

**PSY 5001: Research Methods**  
**Course Syllabus**  
**Fall 2019 41798**

TR 1:00-2:47 PRY 130 Conference Room

**Instructor:** Dr. J. Vonk  
**Email:** vonk@oakland.edu   **Website:** www.jennifervonk.com  
**Office:** 211 Pryale Hall  
**Office Hours:** 12:00 – 1:00 pm Tues - Thurs or by appointment

**Required Texts:**

1. Whitley & Kite, Principles of Research in Behavioral Science, 3rd Edition, Routledge
2. Leong & Austin (Eds), The Psychology Research Handbook 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Sage

It is highly recommended that students possess the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th Ed). American Psychological Association.

Course topics may be supplemented with additional readings, which will be made available on jennifervonk.com or handed out in class. Lecture PPTs are also available at jennifervonk.com.

**Evaluation:** 2 exams based on lecture and assigned reading material  
(20% of final grade each, not cumulative)  
Research Paper # 1 worth 20% of final grade  
Proposal Presentation worth 15% of final grade  
Research proposal worth 25% of final grade

**Objectives:** The main objectives of this course will be to introduce the scientific methods of research as employed in the discipline of psychology and other social sciences, the planning and design of research projects, and to develop the skills necessary to evaluate, summarize and extract critical information from the research of others. Topics include basic research methods, variable definition and measurement, sampling, internal and external validity, as well as the principles of ethical research. Designs covered include correlational, observational, non-experimental, and quasi-experimental, as well as true experimental designs. At the end of this course, students should have a good grasp of experimental methodology and be competent in designing and evaluating studies using a range of methodologies. They will have gone through the process of presenting and defending a proposal sufficient for a thesis and will have learned how to write a formal proposal APA style.

**Course Content (NB: Topics and dates subject to change)**

Sept 5:	CITI training, overview of course and expectations	W&K Chap 1 L&A Chapter 1
Sept 10:	Formulating a Question	W&K Chap 5
Sept 12:	Ethics	W&K Chaps 3&4 L&A Chapter 12
Sept 17:	Ethics cont.	

Sept 19:	Ethics cont.	
Sept 24:	Ethics cont.	
Sept 26:	<b>PAPER 1 DUE</b> Measurement	W&K Chap 6
Oct 1:	Validity and Reliability	L&A Chapter 7
Oct 3:	Internal Validity	W&K Chap 7
Oct 8:	External Validity	W&K Chap 8
Oct 10:	<b>EXAM 1</b>	
Oct 15:	Sampling	L&A Chapter 10 W&K Chap 16
Oct 17:	True experiments/Between Designs	W&K Chap 9
Oct 22:	True experiments/Within Designs	W&K Chap 9
Oct 24:	Factorial Designs	W&K Chap 9
Oct 29:	Quasi Experimental Designs	W&K Chap 10
Oct 31:	Correlational Designs	W&K Chap 11
Nov 5:	Correlational Designs cont.	
Nov 7:	Field and Observational Research	W&K Chap 10
Nov 12:	<b>EXAM 2</b>	
Nov 14:	Proposal and Manuscript Writing APA Style	L&A Chapter 23 L&A Chapter 24
Nov 19:	Proposal and Manuscript Writing cont. APA Style	L&A Chapter 23 L&A Chapter 24
Nov 21:	<b>THESIS PROPOSAL PRESENTATIONS</b>	
Nov 26:	<b>THESIS PROPOSAL PRESENTATIONS</b>	
Nov 28:	THANKSGIVING NO CLASS	
Dec 3:	<b>THESIS PROPOSAL PRESENTATIONS</b>	
Dec 5:	<b>THESIS PROPOSAL PRESENTATIONS</b>	

Dec. 12:       **THESIS PROPOSALS DUE**

**Add/Drops & Incompletes:** The University add/drop and incomplete grade policies will be explicitly followed. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of the University deadline dates for adding or dropping the course. <https://www.oakland.edu/registrar/important-dates/>

Your grade for this course will be based on the following scale:

