



A M B R O S E

BHS 240-1 Research Methods (3)

Fall 2007

Instructor: Dr. Alan Ho, Ph.D.

Class Time: W/F 8:15-9:30 am

Class Location: 645

Lab: M 11:15a-12:30p; 1:00-2:15 pm

Office: 509

Office Hours: By appointment

Phone: 571-2550 Ext. 5911

E-Mail: aho@auc-nuc.ca

Required Texts

C. James Goodwin. (2008). *Research in Psychology: Methods and Design*. 5th Ed. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

On Reserve

Babbie, Earl. (2004). *The Practice of Social Research*, 10th Ed .Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing Co.

Berg, Bruce L. (1998). *Qualitative Research Methods for the Social Sciences*. Toronto: Allyn & Bacon.

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the concepts and processes of quantitative and qualitative research. Research processes include problem definition, designing the study, selection or development of theory, literature review, data collection, determination of appropriate statistical methods, interpretation and analysis of data, and writing of the research report. Students will develop research skills through application of textual concepts.

Note: This course involves a Monday laboratory component. Absences from labs will result in **2.5%** reduction per missed lab in the final grade.

Course Objectives

By the conclusion of this course students will

- Gain an understanding of the logic of experimental research in psychology
- Understand the ethical implications of conducting psychological research
- Be acquainted with research design and several quantitative and qualitative research methods.
- Be able to conduct a literature review
- Be able to interpret data appropriately
- Apply both qualitative and quantitative techniques to actual research situations
- Be aware of the importance of avoiding plagiarism
- Be able to draft a research proposal

Course Schedule

Sept 6, 11	Chapter 1 –Scientific Thinking in Psychology
Sept 13	Chapter 2 – Ethics in Psychological Research
Sept 18, 25	Chapter 3 – Developing Ideas for Research in Psychology
Sept 20	No Class (Community Day)
Sept 27, Oct 2	Chapter 4 – Measurement and Data Analysis
Oct 4, 9	Chapter 5 – Introduction to Experimental Research
Oct 11, 16	Chapter 6 – Control Problems in Experimental Research

Oct 18	Unit Exam #1 (Chapters 1-6)
Oct 23	No Class (Community Day)
Oct 25, 30	Chapter 7 – Experimental Design I: Single-Factor Designs
Nov 1, 6	Chapter 8 – Experimental Design II: Factorial Designs
Nov 8, 13	Chapter 9 – Correlational Research
Nov 15, 20	Chapter 10 – Quasi-Experimental Designs and Applied Research
Nov 22, 27	Chapter 11 – Small N Designs
Nov 29, Dec 4, 6	Chapter 12 – Observational and Survey Research Methods
Winter Exam Period	Unit Exam #2 (Chapters 7-12)

Final Assignment – 20%

The final assignment constitutes a Research Proposal of a hypothetical study you might conduct based on your exposure to various research designs during the course of this term. This assignment is due on **December 4**. Students who fail to turn in this assignment will receive an F for the course.

Course Requirements

- Readings must be completed *prior to* the class sessions in which the respective readings are featured.
- In consideration of your lab instructor, missed Labs may not be made up.

Course Grade (100%)

Laboratory Assignments (10 x 5%)	50%
Examinations (2 x 15%)	30%
Final Assignment (Research Proposal)	20%

Grade Structure:

Percentage:	Letter Grade:	Grade Point Weight:
96-100	A+	4.0
91-95	A	4.0
86-90	A-	3.7
82-85	B+	3.3
75-81	B	3.0
72-74	B-	2.7
68-71	C+	2.3
63-67	C	2.0
60-62	C-	1.7
56-59	D+	1.3
50-55	D	1.0
0-49	F	N/A

Important Notes

- Last day to enter course without permission and/or voluntarily withdraw from course without financial penalty:**Sep 14, 2007**
- Last day to voluntarily withdraw from course or change to audit without academic penalty:**Nov 16, 2006**
- It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with, and adhere to, NUC Academic Policies, such as the policy on Academic Dishonesty, which are stated in the current Catalogue.
- Questions regarding Laboratory assignments should be directed in the first instance to the Lab Instructor.

Notable Websites:

- American Psychological Association <http://www.apa.org>
- Canadian Psychological Association <http://www.cpa.ca>
- Psych Web (APA style, psychology careers, journals) <http://www.psychwww.com>



AMBROSE

BHS 240L *Research Methods Lab*

Fall 2007

Teaching Assistant: Ms. Kristen Desjarlais

Office: TBA

Office Phone: TBA

Lab Time: M: 240L-1 (11:15 am); 240L-2 (1:00 pm)

Lab Location: 645

E-Mail: kristen.desjarlais@uleth.ca

NOTE: The course BHS 240 Research Methods involves a Monday laboratory component. Absences from labs will result in **2.5%** reduction per missed lab in the final grade. Each Lab assignment, in conjunction with lab attendance/participation, is worth 5% of the course grade (total 50%).

Laboratory Sessions

LAB 1: The Literature Review	Sep 10
LAB 2: TBA	Sep 17
LAB 3: Field Research/Sociological Observation	Sep 24
LAB 4: TBA	Oct 1
LAB 5: Data Description, Interpretation & Presentation	Oct 15
LAB 6: TBA	Oct 22
LAB 7: Correlational Research	Oct 29
LAB 8: TBA	Nov 5
LAB 9: Interview/Survey	Nov 19
LAB 10: TBA	Nov 26