
Research Methods

Counseling Psychology 220
Santa Clara University
Spring Quarter 2015

Professor: Jasmín Llamas, Ph.D.
Office: Loyola Hall 140D
Office hours: Tuesday 4-5 pm (walk-in) & Wednesday 3-5pm (by appointment)
E-Mail: jllamas@scu.edu
Class Location: Loyola Hall 135
Class Time: Tuesday 1:00-4:00 pm

Course Objectives:

This course aims to provide students with the critical thinking skills necessary to become a better consumer of information—both in psychology and in the real world. You will learn how to systematically evaluate the validity of different claims that you may encounter in textbooks, research articles, or even popular media. This course is designed to achieve the following goals:

1. Describe basic statistical procedures
2. Compare and contrast research methods designs
3. Evaluate the scientific merit of research findings
4. Apply basic ethical guidelines to research in counseling psychology

Required Texts:

1. Morling, B. (2015). *Research methods in psychology: Evaluation a world of information*. (2nd ed). New York, NY: W. W. Norton & Company.

Other Required Readings: In Camino

Student Evaluation:

1. Weekly Quizzes (15%)
2. Midterm (25%)
3. Final (25%)
4. Research Critique (25%)
5. Participation (10%)

Course Requirements:

Weekly Quizzes – Weekly quizzes based on the readings assigned for the week will be posted on CAMINO. Quizzes are open-book however you will have limited time to complete the quizzes, so it is important that you read all the material *prior* to taking the quiz. These quizzes are intended to be brief and serve as a gauge as to how well you are integrating the material. Quizzes cannot be completed late.

Exams – There will be a midterm and final exam covering material from the readings and lecture. Both exams will be multiple choice. The final exam is not cumulative, rather focuses on material from the second half of the class. There will be no make-up exams.

Research Critique – You will complete two research critiques demonstrating your ability to analyze the scientific quality and merit of a published study. The first will be a “practice” critique on an article provided by the professor. For your second critique, you must select a peer-reviewed publication and you may not choose the same paper as another student. More detailed information about the assignment and grading will be provided in lecture and posted on CAMINO. Papers submitted late will be reduced by the equivalent of one letter grade for each day late.

Class participation - Students are expected to participate by coming to class on time, prepared, and contributing to class discussions (both in class and online). Participation includes your presence and active engagement in class (this includes listening) and in class activities. Two missed classes will result in a loss of all class participation points. Three or more missed classes will result in failure of the course.

Personal Technology. It is allowable to use a laptop, tablet, or other device for taking notes or otherwise participating in class. However, please do not use personal devices for any purpose unrelated to class, as it interferes with your ability to actively participate in class and is a distraction to your fellow students. Inappropriate use of personal devices may result in grade reductions.

Course Guidelines:

Respectful Behavior- To create a constructive learning environment students are expected to demonstrate respect for others. Discussions should occur within the context of academic inquiry and in the spirit of understanding diverse perspectives and experiences.

Academic Integrity- You are expected to uphold our university policy on academic integrity and subscribe to the ideals of academic integrity. Any act of academic dishonesty, such as cheating or plagiarism, will subject a person to University disciplinary action. Any work (written or otherwise) submitted to fulfill an academic requirement must represent a student’s original work. Representing the words, ideas, or concepts of another person without appropriate attribution is plagiarism. Please make sure that you appropriately cite your sources.

Individual Difference- If you experience difficulty in this course for any reason, please don’t hesitate to consult with me. If you have a disability that may prevent you from fully demonstrating your abilities, please contact me so we can discuss accommodations necessary to ensure your full participation. A wide range of university services are available to support you:

HUB Writing Center: HUB helps students understand assignments and aids in all stages of the writing process (www.scu.edu/provost/writingcenter).

Counseling Resources: CAPS offers counseling for personal concerns, self-help information, and connections to off-campus mental health resources (www.scu.edu/cowell/caps).

Disability Resources: Any student who has a disability that may prevent him/her from fully demonstrating his/her abilities should contact the instructor immediately. To request academic accommodations for disability please contact Disability Resources located in Benson, room 216, (408) 554-1111; TTY (408) 554-5445. Students must provide documentation of a disability to Disability Resources to receive accommodations. For more information about disability resources available refer to:

www.scu.edu/studentlife/disabilities/.

Course Schedule:

	Class Schedule	Readings
1	March 31 st	
	Introduction, Research & Practice	Review pgs. 441-450
2	April 7 th	
	Three Claims, Four Validities <i>Statistics Review</i>	Morling, Ch. 3 & pgs. 450-461
3	April 14 th	
	GSA presentation at the Locatelli Center* Reflection Paper of GSA Speaker	
4	April 21 st	
	Research Ethics In-Class Research Critique	Morling, Ch. 4 & pgs. 463-486
5	April 28 th	
	Measurement & Surveys Design	Morling, Ch. 5 & 6
6	May 5 th	
	Sampling Midterm	Morling, Ch. 7
7	May 12 th	
	Correlational Research	Morling, Ch. 8 & 9
8	May 19 th	
	Experimental Research	Morling, Ch. 10 & 12
9	May 26 th	
	Quasi-Experiments & Qualitative Research	Morling, Ch. 13 Camino Reading
10	June 2 nd	
	Real World Applications Research Critique Due (6/3 9am)	Morling, Ch. 14
11	June 9 th	
	Final (1-3pm)	

* Distinguished GSA Speaker Series

Dr. David Wallin

A *magna cum laude* graduate of Harvard College who received his doctorate from the Wright Institute in Berkeley, he has been practicing, teaching and writing about psychotherapy for nearly three decades. His most recent book, *Attachment in Psychotherapy* (Guilford, 2007), is presently being translated into nine languages. He is also co-author (with Stephen Goldbart) of *Mapping the Terrain of the Heart: Passion, Tenderness, and the Capacity to Love* (Jason Aronson, 1996). He has lectured on attachment and psychotherapy in Australia, Europe, Canada, and throughout the United States

April 14, 2015 Locatelli Center

1pm-2:30pm Presentation I

2:30-3:30pm Reception

3:30-5:00pm Presentation II