

ISN515 Research Methods

Unit Description

Research Methods introduces students to quantitative advanced research methods. Qualitative research methodologies and other advanced techniques will be taught. Students will demonstrate the ability to use established data sets to complete various quantitative and qualitative analysis, and complete a mixed method analysis and complete a report integrating both data sets.

Recommended Textbooks and Readings

Giles, D. (2008). Advanced research methods in psychology. NY: Routledge.s. [epub]

*Textbooks may be subject to change prior to the start of semester

Administrative Details

Associated higher education awards	Duration	Core or Elective	Level	Unit Coordinator	Other Teaching Staff
Master of Psychology (Clinical)	One semester	Core	Fifth year, Semester 2	Dr Helen Nasser	N/A

Research Methods Course Outline

Topic	Lecture topic	Date	Readings	Lecturer
1	Introduction to research methods	Week 1	Assigned readings	Dr Helen Nasser
2	Power analysis	Week 2	Assigned readings	Dr Helen Nasser
3	Dealing with missing values	Week 3	Assigned readings	Dr Helen Nasser
4	The concept of data modelling: Introduction	Week 4	N/A	Dr Helen Nasser
5	The concept of data modelling: Mediation and moderation	Week 5	Assigned readings	Dr Helen Nasser
6	Discriminant functions analysis	Week 6	Assigned readings	Dr Helen Nasser
7	Meta-analysis	Week 7	Assigned readings	Dr Helen Nasser
8	The concept of intervention analysis	Week 8	N/A	Dr Helen Nasser
9	Effect size	Week 9	Assigned readings	Dr Helen Nasser
10	Clinical significance	Week 10	Assigned readings	Dr Helen Nasser
11	Qualitative analysis	Week 11	Assigned readings	Dr Helen Nasser
12	Review	Week 12	Assigned readings	Dr Helen Nasser

Learning Outcomes and Assessments

Learning outcomes for Unit	Assessment tasks		
	Type	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting (% of total marks for unit)
Understand quantitative advanced research methods including: ANCOVA; MANOVA; discriminant function analysis; regressions and structural equation modelling; and data reduction [factor and cluster analysis]	Exam [50 item multiple choice items and 5 short answer test items]	Year 4, semester 1, examination period	40%
Understand qualitative research methodologies including: grounded theory, discourse analysis, ethnographies, feminist approach and other advanced techniques [including self-generated data; Q method and meta-analysis]	Exam – see above		
Demonstrate the ability to use established data sets to complete various quantitative and qualitative analysis	Data analysis assignments	Year 4, semester 1, various weeks	20%
Demonstrate the ability to complete a mixed method analysis and complete a report integrating both data sets	Data analysis assignments	Year 4, semester 1, various weeks	20%

Learning outcomes for Unit	Assessment tasks		
	Type	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting (% of total marks for unit)
Understand issues of statistics and design and demonstrate critical decision making to ensure completion of appropriate qualitative and quantitative analyses on various data sets	Online activities and Class Participation	Year 4, throughout semester 1	20%

Delivery mode

Face to face onsite and E-learning (online) components

Full-time or Part-time study

Pre-requisites and co-requisites

Successful completion of all year 5, semester 1 units.

Other Resources and Requirements

None.

Unit weighting as a percentage of the year

Unit credit points	Total course credit points
10	200

Student workload

No. face-to-face client contact hours per week	No. other clinical work e.g., assessments, case notes, client report writing etc.	Total clinical workload hours per week
1x2 hour lecture (online); 1x2 Practical	6	10

**Unit outlines may be subject to change.*