

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY
Status: Definitive
Code: **4005PSYSCI** (113632)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Natural Sciences & Psychology
Teaching School/Faculty: Natural Sciences & Psychology

Team	Leader
Catharine Montgomery	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ4
Credit Value: 36.00
Total Delivered Hours: 63.00
Total Learning Hours: 360
Private Study: 297

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	19.000
Workshop	43.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	AS1	2 Practical Reports each worth 32.5%	65.0	
Exam	AS2	Multiple choice exam	35.0	1.00

Aims

To introduce the tools for carrying out a literature search
To develop an understanding of basic statistical concepts, descriptive statistics, correlation, chi square and parametric and non-parametric tests of differences
To use SPSS to carry out statistical analyses
To give practical experience of correlational, observational and experimental research methods.
To develop practical report writing skills

*To introduce ethical issues concerning psychological research.
To promote awareness of the use of computers in psychological studies.*

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Conduct a literature search.
- 2 Write a practical report
- 3 Design a psychological study incorporating 2 variables.
- 4 Demonstrate knowledge of basic statistical concepts and tests such as correlation, chi-square and simple tests of differences.
- 5 Choose an appropriate statistical test for data from correlational, experimental and survey studies.
- 6 Use SPSS to carry out relevant statistical analyses.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Reports	1	2	3	4	5	6
EXAM	4	5	6			

Outline Syllabus

Scales of measurement; descriptive statistics; variance and standard deviation; the normal distribution; introduction to probability and hypothesis testing; correlation and chi-square; observational methods; experimental designs - related and unrelated; bivalent and multivalent tests of difference and trend; designing and implementing simple questionnaire studies; literature searching; using SPSS; the ethics of psychological research; writing practical reports.

Learning Activities

1. Attend lectures and workshops
2. Use SPSS statistical software
3. Use PsychInfo and other databases.
4. Use web-based support material
5. Complete coursework tasks
6. Complete prescribed reading
7. Complete formative multiple-choice tests.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Daniels, M.
Publishing Year	1992
Title	Statistical Tables for use with Statistics in Psychology and Analysis of Variance
Subtitle	
Edition	(4th Edition)
Publisher	Liverpool John Moores University
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Coolican, H
Publishing Year	1999
Title	Research Methods and Statistics in Psychology
Subtitle	
Edition	(3rd Edition)
Publisher	Hodder & Stoughton
ISBN	0340747609

Course Material	Book
Author	Field, A
Publishing Year	2006
Title	Discovering Statistics Using SPSS for Windows
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Sage
ISBN	0761957553

Course Material	Book
Author	Field, A. & Hole, G.
Publishing Year	2003
Title	How to Design and Report Experiments
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Sage
ISBN	0761973834

Notes

Introduction to Research Methods in Psychology provides a practical introduction to the design and reporting of correlational, observational, experimental and survey studies in psychology. It also introduces the use of computers for conducting literature searches and statistical analyses.