

ISN515 Research Methods

Unit Description

Research Methods focuses on the important methodological and design issues underlying applied human research, describing the essential features of a range of advanced statistical and methodological techniques. Qualitative research methodologies and advanced quantitative techniques will be taught. Students will acquire the ability to assess and validate clinical research, understand differences in clinical and statistical significance, and critique current research. Students will become familiar with statistical programs and APA formatting conventions.

Administrative Details

| Associated higher education awards | Duration | Core or Elective | Level |
|------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Master of Psychology (Clinical) | One semester | Core | Fifth year, Semester 2 |

Unit weighting as a percentage of the year

| Unit credit points | Total course credit points |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 10 | 200 |

Student workload

| No. timetabled hours per week | No. personal study hours per week | Total workload hours per week |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 3 (1x2 hour lecture; 1x1 hour practical) | 6 | 9 |

Learning Outcomes and Assessments

| Learning outcomes for Unit: Upon successful completion of this unit, the student should be able to: | |
|---|--|
| I. | To understand advanced quantitative research methods and inferential analysis techniques including ANCOVA, MANOVA, regression and data reduction. |
| II. | To understand qualitative research methodologies including: grounded theory, discourse analysis, and other advanced techniques (including Q-method and meta-analysis). |
| III. | Demonstrate the ability to complete a critical evaluation of current clinical research, in APA formatting. |
| IV. | To understand issues of statistics and design and demonstrate critical decision making to ensure completion of appropriate qualitative and quantitative analyses on various data sets. |
| V. | To understand the review process for publication. |

Overview of Assessment Tasks

| Assessment Tasks | Weighting (% of total marks for unit) | Unit Learning Outcomes |
|---|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Exam [50 item MCT and two out of five short answer] 2 hours | 40% | I, II, IV, V |
| Essay (1500 words) | 40% | III, IV |
| Class Participation (Discussions) | 20% | I, II, III, IV, V |

Delivery mode

Face to face on site with 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 Resource and Requirements

None.

**Unit outlines may be subject to change. The most up-to-date outlines will be provided to students once the semester commences*