

Course Outline

Code: PSY300

Title: Advanced Methods in Psychology

School:	Social Sciences
Teaching Session:	Semester 1
Year:	2020
Course Coordinator:	Dr Peter Innes - pinnes@usc.edu.au
Course Moderator:	Dr Kate Mulgrew - kmulgrew@usc.edu.au

Please go to the USC website for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1 Description

This course acquaints you with a range of advanced statistical techniques used in psychological research, including analysis of variance and covariance, correlation, and simple and hierarchical regression. You will be required to formulate null and alternative hypotheses, identify and describe appropriate statistical techniques and correctly interpret statistical results, including identifying violation of appropriate assumptions and understanding choices for alternative statistical tests or data manipulation strategies. Statistical computing using the SPSS statistical package is an essential part of the course.

1.2 Field trips, WIL placements or activities required by professional accreditation

Activity	Details
Nil	Nil

2. What level is this course?

300 level Graduate - Independent application of graduate knowledge and skills. Meets AQF and professional requirements. May require pre-requisites and developing level knowledge/skills. Normally taken in the 3rd or 4th year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

Specific Learning Outcomes	Assessment tasks	Graduate Qualities or Professional Standards mapping
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:	You will be assessed on the learning outcomes in task/s:	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to:
Demonstrate knowledge of a range of statistical techniques used in psychological research	1, 2 and 3	Knowledgeable.

Specific Learning Outcomes On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:	Assessment tasks You will be assessed on the learning outcomes in task/s:	Graduate Qualities or Professional Standards mapping Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to:
Demonstrate knowledge and competence of SPSS	1, 2 and 3	Empowered. Knowledgeable.
Select and apply statistical techniques appropriate for the analysis of specific psychological data	1, 2 and 3	Creative and critical thinkers.
Justify the selection and use of appropriate statistical techniques	1, 2 and 3	Knowledgeable. Empowered.
Write and present research findings in a scientific fashion	1, 2 and 3	Empowered.

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [USC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1 Enrolment restrictions

Nil

5.2 Pre-requisites

PSY200 and PSY201

5.3 Co-requisites

Nil

5.4 Anti-requisites

Nil

5.5 Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Nil

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1 Grading scale

Standard – High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL)

6.2 Details of early feedback on progress

Practice quizzes, with access to answers, will be provided online in BlackBoard, aligned appropriately with the content material to be assessed in the first Task assessment in Week 5, in earlier weeks.

6.3 Assessment tasks

Task No.	Assessment Product	Individual or Group	Weighting %	What is the duration / length?	When should I submit?	Where should I submit it?
1	Quiz/zes	Individual	20%	50 minutes	Week 5	Quiz (Online Test)
2	Written Piece	Individual	30%	Data analysis and short answer	Week 13	Online Assignment Submission

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				questions of up to 100 words each		
3	Examination	Individual	50%	2 hours	Central Examination Period	Exam Venue
			100%			

Assessment 1: Class test

Goal:	Demonstrate an understanding of hypothesis testing, statistical techniques and interpretation of statistical results. You will be required to formulate null and alternative hypotheses, identify and describe appropriate statistical techniques and correctly interpret statistical results, including identification of violations of appropriate statistical assumptions
Product:	Quiz/zes
Format:	The multiple choice test will be open in week 5 through Blackboard, Assessments. Once begun, the test will have a limit of 50 minutes for completion. The test will comprise 20 multiple choice questions relating to the coursework presented during weeks 1 to 5.
Criteria:	This task will be assessed according to levels of achievement in the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • correct formulation of null and alternative hypotheses • identification of appropriate statistical techniques • correct interpretation of statistical results

Assessment Task 2: Assignment

Goal:	Demonstrate the ability to conduct data analysis using SPSS and interpret the findings
Product:	Written Piece
Format:	You will be provided with a data set and instructions via Blackboard and required to answer three structured questions each worth 10 percent of the total marks for the course (total of 30 percent for this structured assignment). Each of the questions will require you to analyse data, provide answers in correct APA format and to interpret the results appropriately. The Assignment instructions and data set will be provided in Week 8. Answers are to be provided into Blackboard, Assessments, Task 2.
Criteria:	This task will be assessed according to levels of achievement in the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • selection of the correct statistical analyses • correct application of analyses chosen • correct interpretation of the results of the analyses

Assessment Task 3: Final examination

Goal:	Demonstrate the ability to select appropriate statistical techniques to data types; demonstrate the ability to interpret statistical output provided. The exam will require the selection of appropriate statistical techniques for analysing different types of data, and the interpretation of statistical output. The examination will cover material drawn from all lectures and computer workshops.
Product:	Examination
Format:	You will sit a two-hour examination during the end of semester examination period.
Criteria:	This task will be assessed according to levels of achievement in the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • selection of the correct statistical analyses • correct interpretation of the results of the analyses

7. Directed study hours

The directed study hours listed here are a portion of the workload for this course. A 12 unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Directed study hours may vary by location. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

Location:	Directed study hours for location:
Sippy Downs	Lecture: 2 hours per week. Computer Workshop: 1 hour per week

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note that course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Blackboard site. Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1 Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Information regarding prescribed texts or other associated resources will be made available on the BlackBoard site prior to commencement of study.

8.2 Specific requirements

Nil

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low.

It is your responsibility as a student to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers, and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study. It is also your responsibility to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online Health Safety and Wellbeing training module for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1 Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Blackboard, are electronically checked through SafeAssign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that SafeAssign has access to.

10.2 Assessment: Additional requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

- The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%
- The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

c) You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3 Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks will be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task's identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- 10% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the third day
- 20% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late.

To request an extension, you must contact your Course Coordinator and supply the required documentation to negotiate an outcome.

10.4 Study help

In the first instance, you should contact your tutor, then the Course Coordinator. Additional assistance is provided to all students through Academic Skills Advisers. To book an appointment or find a drop-in session go to [Student Hub](#).

Contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au

10.5 Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Administration of Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Academic Misconduct
- Students with a Disability

Visit the USC website:

<http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.6 General Enquiries

In person:

- **USC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **USC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **USC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **USC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **USC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au