

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

PSYC 510

RESEARCH METHODS AND STATISTICS IN PSYCHOLOGY I

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Overview of research methodology and statistical techniques for psychological research. Emphasis on the three basic types of research - descriptive, predictive, and experimental. Also, addresses ethics in research. A computer software package is used for analysis of data.

RATIONALE

Psychology is a research-based science, therefore its use for statistics in accurately interpreting data is imperative for understanding research. This course is designed to provide the student with an understanding of research methodology and statistical analysis. This course will also further equip the student to succeed in subsequent statistics courses within his or her field of study.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended) * Note two required readings are freely available through your eBook (located within each week's Reading & Study folder):
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- A. Describe the basic concepts of probability and statistics.
- B. Analyze psychological data, both by hand and with SPSS.
- C. Use critical thinking to solve everyday problems related to behavior and mental processes.
- D. Apply statistics within a biblical worldview.
- E. Communicate the results of data analysis in appropriate APA format.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Discussion Board Forums (2)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be at least 400 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 200 words.

- D. Homework (8)

Most assignments are SPSS-based and depend on information gained from the Reading & Study material in the assigned module/week.

- E. Exams (4)

Each exam will be open-book/open-notes, contain 40 multiple-choice questions, and have a time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes. Approximately 75% of the content on the exam will be from the Reading & Study material for the previous 2 modules/weeks; the remaining 25% is cumulative.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**A. Points**

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (2 at 60 pts ea)	120
Homework (8 at 60 pts ea)	480
Exam 1 (Modules 1–2)	100
Exam 2 (Modules 1–4)	100
Exam 3 (Modules 1–6)	100
Exam 4 (Modules 1–8)	100
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
 C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739
 D- = 680–699 F = 0–679

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at equityandcompliance@liberty.edu. Click to see a full copy of Liberty’s [Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) or the [Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures](#).

COURSE SCHEDULE

PSYC 510

Assigned readings are all available through your eBook on Blackboard:

Jackson, *Research Methods and Statistics* (2016).

Kirkpatrick & Feeney, *A Simple Guide...Part 1* (2016a).

Kirkpatrick & Feeney, *A Simple Guide...Part 2* (2016b).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Jackson: chs. 1–2 2 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Homework 1	10 0 60
2	Jackson: ch. 3 Kirkpatrick & Feeney (2016a): chs. 1, 2, 3, 5 2 presentations	Homework 2 Exam 1	60 100
3	Jackson: ch. 4 1 website Student: find an empirical article for the DB	DB Forum 1 Homework 3	60 60
4	Jackson: chs. 5, 7: Probabilities (stop at Hypothesis Testing) Kirkpatrick & Feeney (2016b): ch. 6 3 presentations	Homework 4 Exam 2	60 100
5	Jackson: ch. 7 (Hypothesis testing to end), ch. 6: Correlations (all), ch. 8 (section on Correlation Coefficients and Statistical Significance only) Kirkpatrick & Feeney (2016b): chs. 14–15 3 presentations	Homework 5	60
6	Jackson: ch. 8 Kirkpatrick & Feeney (2016b): ch. 7 1 presentation	Homework 6 Exam 3	60 100
7	Jackson: ch. 9 Kirkpatrick & Feeney (2016b): ch. 8 2 presentations	DB Forum 2 Homework 7	60 60
8	Jackson: ch. 10 Kirkpatrick & Feeney (2016b): ch. 9 2 presentations	Homework 8 Exam 4	60 100
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.