

Psychology 120L: Lab in Advanced Research

Summer Session A 2011: Monday 2:00-3:30pm

Instructor: Lisa Jaremka
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Office Hrs: Monday 3:30-5:30pm
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TAs: Heather Burte (12-3)
Amy Frithsen (9-12)
Pam Sawyer (3-6)

Website: <http://gauchospace.ucsb.edu>

Goals of the Course:

1. Review and practice methods used in psychological research
2. Design and conduct research studies as an individual and a member of a group
3. Develop skills in analyzing and interpreting data
4. Develop skills in writing and presenting your research
5. Critically examine published research findings

Required Reading

There is no textbook for the course - you will be responsible for reading research articles each week. The research articles will be posted on gauchospace. There is also a lab manual that should be purchased at TBA. The lab manual includes the activities for each lab section. You should bring the lab manual to every lab section.

Elements of Your Grade:

This class has a lecture and a lab component. Lectures are once a week and will review the basics of research methods and introduce advanced concepts. There are lab sections that meet twice a week during which you will gain hands-on research experience. Your grade will be based on several requirements.

Paper 1	20%
Paper 2	30%
Final Exam	25%
Lab Presentation	05%
Participation	20%

Final Exam:

There will be one closed-book, closed-note exam. The exam will be multiple-choice with a few short answer questions. Questions will be based on both the lectures and readings - ANY material covered in the lectures or reading may appear on the exam. Some of the material in the reading will not be covered in the lecture and some of the material in the lecture will not be covered in the reading. You are responsible for both!

Makeup Exam: A makeup exam will only be provided in the case of illness or personal emergency. A makeup exam will not be provided for any other reason. If you have an illness or personal emergency, you must contact the instructor or TA *prior to, or within one day*, of the missed exam. Before we can schedule a makeup exam, you must provide a *written medical excuse or other verifiable documentation*. Makeup exams may take an alternative form to that taken by the rest of the class (e.g., essay exam).

Participation:

Twenty percent of your grade will be based on participation. Your participation grade is based on three components: lecture participation, lab section attendance, and homework. Lecture participation: involves short written responses to questions asked during lecture. The dates of these assignments are not listed on the syllabus – it is your responsibility to attend lecture to earn participation points. Lab section attendance: your TA will take attendance for at the beginning of each lab section. If you must miss a lab section, you must notify your TA *before* section begins. It is at the discretion of the instructor to decide what the consequences of missing a section will be. Homework: there are a number of small homework assignments that are due at the beginning of lab. These assignments are listed on the class schedule at the bottom of the syllabus.

Additional Policies

1. Academic dishonesty is unacceptable under all circumstances. If you are caught cheating in the class you will receive an “F” in the course and will be referred to the appropriate University disciplinary committee for action. In the case of written work, please pay special attention to avoiding plagiarism. If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism, please talk to the instructor or the TA. Please do not put your college career at risk!
2. If you disagree about how something was graded, you must dispute the issue in *writing* (not over email). Write a paragraph about why you think your answer was correct and turn it in (with the assignment) to Lisa Jaremka, the instructor, at the lecture following the return of the relevant assignment. Only reasonable and well-justified complaints will be considered, and all decisions are final. Please note that if you submit a complaint, the instructor will regrade the entire assignment and your grade could increase, decrease or remain the same.
3. So that your instructors can focus their energy on providing everyone feedback on the papers and other lab assignments, they *cannot* read entire drafts of your papers. Of course, if you have specific questions or are struggling with a particular section, we are more than happy to help.
4. All assignments are due at the beginning of lecture/lab. Late assignments will not be accepted unless you have a verified emergency. If you miss lab when an assignment is due, be sure your TA has your assignment **PRIOR** to the missed lab session. Emailing the assignment does not count unless you have a verified emergency.

Students with Disabilities:

If you need special academic accommodations, please contact the Disabled Students Program (DSP) at 893-2668 or www.sa.ucsb.edu/dsp *during the first week of class*. The DSP provides academic support services to eligible students with temporary and permanent disabilities.

Lecture and Lab Schedule

Week	Day	Date	Topic	Reading or Assignment Due
1	M	6/20	Overview and Research Designs 1	
	T	6/21	Introductions; research questions; ethics	
	R	6/23	Project 1 study design; psycInfo	Elliot Article
2	M	6/27	Research Designs 2 and Statistics	
	T	6/28	SPSS basics; project 1 data entry	Project 1 Data Due
	R	6/30	Writing an APA style paper; project 1 data analysis	Bem Article
3	M	7/04	NO CLASS - HOLIDAY	
	T	7/05	NO LAB - HOLIDAY	
	R	7/07	Paper 1 peer review; project 2 groups and topic	Paper 1 Draft Due
4	M	7/11	Theories, hypotheses, and operational definitions	Tybur Article
	T	7/12	Project 2 formulate hypotheses and study design	Paper 1 Due Project 2 Articles Due
	R	7/14	Project 2 prepare study materials	
5	M	7/18	Consuming Research	Whitchurch Article
	T	7/19	NO LAB - Project 2 data collection	
	R	7/21	Project 2 data entry and analysis	Project 2 Data Due
6	M	7/25	FINAL EXAM	
	T	7/26	Project 2 group presentation preparation	
	R	7/28	Project 2 group presentations	Paper 2 Due

*Schedule and readings subject to change