

## **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

**NOTE:** ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTTPC.

**Academic School/Department:** Communications, Arts and Social Sciences

**Programme:** Psychology

**FHEQ Level:** 5

**Course Title:** Quantitative Methods in Psychology

**Course Code:** PSY 5205

**Course Leader:** Dr Ira Konstantinou

**Student Engagement Hours:** 160

Lectures: 20

Laboratory: 45

Independent / Guided Learning: 95

**Semester:** Fall

**Credits:** 16 UK CATS credits

8 ECTS credits

4 US credits

### **Course Description:**

This course is designed to introduce students to the various stages of quantitative research within the Psychology discipline. Students will gain experience doing research and deriving topic questions. In addition, students will learn to formally critique empirical work. The course is designed as a laboratory course; extensive student participation is required. Upon completion of this course, students will have mastered the basic steps for conducting independent research, with ethical and laboratory constraints following APA guidelines.

**Prerequisites:** PSY 3100 and MTH 4120 and PSY 4205.

### **Aims and Objectives:**

This course aims to provide students with the training and experience in quantitative research methods used within psychology. It will outline the steps for conducting formal quantitative research and will deepen students' awareness of the importance of conducting good empirical research. Students will appreciate the value of rigorous scientific principles in research and will become familiar with performing statistical analyses within the context of a research question. They will be using APA standards to write a study proposal and report.

**Programme Outcomes:**

5B.i, 5Bii, 5Biii, 5Diii

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the Departmental/Schools page of the portal.

**Learning Outcomes:**

- Develop a detailed understanding of the experimental methods used in psychology
- Gain insight into the best methodology to use given the phenomenon in question
- Develop the ability to design, conduct, analyze, and interpret an experimental study.
- Develop the ability to use statistical software to analyze data and being able to interpret the result tables.
- Develop the ability to write a study proposal and report according to APA standards

**Indicative Content:**

- Finding a good journal paper
- Writing a research proposal
- Survey methods and Questionnaire design
- Frequency distributions
- Means and SDs
- IV, DV and CV
- Normal Distribution
- Which test to use and Methodology
- Correlation tests and interpretation
- Writing a research report
- Ethics in research
- Experimental Design: t-test, ANOVA

**Assessment:**

The module is evaluated as follows:

Type of assessment	Length per item	Weighting per item	Total assessment
Experimental study proposal	1000	20%	1 two-hour final exam plus 4000-5000
Laboratory take-home exam	1000	15%	
Laboratory SPSS problem sheets	1000	10%	
Experimental study report	2000	25%	
Final exam		30%	

This course follows Richmond University **Atypical Assessment Norms** approved by Academic Council on 28 June 2012.

**Teaching Methodology:**

The course material will be covered in the following ways:

- I. Lecture presentations with the key concepts

