

Experimental Design (PSK 311)

**Wednesday, 09.00-11.50
(G-408)**

Instructor

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Course Description

In this course, students will improve their knowledge about experimental methodology. Students will be able to think experimentally about the events and problems they encountered with. They will also improve their skills to think critically about the experiments that have already been conducted. Besides, they will get experience on conducting an experiment.

Course Materials

The primary textbook used in this course is:

Martin, D. (2007). *Doing psychology experiments* (7th ed.). Belmont: Cengage Learning.

Suggested resources:

Christensen, L. B., Johnson, R. B., Turner, L. A., & Christensen, L. B. (2011). *Research methods, design, and analysis* (12th ed.). Essex: Pearson

Course Organization and Expectations

Sessions take place Wednesday, 09.00-11.50. The course starts with introductory lecture in Week 1 and ends with presentations of the experimental research of students in Week 14. Student should be cautious about ethical issues. They should follow APA rules for their assignments and projects. Student should be cautious about ethical issues. They should follow APA rules for their assignments and projects. Additionally, for all kind of class activities including small assignments and projects, student should be aware that plagiarism, cheating, or copying of any kind on any assignment will not be excused. Besides, reuse/ resubmission (the whole or some parts) of one's own work as an assignment of this course will be accepted as self-plagiarism and will not be excused. If a student breaks any rule about academic honesty, she/he will receive "0" on the assignment, quiz or exam. Sexist, racist, homophobic, or derogatory/oppressive language WILL NOT BE tolerated in this class. To avoid distraction, laptops and phones must not be used in the sessions.

Assessment

There are four assessment components:

1- Mid-Term (30 %), 2- Quizzes (10 %), 3- Experimental Research Design & Presentation of the Experiment (30 %), and 4- Final (30 %).

1- Mid-Term 30 %

Open ended questions will be asked about the topics covered in the text book and in the class sessions.

2- Quizzes 10 %

Students are required to attend two quizzes during the lectures.

3- Experimental Research Design (Research Report) & Presentation of the Experiment 30 %

Students are required to design and conduct an experimental research. The design of the experiment is crucial part of the assignment. The experiment should be conducted with 30 to 40 people (Larger sample size is completely fine). Students should work as a group including 2 to 4 people. Students are required to inform the lecturer about their research topic and the names of students in their group before the **18.10.2017** by sending an e-mail. Students should get confirmation for the design of their research and the tools they will use for their experiment before the **22.11.2017**. The last session of the course (**27.12.2017**) is a deadline to submit an experimental report. Experimental report requires to include brief information about the research question, method and results of their experimental study. In the last two sessions of the course students are expected to make brief (max. 10 minutes) presentations. During the presentation students should briefly explain the rationale behind their research question and they should give information about the design, sample, materials, procedure of their experiment and they should briefly represent the result of their experiment.

4- Final 30 %

The final exam will include open-ended questions. Students will be responsible from the topics covered during the whole semester.

Timetable

Week	Date	Topic	
1	27.09	Introduction to Experimental Design	
2	04.10	Experimental Idea and Doing Experiments	
3	11.10	Ethical Issues and Procedures for Conducting an Experiment	
4	18.10	Decisions on Variables	Quiz 1
5	25.10	Validity and Threats to Validity in Experimental Research	
6	01.11	Within & Between Subject Design	
7	08.11	Control Techniques	
8	15.11	Mid-Term Week	
9	22.11	Factorial (Complex) Designs	
10	29.11	Quasi-Experimental Designs	Quiz 2
11	06.12	Implicit Measures	
12	13.12	Understanding and Interpreting Research Results	
13	20.12	Presentation of Students' Research Project	
14	27.12	Presentation of Students' Research Project	