

**Course Number:** PSY 3780

**Course Title:** Research Methods and Statistics

**Course Description:**

The principles, methods, and strategies useful in planning, designing, writing, and evaluating research studies in the behavioral sciences. Non-experimental research methods such as naturalistic observation, survey, correlation, field study, program evaluation and experimental research will be studied. Topics to be covered include: background research skills, hypothesis development, research methodology, descriptive statistics (using calculator or computer), and an introduction to probability. Additional topics include research designs, measurements, hypothesis testing, statistical significance, and the analysis of data. The use of computer statistical packages will be introduced.

**Prerequisites:** PSY1700; MA 1025 with grade C or better; junior standing.

**Credit hours:** 3

**Learning Outcomes:**

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

1. Explain various methods for conducting qualitative research.
2. Demonstrate understanding of the scientific method and the components of psychological experiments.
3. Analyze psychological research including experimental and statistical methods utilized.
4. Determine how statistics are utilized to answer research questions.
5. Identify alternative research designs sometimes used in psychological research.

# INDIANA TECH

## College of Professional Studies PSY 3780 Research Methods and Statistics Online Course Syllabus Content

### Instructor Information

Please see Professor Profile at the Blackboard instructional site.

### Course Schedule

Please see Course Schedule in the Syllabus & Schedule area of the Blackboard instructional site.

### Online Course Policies

All of the online courses taken by students are required to follow the policies posted online at <http://online.indianatech.edu/tech-policies/policies/>. Please review the posted policies carefully. If you are unable to abide by the policies listed, please contact the Warrior Information Network (WIN) at 888.832.4742 and request to withdraw from this course.

### Textbook / Course Resources

Smith, R. A., & Davie, S. F. (2013). *The psychologist as detective: An introduction to conducting research in psychology*. (6th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.

### Grading Events & Grading Criteria

Unless otherwise specified, all assignments must be submitted via Blackboard.

#### Grading Events

Event	Points	Total
Course Preparation Quiz	1 @ 10 pts	10 pts
Exams	4 @ 50 pts each	200 pts
Article Review 1	1 @ 50 pts each	50 pts
Article Review 2	1 @ 150 pts each	150 pts
Discussion Board Posts	5 @ 20 pts	100 pts
<b>Total</b>		<b>510 pts</b>

Exams (4) @ 50 points/exam

200 pts

Each exam is made up of multiple choice and short essay questions.

Exam 1 covers Chapters 1-3

Exam 2 covers Chapters 4-6

Exam 3 covers Chapters 7-9

Exam 4 covers Chapters 10-13

Article Reviews (2) (Review 1 = 50 pts, Review 2 = 150 pts points/review)

200 pts

The goal of this course is to help teach you to read and critically assess current research. In order to accomplish this goal, you will be given a research article to read and analyze using targeted questions (to help organize and guide your article review). Article Reviews should be formatted using APA format and submitted in the assigned module assignment. More specific assignment information is located in the course modules labeled Article Review Assignment.

Discussion

100 pts

Each week you will be required to complete a minimum of 4 discussion posts. The first two posts should directly respond to the assigned questions and the final 2 posts should be responses to your peers (one per discussion question). While the length of posts may vary depending on the question, please note you should answer each question based on your readings, experience, and/or outside resources. If you use outside resources be sure to provide citation and resource at the end of the posting. The goal of your peer response is to build and add to our learning community. Do not just 'agree' or 'like' your peers' postings. Instead add to the discussion, do not be afraid to post questions and challenge the class. Each of your postings (both answers to questions and peer responses) are worth up to 5 points.

**TOTAL POINTS**

**400 pts**

Specific rubric and assignment information is described in the assigned modules.

## Grading Scale

The following grading scale will be used to assign a grade at the end of the course:

Percentage Achieved	Grade	Percentage Achieved	Grade	Percentage Achieved	Grade
93% or above	A	80% or above	B-	70% or above	C-
90% or above	A-	77% or above	C+	60% or above	D
87% or above	B+	73% or above	C	Below 60%	F
83% or above	B				

## Late Assignments

All assignments and required online activities are due according to the deadline listed in the course schedule. Granting deadline extension is the course instructor's autonomy.

## Incompletes

If you are unable to complete the requirements for this course due to extenuating circumstances, an Incomplete grade (I) may be granted if you meet the general guidelines stated below.

General Guidelines for submitting a course incomplete request:

- More than 50% of the course session has elapsed.
- The student has encountered an unexpected situation that is beyond his or her control.
- The student is ○ in good academic standing -- up-to-date on all of the course assignments and has at least an overall passing grade,
  - able to complete all of the remaining coursework within a session (5 weeks for a undergraduate course and 6 weeks for a graduate course) that immediately follows the session the student is currently enrolled, and
  - able to provide support documentations to substantiate the need for extra time should a session is not enough to complete the course requirements.

If an Incomplete is granted, the instructor will set a deadline for all work to be completed. **The deadline cannot go past one (1) session.** All incomplete grades and deadlines are subject to approval by the designated university authority.

## Course Related Communication

Online courses are conducted in an accelerated format. Timely communication is very important. When receiving emails from your classmates or instructor, please respond as soon as you can.

Students are **REQUIRED** to use their Indiana Tech email account for all course related communication. The most direct, and effective, way to email your course instructor and classmates, is by using the Send Email function within the Blackboard course site. When you use the Send Email function, you automatically receive a carbon copy of the email you sent. In the event when you need to substantiate your claim that you did email your classmates or instructor, you can show that carbon copy to the person(s) who requested it. Please note that Blackboard only permits you to send email, it does not provide you with the check email function. All of the emails your classmates and instructor send to you will be delivered to your Indiana Tech email account. You are strongly encouraged to check your Indiana Tech email account regularly, preferably several times a week, to minimize the likelihood of miscommunication.

The University policy requires each online course instructor to respond to a student's email within 24 hours. Unless there is an extraneous situation that prevents the instructor from following this rule, you can expect to hear from the instructor within 24 hours. If you don't receive a reply within 24 hours, please do not hesitate to follow up with another email or forward the carbon copy of the email you sent to

[OnlineSupport@IndianaTech.edu](mailto:OnlineSupport@IndianaTech.edu) with a note "Please help. It's been 24 hours and I have not heard from my instructor" and the University support staff will act on your behalf to contact your course instructor.