



A M B R O S E

**BHS 240-1    Research Methods (3)**

**Fall 2008**

**Instructor: Dr. Alan Ho, Ph.D.**

**Class Time:** W/F 9:45-11:00 am

**Class Location:** L2100

**Lab:** M 11:15a-12:30p; 2:30-3:45 pm

**Office:** L2088

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Phone:** 410-2000 Ext. 5911

**E-Mail:** [aho@ambrose.edu](mailto:aho@ambrose.edu)

**Required Texts**

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

**On Reserve**

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

**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 17, 19	Chapter 1 –Scientific Thinking in Psychology
Sept 24	Chapter 2 – Ethics in Psychological Research
Sept 26, Oct 1	Chapter 3 – Developing Ideas for Research in Psychology
Oct 3, 8	Chapter 4 – Measurement and Data Analysis
Oct 10, 15	Chapter 5 – Introduction to Experimental Research
Oct 17, 22	Chapter 6 – Control Problems in Experimental Research
<b>Oct 24</b>	<b>Unit Exam #1</b> (Chapters 1-6)
Oct 29, 31	Chapter 7 – Experimental Design I: Single-Factor Designs
Nov 5, 7	Chapter 8 – Experimental Design II: Factorial Designs
Nov 12, 14	Chapter 9 – Correlational Research
Nov 19, 21	Chapter 10 – Quasi-Experimental Designs and Applied Research
Nov 26, 28	Chapter 11 – Small N Designs
Dec 3, 5	Chapter 12 – Observational and Survey Research Methods

Dec 10

Revision

**Fall 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 3**. 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%)	<b>50%</b>
Examinations (2 x 15%)	<b>30%</b>
Final Assignment (Research Proposal)	<b>20%</b>

### **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 26**
- Last day to voluntarily withdraw from course or change to audit without academic penalty: .....**Nov 21**
- It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with, and adhere to, Ambrose University College 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 2008**

**Teaching Assistant: Ms. Kristen Desjarlais deKlerk**

**Office:** L2048

**Office Phone:** TBA

**Lab Time:** M 11:15a-12:30p; 2:30-3:45 pm

**Lab Location:** TBA

**E-Mail:** [kristen.desjarlais@uleth.ca](mailto:kristen.desjarlais@uleth.ca) or [kdesjarlais@ambrose.edu](mailto:kdesjarlais@ambrose.edu)

**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: Annotated Bibliography	Sep 22
LAB 2: Literature Review	Sep 29
LAB 3: Operationalizing Research Questions	Oct 6
LAB 4: Testing Hypotheses	Oct 20
LAB 5: Data Description, Interpretation & Presentation	Oct 27
LAB 6: Field Research	Nov 3
LAB 7: Content Analysis	Nov 10
LAB 8: Research Proposal	Nov 17
LAB 9: Correlational Research	Nov 24
LAB 10: Interview/Survey	Dec 1