

Psychology 490, Honors Thesis
Texas A&M University-Commerce, Spring 2013

Professor: Dr. Stephen Reysen
Classroom: Binnion 212
Class meets: TBA
Office hours: M 8:00AM to 1:00PM, and by appointment
Office: Binnion 213
Office phone: 903-886-5197
Email: Stephen.Reysen@tamuc.edu (*email is the best way to reach me*)

I typically answer emails the same day, however, please allow 2-3 days for a reply.

Class Description:

The purpose of this class is to train you to conduct psychological research and produce an honors thesis. This includes all aspects of the research process: development of research materials and/or experimental procedures, how to conduct studies/experiments, data analysis and interpretation, and empirical writing. The class is conducted through informal meetings with Dr. Reysen. The goal of the class is to successfully propose, conduct, and defend your honors thesis project.

Beyond meeting to discuss research, you may be asked to conduct library research (google scholar is going to be your best friend), conduct research (e.g., run participants), track and maintain studies using the SONA system (participant sign-up system), enter data into the computer, organize and manage databases, and various other tasks.

All class members must complete human subjects training and provide a copy of the certificate of completion to Dr. Reysen. The training is online and takes about 10 hours to complete. The training can be found at the below website...

<http://web.tamu-commerce.edu/research/compliance/responsibleConduct.aspx>

Grading:

The student will produce and defend an honors thesis project. If the student does not complete and defend the thesis during the semester, the instructor will assign a grade of "I" and the student will defend the thesis in a subsequent semester.

Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Gee Library, Room 132, Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835, Fax (903) 468-8148, StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Respect:

More generally, if you have any problems or concerns regarding this course, please contact me as soon as possible. Your feedback (both positive and negative) is more than welcome. We should strive to respect and value the diversity that exists in A&M-Commerce classrooms (e.g., age, gender, ethnicity, national origin, disability, geographic backgrounds, political orientation, sexual orientation). While we may sometimes disagree with each other on

topics discussed in class, it's important that we remember that appreciating diversity in perspectives is an important part of the learning process (and good life skill). If you ever feel that you are not being given the respect you deserve in class, please let me know.

Cheating:

Warning: If I detect you engaging in academic misconduct you will automatically FAIL this course. Academic misconduct includes disruption of classes, giving or receiving unauthorized aid on examinations, knowingly misrepresenting the source of any academic work, presenting others research ideas as if they are your own, or otherwise acting dishonestly. This includes both cheating on exams and plagiarism of any written work that you hand in for this course. Information on the academic misconduct policy of Texas A&M-Commerce can be found at <http://catalog.tamuc.edu/>

If at any point in time you have concerns with your research experience, feel free to contact Dr. Reysen or your graduate supervisor.