course, you must pass a minimum set of requirements including the 15-page paper.
- To earn a higher grade, you need to satisfactorily complete additional sets of specifications as described below and on HuskyCT.

To be successful in this class:

- You are expected to attend all class sessions.
- You are expected to read the assigned chapters and readings BEFORE class and come to class with questions and ideas for discussion. You will be responsible for all assigned materials and materials reviewed in class.
- You are expected to review lecture slides that are posted on HuskyCT prior to class. You can
 print these out before class or bring them on your laptop so that you can follow along in your
 note taking. The lecture will include posted material and more in-depth coverage through video
 clips, discussion, and supplementary material.
- STATEMENT ON AI: Generative language models (AI) are useful tools that we will explore during this course. However, as you will quickly learn, learning happens through doing. I expect all work submitted in this course (in-class, project components, exams) to be of your own creation unless the assignment specifically instructs you to use AI. Spell/grammar checking is fine. Copying a question into an AI program and then pasting that answer in as your answer is not fine. I will be calling this out when I suspect it and may ask you to provide follow-up documentation/explanation about the content of the work. You may fail the assignment if it is the case that your work was copied from an AI program.

Exams: You will have two non-cumulative exams that will consist of fill-in the blank, short answer, problem solving, and multiple-choice questions. Exams will cover information covered in class during lectures, any videos, handouts, or supplementary materials discussed, and research methods and

statistics topics. The exams will take place **DURING CLASS** and will be administered via PAPER AND PENCIL, are worth 100 points each, and will take approximately 75 minutes to complete. Students may bring a notes sheet that is the back and front of an 8.5x11" sheet of paper. **To pass an exam, you must score 70 pts or higher.**

Final Paper: As this is a writing class, you will complete your research project proposal in APA format. Each section of your paper will be submitted separately to me as a project component. You will receive feedback and will be expected to make revisions. The entire paper from abstract, lit review, tools, methods, limitations, and survey MUST add up to at least 15 pages of writing. The title page and references are not included in the 15 pages of writing. This should end up being between 3750-4250 words. Details for the paper are in HuskyCT. The final version of your paper will be graded as 'P' or 'F.' A grading rubric will be provided with expectations and point breakdowns and you must score 70 points on the rubric with no categories marked 'Unacceptable' to pass the paper. To pass the course, you MUST pass the writing component.

Project Components: Each week you will have a different assignment to complete outside of class. These are listed on your schedule along with the due dates. These assignments are all components of your research project, presentation, and final paper (proposal, lit review, mini-projects, peer review and critique, etc.). Specific instructions for each assignment will be discussed during class and posted in HuskyCT. Most of the assignments will start during class time, but all will need to be completed outside of class time. All assignments that meet the standard will receive a score of "1" and items that do not meet the standard will receive a score of "0". All assignments are due on Saturday by 11:59PM in HuskyCT.

During-Class Work: Each week we will work through different problems in class. You are to come to class prepared to work through problems related to the content for that week. You will be given an assignment to complete to demonstrate that you understand the concept being covered. You will work individually or in pairs or small groups. At the end of class, you will submit your work. **All work that meets the standard will receive a score of "1" and items that do not meet the standard will receive a score of "0". Due dates are in HuskyCT.**

TopHat Readings: In this course you will be using an interactive textbook in TopHat. You will be assigned one chapter per week. The textbook has embedded questions within each chapter. You are to come to class having read the chapter and completed the assigned questions. For each Chapter that you achieve a score of 80% (0.80) or higher, you will receive a score of "1". If you score below 80%, you will receive a score of "0".

