Final Assessment: Research Based Project

Content Area: **Social Studies**
Course(s): **Psychology, Human Behavior**
Time Period: **Semester 1 & 2**
Length: **Throughout semesters**
Status: **Published**

Standards

SOC.9-12.II.A	Experimental, Correlational, and Clinical Research
SOC.9-12.II.B	Statistics
SOC.9-12.II.B.1	Descriptive
SOC.9-12.II.B.2	Inferential
SOC.9-12.II.C	Ethics in Research

Enduring Understanding

The students will understand that:

1. there are advantages to using research over other ways of knowing.
2. there are advantages and disadvantages of case study research.
3. there are advantages and disadvantages of naturalistic observations.
4. there are advantages and disadvantages of survey research.
5. correlation research does not yield causal conclusions.
6. there are specific elements of an experiment.
6. the elements of an experiment can be used in many different situations.
7. ethics are a very important aspect of research.
8. statistics and research are vitally important in research and application.

Essential Questions

How do psychologists use the scientific method to study mental processes and behavior?

What research methods are appropriate for studying different behaviors?

How do psychologists draw conclusions about behavior from research?

Why is it important to study the development of children and how will this impact our internship with the elementary schools?

Knowledge and Skills

Students will be participating in an internship program in which they they will be working with elementary school students on reading and math skills. This will be on-going throughout the semester and continual discussion will occur in class to prepare and then debrief. The final project will allow students to culminate their learning and first hand experiences.

Students will choose one topic/theme from each unit we covered and connect them to a major theme of learning and development. Using the observational research they gained during the Internship experience, students will then conduct a study. Once the study is complete, students will reconcile all data/info into a formal APA report and present their findings to the class. The following terms will be explored throughout he assignment:

Quantitative research: Research that uses operational measurements and statistical techniques to reach conclusions on the basis of numerical data, such as correlational studies and experiments.

Qualitative research: Research that does not rely on numerical representations of data, such as naturalistic observations, unstructured interviews, and case studies.

Correlation coefficient: A number (symbolized by r) between −1 and +1, which represents the strength and direction of the correlation between two variables. The closer the coefficient is to −1 or +1, the stronger the correlation between the variables.

Positive correlation: An r value above 0, which indicates that two variables have a direct relationship: when one variable increases, the other also increases.

Negative correlation: An r value below 0, which indicates that two variables have an inverse relationship: when one variable increases, the other decreases.

Naturalistic observation: A research method, typically qualitative in nature and usually covert and undisclosed, that attempts to document behavior as it spontaneously occurs in a real world setting.

Structured observation: A type of observational research typically conducted in a laboratory setting, where the researcher can control some aspects of the environment.

Coding: The classification of behaviors into discrete categories, used especially in structured observations to achieve a level of consistency in recording and describing observations.

Inter-rater reliability: A statistical measure of the degree of agreement between different codings of the same

phenomena.

Participant observation: A mostly qualitative research method in which the researcher becomes a member of a studied group, either overtly or covertly.

Case study: A research design involving an in-depth and detailed examination of a single subject, or case, usually an individual or a small group.

Survey: A mostly quantitative research method involving a list of questions filled out by a group of people to assess attitudes or opinions.

Experiments: Deliberately designed procedures used to test research hypotheses.

Hypothesis: A proposed, testable explanation for a phenomenon, often constructed in the form of a statement about the relationship between two or more variables.

Resources

Textbook Reading

Primary Student Textbook: Myers Psychology for AP

Course Resources:

1. Benjamin, Ludy T. Jr., eds. Favorite Activities for the Teaching of Psychology. Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association, 2008.

2. Bensley, D. Alan. *Critical Thinking in Psychology: A Unified Skills Approach*. Pacific Grove, Calif.: Brooks/Cole, 1998.

3. Hock, Roger R. Forty Studies that Changed Psychology: Explorations into the History of Psychological Research. 5th ed. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2005.

4. Rolls, Geoff. Classic Case Studies in Psychology. London: Hodder Arnold, 2005.

5. Freud's Case Studies

Additional Resources from WH databases, and articles connected to the content, including primary readings, historiography, and secondary sources.

Web-based resources including but not limited to digital media (SIFT method), primary sources, peer reviews,

historical documents and writings of historians

AI Copilot, Gemini, etc

Links

http://psychcentral.com/

http://www.psychologytoday.com/

http://www.apa.org/

http://www.scientificamerican.com/section/lateststories/

http://www.psychologicalscience.org/

http://www.sciencedaily.com/news

http://www.alleydog.com/

http://www.apa.org/research/action/glossary.aspx

http://allpsych.com/psychology101/index.html

http://www.simplypsychology.org/perspective.html

http://www.outofservice.com/bigfive/

http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/fulfillment-any-age/201110/the-essential-guide-defense-mechanisms?page=2

Transfer Goals

Students will be able to independently design authentic and ethical research studies that can assist them in making appropriate and scientific conclusions about behavior.

Students will be able to use their experience with educating and tutoring elementary students in Woodland and Long Hill to connect to the psychological theories and ideas they have studied.

Assessments

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mKgdwpriGuRcVHIVCJUdBEk7lih12Q0ckKSTC4TMUXs/edit?tab=t.0

Modifications

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ODqaPP69YkcFiyG72fIT8XsUIe3K1VSG7nxuc4CpCec/edit?tab=t.0