<b>GRADE ENTERED INTO OU SYSTEM</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE RANGE (CLASS PERFORMANCE)</b>	<b>MERIT POINTS ON TRANSCRIPT</b>
A	93 – 100%	4.0
A-	90 – 92%	3.7
B+	87 – 89%	3.3
B	83 – 86%	3.0
B-	80 – 82%	2.7
C+	77 – 79%	2.3
C	73 – 76%	2.0
C-	70 – 72%	1.7
D+	67 – 69%	1.3
D	60 – 66%	1.0
F	≤59%	0.0

**Note: Two or more grades below a B (e.g. 3.0) will result in dismissal from the program. The first C grade will result in probation.**

#### Missed Exams:

According to University Policy, the only legitimate excuse for missing an exam is a serious medical problem. A make-up exam will be offered **ONLY** at the discretion of the instructor. If you must miss an exam, **notify me** by e-mail at [vonk@oakland.edu](mailto:vonk@oakland.edu) as soon as possible, and **no later than 24 hours after the exam**. Notification received after that time will result in a score of 0 for that exam. A single make-up exam will be arranged at the convenience of the instructor. **No other times will be arranged.** Make-up exams will **NOT** be provided for someone who completes an exam and then says he or she was not feeling well at the time. **You must arrive on time for scheduled exams. If you are more than 15 minutes late for the exam you will be deducted 10% of your grade on the exam, with an additional 10% deduction for every 15 minutes late thereafter. Cell phones must be turned OFF during exams and out of sight.**

#### Late Assignments

Late assignments will be accepted only with prior permission from the instructor. With a valid excuse, assignments will be accepted within a week following the original due date and with a grade deduction of 2% for each day past the due date. So **PLEASE** hand in your assignments on time.

#### Policy on Academic Misconduct

The University's regulations that relate to academic misconduct will be fully enforced. Any student suspected of cheating and/or plagiarism will be reported to the Dean of Students and, thereafter, to the Academic Conduct Committee for adjudication. Anyone found guilty of academic misconduct in this course may receive a course grade of 0.0, in addition to any

penalty assigned by the Academic Conduct Committee. Students found guilty of academic misconduct by the Academic Conduct Committee may face suspension or permanent dismissal. The full policy on academic misconduct can be found in the General Information section of the Undergraduate Catalog.

### Departmental Policy for Resolution of Student Academic-Related Concerns

The student has an obligation to attempt to resolve all academic-related concerns with the instructor. If a suitable solution cannot be reached, then the student should consult the Department of Psychology Procedure for the Resolution of Student Academic-Related Concerns at <https://www.oakland.edu/Assets/Oakland/psychology/files-and-documents/Undergrad-Advising/Resolution%20of%20Student%20Concerns-04-2017-approved%20full%20doc.pdf>.

[Approved by Department of Psychology, April 26, 2017]

### Excused Absence Policy

University excused absences applies to participation as an athlete, manager or student trainer in NCAA intercollegiate competitions, or participation as a representative of Oakland University at academic events and artistic performances approved by the Provost or designee. For the OU excused absence policy, see <http://wwwp.oakland.edu/provost/policies-and-procedures/>

### Faculty Feedback

As a student in this class, you may receive “Faculty Feedback” in your OU e-mail if your professor identifies areas of concern that may impede your success in the class. Faculty Feedback typically occurs during weeks 2-5 of the Fall and Winter terms, but may also be given later in the semester and more than once a semester. A “Faculty Feedback” e-mail will specify the area(s) of concern and recommend action(s) you should take. Please remember to check your OU email account regularly as that is where it will appear.

### Audio Recording Policy

Students who wish to audio-record lectures may request permission to do so. These recordings may only be used for the purpose of personal study. Students may not share these recordings with other individuals without the consent of the professor. At the conclusion of the semester, students may request permission to keep these recordings if needed, otherwise it is expected that all audio-recordings will be deleted from all electronic recording and storage devices.

### Veteran Support Services

The office of Veteran Support Services (VSS) is responsible for giving support services to more than 300 veterans, service members, and dependents of veterans. VSS is staffed with personnel who are veterans and current or former students. Any student veteran or dependent of a veteran requiring assistance with navigating the Veterans Administration, understanding service-related benefits, or requires referrals to campus and community resources should contact one of the Veterans Liaisons by visiting 116 North Foundation Hall, or phoning 248-370- 2010. <http://wwwp.oakland.edu/veterans/>