**PSYC242 2022 Research Report Part 1**

**Task**: Write an introduction, method and references sections based on the experiment we will create as class. Your sections should demonstrate logical flow and clarity in your writing.

**Due Date**: 6th Sep 5pm

**Worth**: 15%

**Submission**: You are required to submit your assignment electronically via Blackboard in a Word or PDF format. Instructions on how to do this will be placed on Blackboard closer to the due date. You do not need to submit a hard copy of your work.

* Your assignment willbe reviewed by Turnitin – an online plagiarism detection tool. Please refer to [online resources on plagiarism](https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/students/support/student-interest-and-conflict-resolution/academic-integrity/plagiarism).
* It is your responsibility to keep a copy of your work in case we request you to submit your work again.

**Extensions**: All requests for extensions should be made to the PSYC242@vuw.ac.nz shared mailbox. Extensions are usually granted for legitimate medical reasons, family emergencies, or compulsory university functions, and will usually require some form of written evidence. Exceptions are sometimes made depending on the situation, so if you are facing difficulties but you are unsure if an extension would be appropriate, please contact us and we will see what we can do to help.

**Late Penalties**: Assignments submitted after the due date and without an approved extension will receive a late penalty. Assignments submitted late will have 5% of the max grade deducted per late day, so an assignment worth 15 marks that is a day late will lose 0.75 marks. Assignments that are submitted more than ten days late will not be marked and will receive a zero grade.

**Where to get help:**

* Attend your live labs where a tutor will help you understand the background and method of the study – the best way to understand the study is to be part of its creation!
* Follow the [Research Report Writing Guide](https://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz/webapps/blackboard/content/listContentEditable.jsp?content_id=_3519325_1&course_id=_115262_1) plus any supplementary materials we post on Blackboard to help you put all your readings and lab notes together into a report.
* Post questions on the [assignment Padlet](https://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz/webapps/blackboard/content/listContentEditable.jsp?content_id=_3460951_1&course_id=_115262_1&mode=reset).
* After you complete your first draft, come to help sessions which will be held closer to the submission day with your questions.
* Email PSYC242@vuw.ac.nz if you can’t make use of other help options.

**Instructions**

**Background:** One of our main course learning objectives is for you to learn how to design, conduct and analyse experiments. Across your labs and lectures, you will design an experiment which we will run as a class based on [Bode and Vraga (2018)](https://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz/webapps/blackboard/content/listContentEditable.jsp?content_id=_3460950_1&course_id=_115262_1&mode=reset). In your research report you will write about the class experiment. Check our [welcome video](https://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz/webapps/blackboard/content/listContentEditable.jsp?content_id=_3460946_1&course_id=_115262_1&mode=reset) for more information on how the report, lab and lecture programme function together in our course.

In research report part 1, you will submit the introduction, method and reference sections for the class experiment – the first half of a full report. You will get feedback on it that you will be able to use when you submit research report part 2 (full report).

**What to include:**

Include only the sections specified below in your research report and check the [writing guide](https://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz/webapps/blackboard/content/listContentEditable.jsp?content_id=_3519325_1&course_id=_115262_1) on Blackboard for how to write these sections.

* **Title Page**
	+ Include your full name and Student ID number.
* **Introduction**
	+ Introduce the class experiment in approximately 5 paragraphs. Include only:
		- Background paragraph. What is the main question/goal of this report?
		- Literature review – 3 paragraphs. You will need to use Bode and Vraga (2018), plus find 2 more peer-reviewed sources that are relevant to our class experiment. At least 1 of these 2 additional articles must be an empirical and experimental piece of research. Your choice of literature must be relevant to our class experiment. Give each source a separate paragraph.
		- Summary of the aim(s) paragraph. Describe our general research question, followed by your hypothesis and prediction “if…then...” statement (or multiple statements, we may end up with more than 1 by the time we decide on the experiment) and briefly state what we are proposing to do in this study to answer our research question.
* **Method**
	+ Describe how we are planning to conduct the class experiment. Remember that you will be submitting part 1 of the report before the actual data collection is complete, so the method section should be worded as a planned rather than the completed method. Include separate sub-sections for:
		- Design
		- Participants
		- Materials
		- Procedure
* **References**
	+ Write an APA formatted reference section that includes any sources used.

**Word Limit**: Your assignment (excluding the title page and reference section) must not be longer than 1500 words. This does not mean you need to aim for 1500 words - this is the maximum number of words allowed. You cannot go over this limit.

**Final tips:**

* By the time you need to submit part 1 of this report, the class would have completed designing the experiment, but we would not have completed data collection yet. That means you will write this report in the form of a research proposal – as the study we are planning to conduct, rather than conducted already. For example, you would say “we plan to recruit X participants” rather than “we recruited X participants”, since you won’t know how many we managed to get yet.
* We suggest you [do a literature search early using the guide on Blackboard](https://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz/webapps/blackboard/content/listContentEditable.jsp?content_id=_3519342_1&course_id=_115262_1), but leave your final choice of 2 additional sources until you know what the final class experiment will be. You may do an initial search to identify a few sources that seem relevant and hold on to them until you know what the class experiment will be.
* Present your report neatly and follow the basic APA writing and formatting tips we described in the [Research Report Writing Guide](https://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz/webapps/blackboard/content/listContentEditable.jsp?content_id=_3519325_1&course_id=_115262_1). We won’t be looking for a perfectly formatted report, but your markers will be checking for an overall neat presentation (e.g., headings, consistent data formatting/citations), clarity in your writing (e.g., correct grammar) and logical flow of your ideas (e.g., a report that focuses on the same goal from start to finish; hourglass shape to your narrative).