

HDE 120: Research Methods
Spring 2023
Tuesdays/Thursdays 8:30-9:50am PDT
Veihmeyer Hall 212

Professor Meng Huo, PhD

Email: mmhuo@ucdavis.edu

Office: 1361 Hart Hall

Office hours: Tuesdays 10:00-noon

Teaching Assistants:

Sections	A01	A02	A03	A04
TA	Tseng Vang	Amira Patrawala	Tammy Wang	Van Pham
Email	tmvang@ucdavis.edu	apatrawala@ucdavis.edu	mywang@ucdavis.edu	vttpham@ucdavis.edu
Lab time	T 2:10-5:00pm	T 5:10-8:00pm	W 1:10-4:00pm	R 2:10-5:00pm
Office hours	M 12:00-2:00pm	W 10:00-noon	T 10:00-noon	W 9:00-11:00am

Course Objectives:

This course is designed to introduce you to methodological issues in the scientific inquiry of human development and to help you become critical consumers of research. Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Critically evaluate empirical research with respect to research design, analysis, and interpretation of results
- Formulate scientific hypotheses
- Design a study and collect data to test a scientific hypothesis
- Use basic statistics to answer empirical questions
- Write in APA style. Communicate your research ideas and present results with clarity and precision.

Required Textbooks:

McBurney, D. H. & White, T. L. (2013). *Research Methods, 9th Edition*. Belmont, CA: Thompson Wadsworth.

Any edition 6-9 is okay

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7th Edition*. Washington, DC: APA.

Statistical software:

SPSS is needed to complete lab assignments for this course. You can access SPSS remotely via [the Virtual Computer Lab](#) (available in the evening and on weekends). Please read instructions carefully and reach out to labmanager@ucdavis.edu for IT support. If you prefer to have SPSS installed on your computer or find it frustrating to log into the computer lab, you can purchase a license from the university or external websites, or rent the SPSS 29.0 BASE graduate pack for 6 months for \$34.95 (<https://studentdiscounts.com/>).

We will use iClicker for in class practice questions. Please make sure to follow [the instructions](#) to install a free iClicker student app, create an account using your ucdavis email address, and add this class (join code: **XLUG**). Or you can go to join.iClicker.com to join class using the same code.

Prerequisites:

Elementary statistics is a prerequisite (including Stat 13, Ed 14, Psych 41, Soc 46A, Soc 46B). It is expected that you have a basic knowledge of statistics (e.g., means, standard deviations, t-test, ANOVA, p values) before you take this course, or you will likely struggle.

Email Correspondence:

TAs and I make every effort to respond to email within 2 working days or less. In order to maintain a quick response time, email correspondence should be brief. If your questions are longer than 5 lines, or if you have questions that require long responses, please schedule an online appointment instead. Please include **HDE 120** and a brief description in the subject line of your message to decrease the likelihood that your message gets filtered into junk email.

Enrollment Policy:

There is a heavy emphasis on written assignments. In order to facilitate timely feedback on assignments, we are unable to add students off of the waitlist. You may only attend the section in which you are enrolled. HDE 120 is currently offered every quarter.

Academic Integrity:

The UC Davis Code of Academic Conduct exists to support high standards of behavior and to ensure fair evaluation of student learning. If there is evidence of cheating or plagiarism, you will receive a zero on the assignment. Some examples of academic dishonesty include submitting someone else's work under your own name, collaborating with someone else on an individual project, or including another person's written words or ideas into your work without appropriate citation. Students are to complete exams and assignments individually and not discuss the content of the exams with other students. Academic dishonesty also includes using all or part of an assignment you have completed from another class and submitting these for this class. Students who violate the Code of Academic Conduct are subject to disciplinary sanctions that include censure, probation, suspension, deferred separation or dismissal from the University of California.

Unauthorized collaboration:

<https://ossja.ucdavis.edu/collaboration-when-you-can-and-when-you-cant-work-others>

Plagiarism: **We have ZERO TOLERANCE for plagiarism, period.**

<https://ossja.ucdavis.edu/avoiding-plagiarism-mastering-art-scholarship>

Grades and Assignments:

Your final grade will include your lecture grade (40%) and your lab grade (60%). Your lecture grade will be based on your scores on exams and quizzes. Your lab grade will be based on your participation, your scores on the assignments, and the final paper (see below).

There is no curve on your grade, and your grade will be calculated automatically on Canvas.

Grade	Cutoff
A+	97%
A	93%
A-	90%
B+	87%
B	84%
B-	80%
C+	77%
C	74%
C-	70%
D	60%
F	<60%
NO CURVE	

Lectures:

I do not take attendance but please attend class **as much as you can** since the lectures include interactive discussions, and practice questions that would be helpful for understanding course materials.

Veihmeyer 212 is not equipped with Lecture Capture.

