



BAKER COLLEGE
STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

CSL5710 Research Methods
3 Semester Credit Hours

Student Learning Outcomes and Enabling Objectives

1. Differentiate between quantitative and qualitative research designs.
 - a. Explain sampling and generalizability.
 - b. Explore common quantitative research designs utilized in counseling research.
 - c. Explore common qualitative research designs utilized in counseling research.
2. Differentiate between common research methods.
 - a. Explore the common research methods utilized in counseling research.
 - b. Explain validity and reliability related to the different types of research methods.
 - c. Explore the ethical considerations connected to the various research methods.
3. Examine common basic statistical analysis techniques utilized in counseling research.
 - a. Define key statistical terms such as mean, median, mode, standard deviation, and variance, and their relevance to counseling research.
 - b. Identify which basic statistical tests (e.g., t-tests, chi-square tests, ANOVA) are appropriate for different types of counseling research questions and data types.
 - c. Interpret the results of basic statistical analyses in the context of counseling research.
4. Evaluate counseling literature
 - a. Evaluate the appropriateness of statistical methods used in published counseling research, including assessing the validity and reliability of the statistical analyses presented.
 - b. Summarize key themes, trends, and gaps in recent counseling literature, to explain how these contribute to the current state of knowledge in the field.
 - c. Assess how current literature informs evidence-based counseling practices and recommend ways to apply research findings to enhance counseling interventions.
 - d. Critique the limitations and implications of research studies, including potential biases, generalizability of findings, and ethical considerations.

5. Apply knowledge of basic research methods and statistical analysis techniques to prepare research projects, including following ethical guidelines for design, professional report writing, and presentations.
 - a. Explore common ethical dilemmas in counseling research, such as issues related to informed consent, confidentiality, and participant welfare, and propose appropriate solutions.
 - b. Apply accurate interpretations of statistical output, including understanding p-values and effect sizes, for a research report or presentation.

Big Ideas and Essential Questions

Big Ideas

- Research Design
- Research Methods
- Statistical Analysis
- Counseling literature
- Designing a research project

Essential Questions

1. How do the choices made in research design impact the validity and reliability of study findings?
2. How do sampling techniques affect the generalizability of research findings in counseling?
3. What is the difference between quantitative and qualitative research?
4. Observation survey techniques and designs
5. How do ethical considerations impact research design?
6. In what ways can the choice of statistical analysis methods influence the interpretation of data, and how do researchers ensure that their analysis accurately reflects the underlying patterns and relationships?

These SLOs are not approved for experiential credit.

Effective: Summer 2025