

**PSYCHOLOGY 305: Experimental Psychology Lab
FALL 2014**

Instructor: Mrs. Lindsey Pierce

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Office: Binion 224

Phone: 903-886-5594

Office Hours: M & W 11:00-12:30 or by appointment

Lab Times by Section:

01L: M 1:00-2:00 02L: W 1:00-2:00

03L: T 2:00-3:00 04L: R 2:00-3:00

Location for ALL Labs:

EDS122 (Computer Lab)

Required Materials:

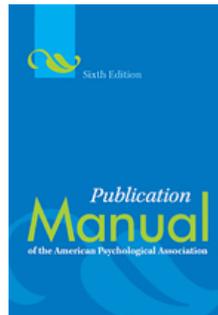
1. McBride, D. M., & Cutting, J. C. (2013). *Lab manual for psychological Research* (3rd ed.), Thousand Oak, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc.

ISBN: 9781412999328

2. American Psychological Association (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*. (6th ed.). Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association. **ISBN:** 9781433805615



1.



2.

Description & Purpose:

Lab will provide additional time to discuss the materials covered in lecture and more importantly, work on applying what you have learned in lecture through developing a research project. Expect that in lab each week you will work on a particular portion of your research.

During lab you will begin by developing a feasible research *question* (grounded in past literature) which can then be tested through conducting experimental research. I will provide you with the 'step by step processes' researchers follow when developing research ideas and conducting experiments. In effect, during lab you will be working on your experimental projects and receiving direct feedback throughout this process. Psychological experimentation is challenging, especially if it is your first time. This lab will hopefully serve as an aid in developing your ability to 1) come up with feasible research ideas, 2) develop appropriate research methods, 3) collect data, 4) conduct appropriate analysis, and 4) produce a quality APA style report which presents your findings.

Work Groups:

During lab you will be working in groups of 2-3 members throughout the semester on your research projects. Group members must all be enrolled in the same lab sections but not necessarily the same lecture class. Team work can be a wonderful experience; however, sometimes individuals do not fulfill their group responsibilities, making it more difficult on the other members of the group (e.g., one member does it all, etc). To help with this issue, you will be required to evaluate each of the individuals you are working with. These evaluations will be taken into consideration when assigning grades on your projects. In other words, you CANNOT rely on others to do all of the work. Evaluations are taken into consideration when assigning the final project grades. For example, if a member of the group does not contribute fairly they may receive deductions on their final project grade.

Research Project:

During lab you will be working on your research projects which will include two major papers and a presentation. During the first half of the semester, you will be writing a mini literature review (Paper 1) that will include a proposed conceptual replication project. During the middle of the semester and through the end of the term you will actually carrying out the proposed project. In effect, the second paper will be a **complete APA style report** which will be an extension of paper 1. In addition to written papers you will be presenting your final project at the end of the semester as though you were giving an oral presentation at a research symposium (i.e., you will give an APA style PowerPoint presentation). More details will be given in lab. Lab time is geared towards helping you complete and improve your overall project. It is extremely important that you complete assignments ON TIME and attend ALL labs, as this course will require you to work hard.

Lab Participation:

Class Participation includes attendance and appropriate engagement during lab activities. Attendance to lab IS REQUIRED and I will take role at the beginning of each lab. I understand that everyone misses class on occasion; however, excessive unexcused absences (more than 2) will result in **points being deducted from your lab grade**. I cannot stress enough that attendance is absolutely necessary to succeed on your projects. You will easily get behind if you are not attending, thus I am providing valuable time in lab for you to work in your groups. DO NOT take this for granted.

Student Conduct:

“All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.” We will be having discussions in this lab so I must stress the importance of respecting your peers. Also, cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. If you cheat or plagiarize on any of your work you will received a zero for the respective assignment. Other disciplinary actions may be carried out as well. If you have any questions about cheating or plagiarism, please contact me.

Accommodations:

Students requesting accommodations for disabilities must go through the Academic Support Committee. For more information, please contact the Director of Disability Resources & Services, Halladay Student Services Bldg., Room 303D, (903) 886-5835.

COURSE Grading Policy:

Exams = 40%
 Lit Review = 15%
 Final Paper = 15%
 Presentation = 10%
 Lab Work = 15%
Research (SONA) = 5%
TOTAL: = 100 %

LAB Grading Policy

Participation = 15%
 APA style Exercise = 15%
 Ethics/IRB Exercise = 10%
 Defining Project Variables = 15%
 Method Section Exercise = 15%
 Results Section Exercise = 15%
Discussion Section Exercise = 15%
TOTAL: = 100 %

Tentative Course Schedule:

Date	Topic	Assignments
8/25-8/31	Asking Good Questions <i>Divide Into Groups</i>	Discuss & List Group Interests
9/1-9/7	Labor Day: Optional Lab during <i>regular times on T, W, & R</i> <i>How to Search for Articles</i>	Topic Brainstorming Article Searching
9/8-9/14	Literature Reviews & APA Style	APA Exercise Article Searching cont.
9/15-9/21	Ethics in Research/IRB	Ethics Exercise & Online Training
9/22-9/28	Article Assessment/ Project Ideas	Work on Developing Project Idea
9/29-10/5	Experimental Variables	Variables Exercise
10/6-10/12	Method Section <i>Discuss How to Collect Data</i>	Method Section Exercise
10/13-10/19	Materials & Procedure	Method Section cont. <i>Paper 1 rough drafts due Wed.</i>
10/20-10/26	Approval of Final Materials	<i>Ethics Training DUE in lab</i> <i>Paper 1 due Fri by noon</i>
10/27-11/2	NO LAB: Data Collection Week	Collect Data!!
11/3-11/9	Using SPSS Project Data Set up & Analysis	Data Analysis cont.
11/10-11/16	Data Interpretation Results Section	Data Analysis & Interpretation cont. Results Section Exercise
11/17-11/23	Oral Presentation Guidelines <i>Sample Talk</i>	Presentation & Final Paper
11/24-11/30	Thanksgiving Holiday!	Presentation & Final Paper cont.
12/1-12/7	Presentation Week (During Class)	<i>Paper 2 Rough Drafts Due Wed.</i>
12/8-12/12	Finals Week	<i>Final Paper Due Tues.</i>

PSY 305 Research Participation:

Dr. Pierce has discussed the following information already, but I wanted to remind you all about this portion of the course as it is very important in developing your understanding of psychological research. The SONA research participation portion of the class is worth 5% of your overall grade and there is only **ONE research participation requirement which is applied to the overall course grade.

SONA Guidelines: In order to give you a better understanding of the nature of psychology, you will be required to participate in research (or complete alternate assignments pertaining to research). I would like to emphasize that your Participation in research can greatly help students and faculty who are conducting research at TAMU-C. You will be able to sign up for various studies through the SONA system. Instructions on how to do this will be provided in a separate handout either in class or in lab.

Credits: This course requires that you complete a total of 6 credit hours of research participation. **HOWEVER**, if you do not have any unexcused no-shows (i.e. you do not show up for a study) you will be required to complete only 4 credit hours.

Alternative Assignments: Participating in research is voluntary. If you do not want to participate in research let Dr. Pierce know and he can assign alternative assignments. In other words you can complete this portion of the course through obtaining research credits and/or completing alternative assignments.

****I will also post the full research participations guidelines and further details in eCollege.**