

Evidence of Learning: Research Methods

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Program Learning Goals	Measurable Learning Outcome	Method of Measurement	Findings Linked to Learning Outcomes	Interpretation of Findings	Action Plan/Use of Results
Students will...	Students will...	Direct and Indirect Measures*			
Goal 1: Knowledge. Students will understand psychology as a scientific discipline. Essential to this, students will understand a core set of statistical and methodological knowledge regarding how psychologists critically evaluate, creatively test, and scientifically defend psychological claims. They will also understand a core set of content knowledge addressing the biological, cognitive/behavioral, social/personality, and developmental aspects of behavior.	1.1: Students will be able to define key methodological concepts (e.g., <i>control groups, reliability etc.</i>) statistical processes (e.g., <i>hypothesis testing</i>) and research designs (e.g., Solomon 4 group design) central to learning methodology in psychology.	Measure 1: Between 10 and 45 MC questions on exams or quizzes Measure 2: Between 1 and 4 short answer or essay questions. Measure 3: Between 1 and 2 research papers in which designing a study plays a critical role.			
	1.2: Students will identify features and processes critical to the scientific method and distinguish the actual scientific method from idealized versions and other ways of analyzing knowledge claims.	Measure 1: Between 20 and 40 MC questions on exams or quizzes. Measure 2: Between 1 and 3 short answer or essay questions.			
	1.3: Students will be able critically evaluate research data, how they bear on hypotheses, derive implications for the next best study.	Measure 1: Between 2 and 10 MC questions on exams or quizzes Measure 2: Between 1 and 3 essay questions. Measure 3: A written discussion section of a research paper write-up in which students criticize their own study for its methodological weaknesses and implications for future research.			

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Goal 2: Application. Students will be able to critically apply psychological principles and research to explain social issues, inform public policy, solve problems, understand themselves, and achieve career goals.	1.1: Students will be able to critically evaluate research papers in areas outside their particular interests.	Measure 1: Between 0 and 5 MC questions on exams or quizzes Measure 2: Answers to between 1 and 3 short answer essays Measure 2: Assessments of between 0 and 2 in-class or on-line discussions.			
	2.2: Students will be able to critically evaluate scientific findings reported in the popular press or in textbooks.	Measure 1: Between 1 and 2 MC questions from exams. Measure 2: Between 0 and 2 homework assignment(s) Measure 3: Between 0 and 3 graded in-class or on-line discussion(s).			
	2.3: Students will describe the importance of research in the professional career options available to psychologists (e.g., <i>Clinical, Counseling, Educational, Research, and Industrial/Organizational Psychologist</i>)	Measure 1: Between 0 and 1 graded in-class or on-line discussion(s). Measure 2: Between 0 and 1 homework assignment.			

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Goal 3: Values/Ethics Students will share key beliefs, attitudes, and values adopted by scientific psychologists, which include (but are not limited to) skepticism and intellectual curiosity, respect for evidence, tolerance of ambiguity, respect for human diversity, and humility regarding the limits of their psychological knowledge and skills. Students will also grasp the spirit of the APA Code of Ethics, follow its guidelines, and recognize the necessity of ethical behavior in all aspects of the science and practice of psychology.	3A: Students will identify and adopt the beliefs, attitudes, and values necessary to be “scientists of behavior” (e.g., skepticism, curiosity, tolerance of ambiguity, and limits of knowledge).	Measure 1: Between 5 and 10 MC questions on exams or quizzes. Measure 2: Between 0 and 2 short answer questions n examples. Measure 3: Between 0 and 1 homework assignment(s). Measure 4: Pre-post analysis of the ungraded items on the <i>Psychology as a Science</i> Questionnaire.			
	3b: Students will identify the ethical obligations of research psychologists	Measure 1: Successfully earn a certificate by completing IRB Informed Consent training. Measure 2: Between 0 and 5 MC questions on exams ad quizzes. Measure 2: Between 0 and 2 homework assignments.			

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Goal 4: Interpersonal Relations and Communication Students will exhibit skills to professionally communicate their understanding of terms, concepts, research, and theories of the discipline to others via written and oral formats. Students will also have interpersonal skills necessary to effectively collaborate in groups with others who hold diverse opinions, beliefs, and attitudes.	Goal 1: Students will complete an research paper which demonstrates use of appropriate APA format and competence in presenting research ideas, methods, and results.	Measure 1: Competent use of APA format in an APA write-up. Measure 2: Competent presentation of the background and hypotheses in the research write-up Measure 3: Competent presentation of the methods and results sections in the research write-up.			
	Goal 2: Student will be orally present key research ideas	Measure 1: From 0 to 1 graded oral (group or individual) presentation of research ideas Measure 2: From 0 to 1 graded oral presentation of a chapter from texts.			
	Goal 3: Students will work together in sustained groups to design, execute, and analyze a research project.	Measure 1: Graded in-classes group participation and discussions.			