Exams (90% of the lecture grade): There will be 3 closed-book/notes exams during class time on: **Apr 20** (Exam 1), **May 11** (Exam 2), and **June 8** (Exam 3). Exams must be taken in person. Each exam includes 30 multiple-choice questions and has to be completed within 60 minutes. If you arrive late by over 30 minutes, you will not be allowed to take exam anymore.

Exam 3 will be cumulative. There will be different versions of the exams. Please complete your exams **INDEPENDENTLY**.

Make-up exams will not be possible except for uncontrollable emergencies—plan your schedules accordingly. If there are emergencies, please reach out to Professor Huo before exam and provide documentation. No make-up exam shall be scheduled after designated exam time.

Quizzes (8% of the lecture grade): There will be three 8-minute quizzes on the Tuesdays of week #2 (**Apr 11**), #5 (**May 2**), and #8 (**May 23**), available online from 7pm to 9pm. To clarify, you can complete the quizzes any time between 7pm to 9pm but the quizzes are limited to 8 minutes. The quizzes will cover materials from the prior week lectures. The purpose of having quizzes is to review key knowledge and to familiarize you with the kind of questions that you will see on exams. The quizzes will each consist of 4 questions. Only the two higher scores will be counted towards the final quiz score (i.e., the lowest one will be dropped). There are multiple versions of the quizzes. Please complete your quizzes independently.

Surveys (2% of the lecture grade): There are two surveys (1pt each) on Canvas. One survey is about plagiarism (due **Apr 16**) and the other is about virtual library access (due **May 7**).

Extra credits: You may earn up to 2 points by contributing to research. More instructions re: the SONA system will be uploaded to Canvas.

Labs:

Labs will take place in Hutchison 75. There are 9 mandatory lab sessions and the last one is optional.

Lab policies: Attendance is critical and mandatory, as the lab component of this course is active and participatory.

1. A total of 15% of your lab grade (i.e., 150pts) is based on participation in in-class activities and discussions. Please plan accordingly. There will be several online experiments for you to complete throughout the quarter. These experiments provide the data for your lab section to analyze. Because sections are small, full participation is necessary to statistically test hypotheses. Your participation in these experiments is worth 60 points. In addition, you will receive 10 points each time you attend lab and complete in class activities. Activities are dependent on each student's participation, so 5 points will be deducted if you arrive late or leave early by 15 minutes.
2. Please make sure to attend the lab section in which you are enrolled. If you need to miss lab, you may attend a different section that week, with permission from both TAs, to get the information missed. There will be no penalty for the first time, but 5 points will be deducted for participation if you switch labs again.
3. Papers/assignments are due at the beginning of lab. All lab assignments should be typed per APA style. For all assignments you should upload an electronic copy as an attachment via the Assignments mechanism on Canvas. Late assignments receive an automatic deduction of 10% for each day late. "Late" means that the electronic copy is turned in more than 10 minutes after the start of lab and "day" constitutes a 24-hour period. We don't accept late assignments if they are more than 1 week late, and those assignments will receive a score of 0.
4. Because of the labor-intensive nature of grading the assigned course papers, we are unable to read/comment on drafts of papers before the due date. We are, however, happy to answer or review any specific questions you may have about the written assignments. Please contact the Academic Assistant and Tutoring Center if you need additional writing support and resources (<https://tutoring.ucdavis.edu/>).

Assignment Breakdown: 1,000 points total

Assignment	Lab Grade	Time Assigned	Time Due
APA worksheet #1	10	Lab 1	Lab 2
APA worksheet #2	10	Lab 1	Lab 3
APA worksheet #3	10	Lab 1	Lab 4
IRB certification	20	Lab 1	Lab 6
t-test	50	Lab 2	Lab 3
One-way ANOVA	100	Lab 4	Lab 5
Article critique	100	Lab 4	Lab 6
Two-way ANOVA	100	Lab 5	Lab 7
Group project proposal	150	Lab 5	Lab 8
Final paper	300	Lab 8	See next page
Participation	150		
Total	1,000		

Resources:

Please note that your professor and TA are required to report certain information related to students' health and safety (e.g., if we learn of sexual violence or if we suspect a student or others may be at risk of harm). Please be aware that if you report anything personal that falls into one of these categories during any assignment or when meeting with us, we may have to report this information to the relevant reporting agency. If you are experiencing distress and would like to discuss this with a confidential resource, you can ask the professor or TA, and we can connect you with confidential resources.

Please see [this link](#) for a summary of resources. In addition, please check out the campus resources below.

Student Academic Success Center: <http://lsc.ucdavis.edu>. Location: 2205 Dutton Hall. (530) 752-2013. They offer appointments and drop-in consultations on writing. Clear and correct writing is a requirement in this class, so please take advantage of the SASC resources if you need help with your basic writing skills.

Student Disability Center (SDC): <http://sdc.ucdavis.edu>. Location: 54 Cowell Building. (530) 752-3184.

Determine eligibility for academic accommodations; provide specialized academic support; request accommodations; notetaker services; mobility assistance.