Tokens: You will start the course with five tokens. Tokens may be used to resubmit an assignment for regrading, for an extension on an assignment (the token must be used before the due date to qualify), or to redo an exam. For an extension, the token MUST be used BEFORE the due date to qualify. The extension will be for a maximum of one week. More than one token cannot be used for the same assignment. **TOKENS MAY ONLY BE USED FOR WORK DUE DURING WEEKS 1-14. THEY MAY NOT BE USED FOR WORK DUE DURING FINALS WHICH INCLUDES EXAMS AND FINAL PROJECTS.**

Grading Scale:

Grade	Exams	Final Paper	Project Components (12 total)	During-Class Work (25 total)	TopHat Readings (15 Total)
Α	Pass 2 First Attempt	Pass	9	16	10
В	Pass 2, 1 on First Attempt	Pass	7	12	8
С	Pass 2 Second Attempt	Pass	5	8	6
D	Pass 2 Second Attempt	Pass	3	4	4

To obtain a specific grade level, you must complete all requirements as specified in the above table. You *may* receive a minus grade level if you complete all requirements with the exception of one requirement at the next lower level. You *may* receive a plus level grade if you complete some requirements at one level and some requirements at a higher level. Exam requirements *must* be completed to achieve a given grade level. Students will receive a progress report via email after each exam.

Due Dates and Late Policy

All course due dates are identified in the syllabus and on HuskyCT. Deadlines are based on Eastern Standard Time; if you are in a different time zone, please adjust your submittal times accordingly. The instructor reserves the right to change dates accordingly as the semester progresses. All changes will be communicated appropriately.

Late work is submitted without prior authorization of a token will be graded for half credit. If there are extenuating circumstances that will prevent you from completing your assignment on time, please discuss this issue with me well in advance of the due date. If you want to keep this private, please meet with the Director of Avery Point Student Services (860-405-9024).

Feedback and Grades

I will make every effort to provide feedback and grades within one week of the due date. To keep track of your performance in the course, refer to My Grades in HuskyCT.

Cancelation Policy

If the Avery Point campus closes due to weather or other emergencies, you will hear an announcement on local radio and television stations. Otherwise, you may call the Avery Point campus at 860-405-9020; a recorded message will tell you the status of campus activities. A video monitor on the first floor of the academic building and on the first floor in the Branford House also posts the announcements. Do not call any campus office for cancellation information, since when classes are canceled due to inclement weather, they are likewise closed. If I need to cancel class, I will notify all students via both the SAS and HuskyCT by sending an email to their official uconn.edu email address. I will try to do so no later than 9am of that day.

Student Responsibilities

As a member of the University of Connecticut student community, you are held to certain standards and academic policies. In addition, there are numerous resources available to help you succeed in your

academic work. This section provides a brief overview of important standards, policies, and resources.

Student Code

You are responsible for acting in accordance with the <u>University of Connecticut's Student Code</u> Review and become familiar with these expectations. Make sure you have read the section that applies to you on Academic Integrity:

Academic Integrity in Undergraduate Education and Research

Cheating and plagiarism are taken very seriously at the University of Connecticut. As a student, it is your responsibility to avoid plagiarism. If you need more information about the subject of plagiarism, use the following resources:

- Plagiarism: How to Recognize it and How to Avoid It
- <u>University of Connecticut Libraries' Student Instruction</u> (includes research, citing and writing resources)

Copyright: Copyrighted materials within the course are only for the use of students enrolled in the course for purposes associated with this course and may not be retained or further disseminated.

Netiquette and Communication: Course communication with fellow students and the instructor is always professional and courteous. It is expected that you proofread all your written communication, including discussion posts, assignment submissions, and mail messages. If you are new to online learning or need a netiquette refresher, please look at this guide titled, The Core Rules of Netiquette.

Adding or Dropping a Course:

If you should decide to add or drop a course, there are official procedures to follow:

- Matriculated students should add or drop a course through the Student Administration System.
- Non-degree students should refer to Non-Degree Add/Drop Information located on the registrar's website.

You must officially drop a course to avoid receiving an "F" on your permanent transcript. Simply discontinuing class or informing the instructor you want to drop does not constitute an official drop of the course. For more information, refer to the:

- Undergraduate Catalog
- Graduate Catalog

Academic Calendar

The University's Academic Calendar contains important semester dates.

Academic Support Resources

Technology and Academic Help provides a guide to technical and academic assistance.

