COURSE OUTLINE

PSY300 Advanced Methods in Psychology

School: School of Health - Psychology

2026 | Trimester 1

UniSC Sunshine Coast
UniSC Moreton Bay

BLENDED LEARNING

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Please go to unisc.edu.au for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

This course acquaints you with a range of advanced statistical techniques used in psychological research, including analysis of variance and covariance, correlation, and simple and hierarchical regression. You will be required to formulate null and alternative hypotheses, identify and describe appropriate statistical techniques and correctly interpret statistical results, including identifying violation of appropriate assumptions and understanding choices for alternative statistical tests or data manipulation strategies. Statistical computing using relevant statistical software is an essential part of the course.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
BLENDED LEARNING			
Learning materials – 1 hour online learning materials	1hr	Week 1	12 times
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – 2 hour on campus computer workshop	2hrs	Week 1	12 times

1.3. Course Topics

Null Hypothesis Significance Testing (NHST), Analysis of Variance (ANOVA), Analysis of Covariance (ANCOVA), Linear Regression, Assumptions, Effect Sizes

2. What level is this course?

300 Level (Graduate)

Demonstrating coherence and breadth or depth of knowledge and skills. Independent application of knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts. Meeting professional requirements and AQF descriptors for the degree. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory or developing knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally undertaken in the third or fourth full-time study year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES MAPPING	PROFESSIONAL STANDARD MAPPING *
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...	Australian Psychology Accreditation Council
1 Demonstrate knowledge of a range of statistical techniques used in psychological research.	Knowledgeable	1.1.12
2 Demonstrate knowledge and competence of relevant statistical software.	Knowledgeable Empowered	1.1.12
3 Select and apply statistical techniques appropriate for the analysis of specific psychological data.	Creative and critical thinker	1.1.12
4 Justify the selection and use of appropriate statistical techniques.	Knowledgeable Empowered	1.1.12
5 Write and present research findings in a scientific fashion.	Empowered	1.1.12

* Competencies by Professional Body

CODE	COMPETENCY
AUSTRALIAN PSYCHOLOGY ACCREDITATION COUNCIL	
1.1.12	Graduates will be able to comprehend and apply a broad and coherent body of knowledge of psychology, with depth of understanding of underlying principles, theories and concepts in the discipline, using a scientific approach, including research methods and statistics

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the UniSC Glossary of terms for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

PSY200 and PSY201 OR PSY207

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

5.5. Microcredential Information

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

Formative quizzes will provide early feedback. Please use this feedback to seek additional supports if necessary.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Quiz/zes	Individual	30%	60 minutes	Refer to Format	Online Test (Quiz)
All	2	Practical / Laboratory Skills, and Written Piece	Individual	40%	Data analysis and short answer questions (provide the correct statistical result), interpretation through correct response choice.	Refer to Format	Online Submission
All	3	Examination - Centrally Scheduled	Individual	30%	120 minutes	Exam Period	Online Test (Quiz)

All - Assessment Task 1: Quiz

GOAL:	Demonstrate an understanding of hypothesis testing, statistical techniques and interpretation of statistical results. The quiz is designed as a summative assessment to test students' knowledge and understanding of the learning material.
PRODUCT:	Quiz/zes
AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT:	
FORMAT:	This assessment task will be due between weeks 6 - 9 of the teaching trimester. The final date of submission for the quiz will be determined once public holidays and the course timetable have been published prior to the commencement of trimester. Please refer to your course Canvas site at the commencement of the teaching trimester to confirm the due date for this assessment task.
CRITERIA:	

No.		Learning Outcome assessed
1	Correct formulation of null and alternative hypotheses.	1 4
2	Identification of appropriate statistical techniques.	1
3	Correct interpretation of statistical results.	4

GENERIC SKILLS:	Problem solving, Applying technologies, Information literacy

All - Assessment Task 2: Data Analysis Assignment

GOAL:	Demonstrate the ability to conduct data analysis using SPSS and interpret the findings
PRODUCT:	Practical / Laboratory Skills, and Written Piece
AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT:	
FORMAT:	You will be provided with a data set and instructions via Canvas and required to answer structured questions. Some of the questions/sub-questions will require you to analyse data, provide answers in correct APA format and to interpret the results appropriately. This assessment task will be due between weeks 8 - 11 of the teaching trimester. The final date of submission for this task will be determined once public holidays and the course timetable have been published prior to the commencement of trimester. Please refer to your course Canvas site at the commencement of the teaching trimester to confirm the due date for this assessment task.
CRITERIA:	

No.		Learning Outcome assessed
1	Selection of the correct statistical analyses.	1
2	Correct application of analyses chosen.	2 3
3	Correct interpretation of the results of the analyses.	4 5

GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Applying technologies, Information literacy

All - Assessment Task 3: Final examination

GOAL:	Demonstrate the ability to select appropriate statistical techniques to data types; demonstrate the ability to interpret statistical output provided. The exam will require the selection of appropriate statistical techniques for analysing different types of data, and the interpretation of statistical output. The examination will cover material drawn from all lectures and workshops.
PRODUCT:	Examination - Centrally Scheduled
AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT:	
FORMAT:	You will sit a 2 hour examination during the end-of-trimester examination period.
CRITERIA:	

No.		Learning Outcome assessed
1	Selection of the correct statistical analyses.	1 4
2	Correct interpretation of the results of the analyses.	3 4

GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Applying technologies, Information literacy

6.4. Assessment to competency mapping

PROGRAMME DELIVERY MODE	ASSESSMENT TYPE	TITLE	COMPETENCY	TEACHING METHODS
APAC AUSTRALIAN PSYCHOLOGY ACCREDITATION COUNCIL ACCREDITATION STANDARDS: GRADUATE COMPETENCIES				
All delivery modes	Examination - Centrally Scheduled	Final examination	1.1.12	Taught, Practiced, Assessed
	Practical / Laboratory Skills, and Written Piece	Data Analysis Assignment	1.1.12	Taught, Practiced, Assessed
	Quiz/zes	Quiz	1.1.12	Taught, Practiced, Assessed

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

You need regular access to the resource(s) below. Many texts are available as ebooks through the Library at no additional cost.

REQUIRED?	AUTHOR	YEAR	TITLE	EDITION	PUBLISHER
Required	Andy Field	2024	Discovering Statistics Using IBM SPSS Statistics	6th	Sage Publications Limited

8.2. Specific requirements

Access to UniSC laboratories to use relevant statistical software or access to a stable internet connection to use the online laboratory to access relevant statistical software from outside UniSC

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the online induction training for students, and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:
(a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%; and
(b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submissions may be penalised up to and including the following maximum percentage of the assessment task's identified value, with weekdays and weekends included in the calculation of days late:
(a) One day: deduct 5%;
(b) Two days: deduct 10%;
(c) Three days: deduct 20%;
(d) Four days: deduct 40%;
(e) Five days: deduct 60%;
(f) Six days: deduct 80%;
(g) Seven days: A result of zero is awarded for the assessment task.

The following penalties will apply for a late submission for an online examination:
Less than 15 minutes: No penalty
From 15 minutes to 30 minutes: 20% penalty
More than 30 minutes: 100% penalty

10.4. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching

10.5. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The Student Charter sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

10.6. General Enquiries

For course-specific questions, contact your teaching staff or Course Coordinator.

For other enquiries or to access support, please contact Student Central:

- UniSC Student Central
- UniSC Adelaide Student Central