Research designs can be divided into those that compare the effects of different levels of an independent variable \textit{within} one or more groups of participants/subjects, and those that compare the effects \textit{between} different groups of participants. The \textit{between-groups designs} are in turn divided into those consisting of \textit{independent groups} of participants and those consisting of \textit{related}, or \textit{matched}, groups of participants. Both \textit{related-groups designs} and \textit{within-groups designs} are forms of \textit{correlated-groups designs}. Finally, \textit{mixed factorial designs} are a type of multiple treatment design that combines in a single study both \textit{correlated groups} of participants to investigate the effects of one or more independent variables, and also \textit{independent groups} of participants for one of more of the other independent variables.