Final Exam Rescheduling Policy

Students must be available for their exam and/or complete any assessment during the time stated in the Registrar's Office schedule. If you have a conflict with this time, you must visit the Avery Point Student Services Office to discuss the possibility of rescheduling this final.

The Office of Student Services REQUIRES advance notice from students who have prior knowledge of a conflict (i.e., bunched finals, religious obligation, legal/medical appointments, etc.) Students must come to Student Services to seek permission to reschedule their final NO LATER THAN the officially posted date.

Please note that vacations, previously purchased tickets or reservations, graduations, social events, misreading the assessment schedule and over-sleeping are not viable reasons for rescheduling a final. If you think that your situation warrants permission to reschedule, please contact the Office of Student Services (Branford House 306) to make an appointment with the Director of Student Services (860) 405-9024 or www.nexus.uconn.edu (choose Avery Point from the drop-down menu).

Student Resources

All students can succeed in this course and we are here to help you along the way. Please do not hesitate to email with questions or set-up a meeting. Success in this course, especially in this semester of transitions, depends heavily on your personal health and well-being. Recognize that stress is an expected part of the college experience, and it often can be compounded by unexpected setbacks or life changes outside the classroom. Reflect on your role in taking care of yourself throughout the semester, before the demands of exams and projects reach their peak. Please feel free to reach out to me about any difficulty you may be having that may impact your performance in your courses or campus life as soon as it occurs and before it becomes too overwhelming. In addition to your academic advisor, I strongly encourage you to contact the many other support services on campus that stand ready to assist you.

- Avery Point Student Services
- Center for Students with Disabilities
- Avery Point Academic Center
- Student Health and Wellness

Accommodations for Illness or Extended Absences

Please stay home if you are feeling ill and please go home if you are in class and start to feel ill. If illness prevents you from attending class, it is your responsibility to notify your instructor as soon as possible. You do not need to disclose the nature of your illness, however, you will need to work with your instructor to determine how you will complete coursework during your absence.

If life circumstances are affecting your ability to focus on courses and your UConn experience, students can email the Director of Student Services noemi.maldonado@uconn.edu to request support.

Students with Disabilities

Students needing special accommodations should work with the University's <u>Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD)</u>. You may contact CSD by calling (860) 486-2020 or by emailing csd@uconn.edu. If your request for accommodation is approved, CSD will send an accommodation letter directly to your instructor(s) so that special arrangements can be made. (Note: Student requests for accommodation must be filed each semester.) You may also contact Noemi Maldonado, the Director of Avery Point Student Services (860-405-9024). Blackboard measures and evaluates accessibility using two sets of standards: the WCAG 2.0 standards issued by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act issued in the United States federal government." (Retrieved March 24, 2013, from Blackboard's website)

Policy Against Discrimination, Harassment, and Inappropriate Romantic Relationships

The University is committed to maintaining an environment free of discrimination or discriminatory harassment directed toward any person or group within its community – students, employees, or visitors. Academic and professional excellence can flourish only when each member of our community is assured an atmosphere of mutual respect. All members of the University community are responsible for the maintenance of an academic and work environment in which people are free to learn and work without fear of discrimination or discriminatory harassment. In addition, inappropriate Romantic relationships can undermine the University's mission when those in positions of authority abuse or appear to abuse their authority. To that end, and in accordance with federal and state law, the

University prohibits discrimination and discriminatory harassment, as well as inappropriate Romantic relationships, and such behavior will be met with appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the University.

More information is available at http://policy.uconn.edu/?p=2884.

Sexual Assault Reporting Policy

To protect the campus community, all non-confidential University employees (including faculty) are required to report assaults they witness or are told about to the Office of Diversity & Equity under the Sexual Assault Response Policy. The University takes all reports with the utmost seriousness. Please be aware that while the information you provide will remain private, it will not be confidential and will be shared with University officials who can help.

More information is available at http://sexualviolence.uconn.edu/.

