

# BEHV 1003 INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS

**Credit Points** 10

**Legacy Code** 101190

**Coordinator** Elle Coleman ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Elle Coleman/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Elle%20Coleman/))

**Description** This subject covers the conceptual underpinnings of research in psychology, including methodologies such as experimental, quasi-experimental, non-experimental and qualitative research. Conducting ethical research will be covered, including consideration of how research participants are positioned, issues related to research with diverse populations, as well research validity. Skills for writing research proposals and reports according to the conventions of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA) are developed.

**School** Psychology

**Discipline** Behavioural Science, Not Elsewhere Classified.

**Student Contribution Band** HECS Band 4 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees ([https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/fees/](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/)) page.

**Level** Undergraduate Level 1 subject

## Learning Outcomes

1. Define and explain basic terminology, logic and procedures used in qualitative and quantitative research (APAC Graduate Attribute 1.1i, 1.1xii, 1.3)
2. Identify and apply appropriate criteria to evaluate research approaches and findings, including ethics and diversity considerations, including for Indigenous Australians (APAC GA 1.1xi, 1.1xii, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4)
3. Select and explain appropriate research skills for problems under investigation in psychology (APAC GA 1.1xii, 1.3)
4. Explain alignment of analytical procedures with research methods (APAC GA 1.1xii)
5. Demonstrate the capacity to design basic research, individually and as part of a group (APAC GA 1.1xii, 1.5, 1.6)
6. Demonstrate academic writing skills using the American Psychological Association (APA) structure and formatting conventions (APAC GA 1.3, 1.6)

## Subject Content

1. The scientific method and psychology: Why study research methods?
2. Epistemology and research paradigms: Constructivism, positivism, realism
3. Overview of qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods
4. Qualitative research I: Key approaches (e.g. grounded theory, phenomenology)
5. Qualitative research II: Qual research design and techniques in data analysis
6. Quantitative research I: Research hypotheses; IVs and DVs
7. Quantitative research II: Research design; experimental and correlational
8. Quantitative research III: Sampling and hypothesis testing

9. Quantitative research IV: Descriptive statistics; central tendency and variance
10. Writing research proposals and reports
11. Research validity: Threats to internal and external validity, controlling extraneous variables
12. Research ethics and diverse populations

## Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Type	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/Group Task
Annotated Bibliography	1,000 words	30	N	Individual
Applied Project	800-1000 words	30	N	Individual
Quiz	6 short online quizzes on lecture content	20	N	Individual
Final Exam	2 hours	20	N	Individual

## WSU Online Trimester 3

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Type	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/Group Task
Proposal	2,000 words	50	N	Individual
Quiz	6 quizzes of 6 questions each	20	N	Individual
Final Exam	2 hours	30	N	Individual

Teaching Periods

## Spring (2023)

### Bankstown City

#### On-site

**Subject Contact** Samuel Arnold ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Samuel Arnold/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Samuel%20Arnold/))

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=BEHV1003\\_23-SPR\\_BK\\_1#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=BEHV1003_23-SPR_BK_1#subjects))

### Penrith (Kingswood)

#### On-site

**Subject Contact** Samuel Arnold ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Samuel Arnold/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Samuel%20Arnold/))

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=BEHV1003\\_23-SPR\\_KW\\_1#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=BEHV1003_23-SPR_KW_1#subjects))

### Parramatta - Victoria Rd

#### On-site

**Subject Contact** Samuel Arnold ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Samuel Arnold/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Samuel%20Arnold/))

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=BEHV1003\\_23-SPR\\_PS\\_1#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=BEHV1003_23-SPR_PS_1#subjects))

## WSU Online TRI-3 (2023)

### Wsu Online

#### Online

**Subject Contact** Rosalind Priestman ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Rosalind Priestman/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Rosalind%20Priestman/))

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=BEHV1003\\_23-OT3\\_OW\\_2#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=BEHV1003_23-OT3_OW_2#subjects))

## Summer (2023)

### Bankstown City

#### On-site

**Subject Contact** Elle Coleman ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Elle Coleman/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Elle%20Coleman/))

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=BEHV1003\\_23-SUM\\_BK\\_1#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=BEHV1003_23-SUM_BK_1#subjects))

## WSU Online TRI-2 (2024)

### Wsu Online

#### Online

**Subject Contact** Samuel Arnold ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Samuel Arnold/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Samuel%20Arnold/))

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/even/timetable/?subject\\_code=BEHV1003\\_24-OT2\\_OW\\_2#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/even/timetable/?subject_code=BEHV1003_24-OT2_OW_2#subjects))

## Spring (2024)

### Bankstown City

#### On-site

**Subject Contact** Samuel Arnold ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Samuel Arnold/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Samuel%20Arnold/))

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/even/timetable/?subject\\_code=BEHV1003\\_24-SPR\\_BK\\_1#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/even/timetable/?subject_code=BEHV1003_24-SPR_BK_1#subjects))

### Penrith (Kingswood)

#### On-site

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