- UC Davis is **committed to educational equity** in the academic setting, and in serving a diverse student body. I encourage all students who are interested in learning more about the Student Disability Center (SDC) to contact them directly. If you require academic accommodations, please submit your SDC Letter of Accommodation as soon as possible, ideally within the first two weeks of this course.

Graduate Writing Consultations: <http://writing.ucdavis.edu/programsservices/graduate-writing-consultations>.

Location: 109 Voorhies. (530) 752-6283. One-on-one appointments.

Counseling Services: <https://shcs.ucdavis.edu/counseling-services>. Location: 219 North Hall. (530) 752-2349.

Mental health and psychological services, including individual counseling, group services, community advising network, career counseling, community referrals, eating disorder services. Individual Counseling is confidential short-term therapy available to all registered UC Davis students at no charge. Counseling Services are by appointment only. For immediate mental health crisis assistance: Call to schedule an appointment in Acute Care at the Student Health and Wellness Center 530-752-2349; After-hours assistance by phone 530-752-2349 (follow the prompts); Yolo County Suicide Prevention - available 24 hours every day: 530-756-5000.

Student Health and Wellness Center: <https://shcs.ucdavis.edu/medical-services>. Location: 930 Orchard Road. (530) 752-2349. Medical services, including mental health acute care services on the 1st floor during normal hours of operation.

Center for Advocacy, Resources & Education (CARE): <http://care.ucdavis.edu/>. Call/email CARE for campus location. (530) 752-3299. ucdcare@ucdavis.edu. On-campus, confidential resource for anyone who has experienced or is concerned for someone who has experienced any form of sexual violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, domestic/dating violence, and stalking. Provides 24/7 emergency response, crisis intervention, and support.

AB540 and Undocumented Student Center: <http://undocumented.ucdavis.edu/>. Location: 1003 Student Community Center. (530) 752-9538. Undocumented student and financial support; grants; legal advice; emotional and academic support; and community outreach.

International & Academic English Program: <http://esl.ucdavis.edu>. Location: 1350 The Grove (Surge III). (530) 752-6799. Provides language courses and summer intensive programs, coordinating with academic advising, etc.

Services for International Students and Scholars (SISS): <https://siss.ucdavis.edu/>. Location: University House. (530) 752-0864. Assists international students and scholars in maintaining their legal status while in the United States. SISS also provides orientation, assistance, information, and referral regarding financial, personal, cultural, and academic concerns.

The Mind Spa: Located on the 2nd floor of the Student Health and Wellness Center in the CAPS Clinic:

<https://shcs.ucdavis.edu/services/mindspa.html>. The Mind Spa offers the use of massaging recliners, biofeedback, insomnia programs, yoga classes, and mindful relaxation resources, free of charge. It also offers student advocacy services that are provided by trained listeners who have the skills to help students to process and understand their thoughts and feelings.

Readings and Class Schedule (Please also check Modules on Canvas):

The readings for the course should be read the week they are assigned and will appear on the exams. (MW = text; APA = APA manual)

Week	Reading (VER. 9)	Lab
1. Tues Apr 4 Thurs Apr 6	MW: Ch 1: Psychology and Science Ch 2: Developing a Research Question Ch 5: Variables APA: pp. 3-10, 29-49, 112-164	Lab 1 Exp #1
2. Tues Apr 11: QUIZ 1 Thurs Apr 13	MW: Ch 4: Writing in Psychology Ch 6: Validity APA: pp. 165-250	Lab 2
3. Tues Apr 18	MW: Ch 3: Ethics in Research Ch 14: Data Exploration: Graphic and Descriptive Techniques APA: pp. 11-26, 71-93, 225-309, 312-359	Lab 3
Thurs Apr 20: EXAM 1		
4. Tues Apr 25 Thurs Apr 27	MW: Ch 7: Control Ch 10: True Experiments: Single Factor Designs	Lab 4 Exp #2
5. Tues May 2: QUIZ 2 Thurs May 4	MW: Ch 11: True Experiments: Factorial Designs	Lab 5 Exp #3
6. Tues May 9	MW: Ch 15: Data Exploration: Inferential Statistics	Lab 6
Thurs May 11: EXAM 2		
7. Tues May 16 Thurs May 18	MW: Ch 12: Single-Subject Experiments Ch 13: Quasi Experiments	Lab 7
8. Tues May 23: QUIZ 3 Thurs May 25	MW: Ch 8: Nonexperimental Research: Observational, Archival, and Case-Study Research	Lab 8
9. Tues May 30 Thurs June 1	MW: Ch 9: Nonexperimental Research: Survey Research	Lab 9
10. Tues June 6	Epilogue: Biases and Limitations of Experimental Psychology	Lab 10
Thurs June 8: EXAM 3		
Sun June 11 11:59pm	Final paper due Via Assignments on Canvas	1 electronic copy

Note. The final paper is considered the final exam for this course. Late work policy does NOT apply. If you do not turn in the paper by the end of June 11, you will receive a score of zero. Arrangements can be made to turn in the paper to TA early, if desired.