Software Requirements

- MS Office Products (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- SPSS
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Internet access
- Social media accounts (optional)
- If you do not have access to SPSS or MS Office products you can access them using UConn's SkyBox (virtual computer lab) http://skybox.uconn.edu/

This course is completely facilitated online using the learning management platform, <u>HuskyCT</u>. If you have difficulty accessing HuskyCT, students have access to the in person/live person support options available during regular business hours in the <u>Digital Learning Center</u>. Students also have <u>24x7 Support</u> with access to live chat, phone, and support documents.

Minimum Technical Skills

To be successful in this course, you will need the following technical skills:

- Use electronic mail with attachments.
- Save files in commonly used word processing program formats.
- Copy and paste text, graphics, or hyperlinks.
- Work within two or more browser windows simultaneously.
- Open and access PDF files.

University students are expected to demonstrate competency in Computer Technology. Explore the <u>Computer Technology Competencies</u> page for more information.

Evaluation of the Course Experience

Students will be provided an opportunity to evaluate instruction in this course using the University's standard procedures, which are administered by the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (OIRE).

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Week #	Date	Tuesday Topic	Thursday Topic	Readings	Assignments
1	1/21-1/25	What is Science?	Describing Data	Chapter 1 Chapter 14-14.3	TopHat Reading, During Class HuskyCT Submissions, Individual and Group Projects (Pick a study)
2	1/26-2/1	The Scientific Enterprise	Describing Central Tendency	Chapter 2 Chapter 14.4	TopHat Reading, During Class HuskyCT Submissions, Individual Project (Study Design Exercise)
3	2/2-2/8	Communicating Science	Describing Variability	Chapter 3 Chapter 14.5	TopHat Reading, During Class HuskyCT Submissions, Individual and Group Projects (Literature Search Exercise)
4	2/9-2/15	Conducting Ethical Research	Describing Relative Standing	Chapter 4 Chapter 14.6	TopHat Reading, During Class HuskyCT Submissions, Group Project (CITI Training)
5	2/16-2/22	Quantitative Descriptive Research	Describing Associations	Chapter 5 Chapter 14.7	TopHat Reading, During Class HuskyCT Submissions, Group Project (Literature Review)
6	2/23-3/1	Review and Exam 1		Chapters 1-5 Chapter 14	During Class HuskyCT Submissions, Exam 1 on 2/26 in Class
7	3/2-3/8	Observations as Measurement Tools	Four Distributions	Chapter 6 Chapter 15-15.3	TopHat Reading, During Class HuskyCT Submissions, Group Project (Observations)
8	3/9-3/15	Tests as Measurement Tools	Hypothesis Testing	Chapter 7 Chapter 15.4	TopHat Reading, During Class HuskyCT Submissions, Individual Project (Literature Review) Group Project (Tests)

	3/16-3/22	NO CLASS SPRING BREAK			
9	3/23-3/29	Surveys as Measurement Tools	T-Tests	Chapter 8 Chapter 15.5	TopHat Reading, During Class HuskyCT Submissions, Individual Project (Surveys)
10	3/30-4/5	Independent Groups	ANOVAS	Chapters 9 Chapter 15.6-15.8	TopHat Reading, During Class HuskyCT Submissions, Group Project (Between Subject Design)
11	4/6-4/12	Repeated Measures	ANOVAS	Chapter 10 Chapter 15.9	TopHat Reading, During Class HuskyCT Submissions, Group Project Component (Within Subject Design)
12	4/13-4/19	Complex Experiments	ANOVAS	Chapter 11 Chapter 15.9.5	TopHat Reading, During Class HuskyCT Submissions, Individual Project (Complex Design)
13	4/20-4/26	Qualitative Methods	Chi-Square	Chapter 12	TopHat Reading, During Class HuskyCT Submissions, Individual Project (Applications, Limitations, Risks)
14	4/27-5/2	Quasi-Experiments and Review	Alternative to Hypothesis Testing	Chapter 13	TopHat Reading, During Class HuskyCT Submissions, Group Project (Final Paper)
EXAMS	5/5-5/10	WEDNESDAY 5/7/25 10:30AM-12:30PM ACD 314			