

Text: Graziano, A.M. & Raulin, M.L. (2004). Research Methods 5th edition.
Allyn and Bacon Boston

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Meetings: Sequence 4 1:35-2:40 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday Room 126 Ryder

Course web site: <http://blackboard.neu.edu>, [PSYU600 RES DES LAB 05829 spring 2005](#)

Psychology literature search engine: Go to Psych Dept. home page: <http://www.psych.neu.edu>
Click on Resources then PsychInfo.

Grading: Participation and Collaboration	15%
Two exams (10% each)	20%
Group Project One and Paper	25%
Individual Project Two, Paper, and Poster	40%

This course covers the conceptualization, implementation, analysis, and communication of research in psychology. As some of you know this is not a trivial endeavor. This laboratory course covers the real-time problems and their solutions that arise when doing something that has never been done before. Day-to-day involvement and a continuing commitment from both the students and the instructors are important parts of this kind of course. Regular participation and interaction is necessary and expected. Communication can be facilitated by e-mail and the course web-page.

It is the responsibility of each individual student to achieve the highest standards of academic integrity. Refer to your NU Student Handbook. Lapses will result in appropriate course penalties and automatic referral to the Student Judiciary.

Statistics (PsyU320) is pre-requisite for this course. In addition to the presence of these courses on your transcript it is assumed that you understand and can use the material from these courses. We will not rehash those statistics in this course. An introduction to and help with the SPSS statistical package will be available.

The observational, correlational, and experimental methods are most useful to psychologists. Two studies will be performed. The first, a correlational study, will be done in groups, pooling data, and writing something like an APA style paper. The second will be an experimental study done individually. "The art of the science of psychology is to ask a meaningful question to which you can actually get an answer."

There are three main goals of this course. The first is to cover the material in the text. This is general information pertaining to all areas of psychology. The second goal is to write a good research report. The particular style defined by the APA will be the standard for the course. However, journals in all areas require reports with similar parts. The third goal is to perform, from beginning to end, an original study of your own, culminating in the preparation of a poster suitable for presentation. A possible fourth goal is to present this poster at a formal meeting. A talk or poster would be a notable addition to your resume or grad school application.

During the first part of the course much of the class time will be spent on lecture and discussion. As the course progresses there will be much less lecture time and much more independent work and consultation. The instructors will be available regularly during all scheduled classes and at other times to make suggestions and offer help. Your personal engagement and initiative is a major part of this course.

A weekly schedule of events is attached. Have fun.

Preliminary Syllabus Psychology U600 Research Design in Psychology Northeastern University Spring 2005

<u>Week</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Textbook</u>	<u>Activity</u>
1	Jan X, 5, 6	Introduction and Overview	Chs 1, 2	
2	Jan 10, 12, 13	Variable, Measurement, Data Reliability, Validity	Chs 3, 4	Study 1 "Roommates" - Introduction
3	Jan X, 19, 20	Correlational Method	Ch 6	Study 1 Literature search, theoretical aspects
4	Jan 24, 26, 27	Observational Method	Ch 7	Study 1 Introduction and Methods Sections
5	Jan 31, Feb 2, 3	Exam 1 Chs 1-7		Study 1 Data collection
6	Feb 7, 9, 10	Validity, Threats to validity, Controls for threats to validity 'Differential' Methods	Chs 8, 9 Ch 6	Study 1 Results and Discussion sections
7	Feb 14, 16, 17	Experimental designs, Independent samples	Ch 10	Study 1 Report Due
8	Feb 21, 23, 24	Experimental designs, Correlated samples	Ch 11	Study 2 Introduction
	Feb 28, Mar 2, 3	Spring Break		
9	Mar 7, 9, 10	Experimental Designs, Factorial designs	Ch 12	Study 2 Literature Search, theoretical aspects
10	Mar 14, 16, 17	Exam 2 Chs 8-12		Study 2 Introduction and Methods sections
11	Mar 21, 23, 24	Consultations for Study 2		Study 2 Data collection
12	Mar 28, 30, 31	Consultations for Study 2		Study 2 Results and Discussion sections
13	Apr 4, 6, 7	Study 2 Presentations		Study 2 Reports due
14	Apr 11, 13, X	Study 2 Presentations		
15	Apr 15 - 22	Finals Week (no final, sorry)		