

**Course:** CO603 Research Methods & Techniques  
**Credit:** 3 credit hours  
**Semester:** Cycle 1 [July 6 – Aug 14]  
**Time:** **Online Only**  
**Instructor:** Dr. Luther Smith, Psy.D  
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## I. DESCRIPTION

This course will practice and assemble research methodologies that are used within the discipline of psychology. Student will compose a project that observes the students presenting problem, the review of the literature, the assessment of the review of the literature, and the findings and meaning of the literature.

*This course uses a blended model of delivery, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in Canvas.*

***Note: The State of Missouri requires that classes for licensure be taken synchronously (either in class or Livestream). If you are taking courses for Licensure for the state of Missouri you must be present either in class or Livestream for every class. Failure to do so may result in not meeting requirements for State Licensure in Missouri.***

## II. OBJECTIVES

### A. General competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Illustrate knowledge in research methods and practices of psychology (PLO 2).
2. Collect and arrange relevant psychological literature (PLO 2).
3. Prepare a presentation that presents findings observed from study (PLO 2)

### B. Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Formulate a proper thesis/purpose statement regarding specific topic of research (PLO 2).
2. Prepare a proper literature review (PLO 2).
3. Assess and evaluate information based in literature findings and research and present findings (PLO 2).

### III. REQUIREMENTS

#### A. Reading Assignments

1. **Reading Journals:** (four (4) pages each) the student will write a **four (4) page Journal** following **each class** period that demonstrates a mastery of the reading assignment and class material and the student's personal reflection on what they read from the chapters in the book. The student will also need to demonstrate an ability to compare and contrast this information on their current world view. The journal format will be provided by the instructor on the first day of class. Each journal will be due according to the course schedule. There will be a **total of six (6) journals**. Each journal will be worth 25 points (GC 1, 2; SC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).
2. **Research Method Discussions:** **Student will need a webcam and a good internet connection for this assignment:** Student will post a 5-10 minute initial video with a discussion that is supplied by the instructor on CANVAS. Each reflection and discussion will come from the information from the book and how it is related to the lectures covered in class. Each student will post a 3-5 minute reply video to at least two of their classmates. **There will be a total of six (6) reflections**. Each reflection will be worth 25 points (GC 1, 2, 3; SC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).

#### B. Written Assignments

1. **Research Method Report** –The student will write research method report where the student will formulate a research thesis statement, create a literature review, and evaluate their thesis statement based upon the findings from the literature review. The paper will be 30-35 pages in length, which does not include the cover page and the bibliography. The paper is worth 400 points (GC 1, 2; SC 1, 2, 3, 4).
2. **Presentation of Research Report** – The student, in a 15-20 minute PowerPoint presentation, will present their research thesis statement, the findings of their literature review, the assessment of the literature review and their research thesis statement to their peers. The research presentation will be worth 100 points (GC 1, 2; SC 1, 2, 3, 5).

#### C. Class Participation & Behavior

Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum that includes respect for other students and the professor, prompt and excellent attendance, and an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the educational opportunity. Students are to refrain from using cell phones and handheld devices during class. Playing games, browsing the internet, using email, instant messaging, or text messaging, etc. are considered unacceptable when class is in session. In addition, the student will be expected to

contribute to class discussions in a positive manner which shows respect for the views of others. Failure to maintain this standard may result in a **full letter grade deduction from their overall grade.**

#### IV. METHODS

##### A. Teaching

1. Lectures by the instructor
2. Large group discussion
3. Research and writing
4. Quizzes on the lectures

##### B. Grading

1. Weight given to course assignments

6 Journals (completed according to schedule) <i>25pts each</i>	150 pts	15%
6 Selected Reading Reflections <i>25pts each</i>	150 pts	15%
Research Method Report	400 pts	40%
Presentation of Research Report	100 pts	10%
Participation	200 pts	20%

2. Letter/Numerical Grade Scale

**Grading Scale**  
 Grade Value Grade Point Value  
 Per Semester Hour

A	100-93	4.0
A-	92-90	3.7
B+	89-87	3.3
B	86-83	3.0
B-	82-80	2.7
C+	79-77	2.3
C	76-73	2.0
C-	72-70	1.7
D+	69-67	1.3
D	66-63	1.0
D-	62-60	0.7
F	59-0	0.0

## V. MATERIALS

### A. Bible

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB, English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

### B. Required Textbooks

Creswell, J. 2018. *Research Design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed method approaches*. SAGE publications. ISBN: 978-1506386706. \$53.52  
Kindle version available.

**Note: It is your responsibility as a student at Calvary University to have your textbooks *before* class begins so that you are able to complete all of the readings assigned. Please make sure that you have all of your assigned textbooks prior to the start of class. Failure to have your assigned textbooks at the start of the class will result in a zero until you have your assigned textbooks.**

C. Selected Readings, which will be passed out by the instructor.

## VII. CLASS POLICIES

### **Attendance**

**Campus Students:** Students are expected to attend all scheduled meetings of courses for which they are registered (as this also counts for class participation). If a student begins a course and is unable to attend a class, he/she will not receive the points allotted for this course. There are eight (8) class sessions, which correspond to the eight week cycle. **Each class participation session is worth 25 points.**

### **Academic Dishonesty**

Plagiarism is defined as copying any part of a book or paper without identifying the author. This also includes taking another person's ideas and presenting them as your own.

### **Writing Style**

All class papers *must* follow the APA style according to the revised 7<sup>th</sup> edition. For questions please consult the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, (6th ed., 2nd printing) or <http://owl.purdue.edu>.

### **Late Work**

Papers, projects, etc. are due at the class period assigned. Unless under extreme circumstances, which will be determined at the discretion of the instructor, **no late work will be accepted.**

### **Disabilities Statement**

Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator ([aso@calvary.edu](mailto:aso@calvary.edu)) of any disabling condition that may require support.

### **Learning Center**

The Clark Academic Center ([learning@calvary.edu](mailto:learning@calvary.edu)), located in the library building, is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.