



COURSE UNIT INFORMATION SHEET (SYLLABUS)

2020/2021

Name
RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY: BASICS NOTIONS
Teaching staff (Also indicate the Professor in charge) MÁRIO FERREIRA (coordinator) LEONEL GARCIA MARQUES ISABEL JANEIRO DIANA ORGHIAN TOMÁS PALMA
ECTS 6
Functioning The course works with a general theoretical class for all students and eight practical classes with registration limits. The practical classes are alternated weekly. That is, from the 8 practical classes only 4 have classes in each week. Theoretical classes are simultaneously face-to-face and virtual (via Zoom): face-to-face for students in the practical classes that have classes that week, and virtual for the remaining students. Face-to-face attendance occurs in alternate weeks.
Learning goals 1. To grasp the general characteristics of research in science and develop an informed attitude with regard to the merits of scientific research. 2. To know the basic features of research in psychology.



3. To know the basic characteristics of the experimental method.
4. To know the characteristics of the different research methods used in psychology.
5. To know the characteristics of the ethics of research in psychology and have a favorable attitude to your application in a humanistic perspective of science.
6. To acquire skills of critical evaluation of research in psychology.
7. To acquire basic skills of planning, monitoring and writing scientific research.

Skills to be developed

A critical understanding of the scientific method, the development of a critical attitude with regard to research to good scientific and deontological practices, the acquisition of basic skills of critical evaluation, planning, monitoring and scientific writing of an investigation.

Prerequisites (precedences) *

None

Contents

1. What science is, the demarcation criteria, the scientific method, induction and refutability. 2. What effects are, what an explanation is, experimental and statistical control.
3. Hypothesis testing, experimental and factorial designs.
4. Validity, reliability, robustness, generality, replicability.
5. The practice of psychological research.
6. Scientific communication in Psychology: Oral and written forms of communication. The publication in psychology-APA editorial Style.
7. The methods of research in psychology.

Bibliography

D. Howitt and D. Cramer (2016). Introduction to research methods in psychology, Fifth Edition. Harlow, England: Pearson, Paperback.



Teaching methods

Theoretical lectures, problem solving in the classroom, planning and preparation of research projects

Evaluation Regimes (General and/or Alternative)

The approval in the Course Unit is conditional to the completion of the evaluation elements 1 and 2, with the student being able to choose to do element 3 or not. The final grade corresponds to the sum of the partial grades.

1. Group report. It consists of an experimental report (to be delivered at the time of exams - 5 points). The specific characteristics of the work and evaluation criteria will be made available in classes.
2. Exam (multiple choice) to be done in the normal exam period (10 points).
3. Participation in two experimental investigations (optional). Participation in experimental studies is encouraged and desirable, given its formative and pedagogical character while safeguarding the students' right to choose.

Students who participate in the studies are assigned a value (and the exam will now correspond to 9 values). For the students who do not participate in these studies, there is no attribution of this value (and the exam will continue to correspond to 10 values).

Additional information:

The delivery of the report is mandatory for the final evaluation. Note improvements will only be considered upon completion of the report and exam.

The reports are to be made in groups up to 5 elements, applying the APA rules (6aed). It should have 10 to 15 A4 pages (including a list of bibliographic references) with 2.5 margins and 1.5 interline spaces. Papers delivered without these specifications will not be accepted.

Considering the possibility of the emergence of a second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, the course contemplates an alternative evaluation plan to be explained by the teaching staff.

Evaluation Elements

(Dates due, weights, minimum required grades)

Each evaluation element has the following weight:

1. Group report: Total of 5 values. Delivery: 1st season - until 19 December 2020; 2nd season - until 8 February 2021.
2. Exam: Total of 15 values (if you choose not to perform element 3) or 14 values if you perform element 3. - Dates to be announced.
3. Participation in two experimental studies - Registration according to the schedule provided by the teachers (1 point, optional).

The final grade corresponds to the sum of the partial grades. However, to obtain approval in the course unit, it is necessary to obtain a passing grade in the exam.

Rules for grade improvement

Students who have passed the 2019-2020 academic year and intend to improve their grades will be able to take the exam of the current academic year. Regarding the group report, they must deliver a new one using the data collected in the last year and write a new report.

To students enrolled for the first time, the grade improvement can be achieved with the delivery in the 2nd season of the assessment elements to be delivered during the exam period (i.e., reflection question and report).

The group report is an element of continuous assessment and, therefore, can only be improved in the next academic year.

Rules for students having previously failed the course unit *

Repeating students must take the exam in the current academic year and must also deliver a new work (in this case, they can choose to use the data collected in the previous year and write a new report or to perform new group work in the current year).

Requirements on attendance and punctuality

In practical classes, attendance will be registered following the Faculty regulations.

Rules for special students

(workers, elite athletes, student body leaders, military, fathers/mothers, with special needs) *



Language of instruction

Portuguese

Disciplinary violations and penalties

According to the Evaluation of Learning Regulation of the Faculty of Psychology of the University of Lisbon, the following behaviors are considered as disciplinary offenses subject to disciplinary action:

- a) To use or attempt to use materials, information, notes, study resources or other objects and equipment not authorized in academic exercises;
- b) To help or try to help a colleague in committing a disciplinary offense;
- c) To submit the same written work for evaluation in different course units without permission from the instructors, even if with minor changes;
- d) To present someone else's work as one's own;
- e) To forge, or change without permission from the author, any information or citation in an academic work;
- f) To interfere, change or attempt to change grades;
- g) To try to prevent or interfere with the proper functioning of classes, research or other academic activities;
- h) To make false accusations regarding instructors, governance bodies, other students or non-teaching staff of the FPUL;
- i) To falsify signatures in attendance sheets, documents relating to evaluation elements or in any official document relating to an academic process or status.

Disciplinary offenses committed in any assessment element can lead to its annulment, and must be reported to the Pedagogical Council or, considering their gravity and repetition, may lead to other penalties, to be determined by the Rector of the University of Lisbon.

* If applicable