

EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY LABORATORY

Instructor: Dr. Claudia J. Stanny
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Office Hours For Dr. Stanny: 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday

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Phone: leave message with main office: 474-2630

Office Hours for TAs will be announced in class.

Class Meets: 2:30 - 3:45 PM Tuesdays & Thursdays (section 0729)
4:00 - 5:15 PM Tuesdays & Thursdays (section 0730)
Room 139 / Bldg 41

REQUIRED TEXTS

American Psychological Association. (2001). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (5th ed.)*. Washington, D. C.: Author.

Goodwin, C. J. (2003). *Research in psychology: Methods and design (3rd ed.)*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

Kranzler, J. H. (2003). *Statistics for the terrified (3rd ed.)*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

RECOMMENDED TEXT

Scott, J. M., Koch, R., Scott, G. M., & Garrison, S. M. (2002). *The psychology student writer's manual (2nd ed.)*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

PREREQUISITE COURSES: PSY 2012, STA 2023

COREQUISITE COURSE: EXP 3082L

NOTE: Students must enroll in EXP 3082 and EXP 3082L with the same instructor unless they are taking only one course for grade forgiveness.

TECHNOLOGY USED BY STUDENTS

Students will use library data bases to conduct searches of catalog and journal resources for relevant literature. Students will learn to use SPSS for analysis of statistical data and Microsoft Excel for the presentation of data in figures and graphs. Students may use PowerPoint or other software for presentation of experimental stimuli.

COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Scientific method and experimental techniques in psychology. Students will conduct a series of exercises and laboratory experiments, perform and interpret statistical analysis of data collected, and report experimental findings in standard technical format. (Gordon Rule Course: Writing)

Topics Covered in the Laboratory Course

The laboratory section of this course is designed to familiarize students with research methods and data analysis through a series of exercises and experiences with laboratory experiments in psychology. Students will learn to report experimental findings using the style of the American Psychological Association.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this course should exhibit competence in the following areas:

Develop and use methods for making objective, reliable and valid observations to measure psychological variables.

Develop a testable research question that is meaningfully related to a body of knowledge in psychology.

Recognize and understand how to address ethical dilemmas that arise in the conduct of scientific research and publication.

Design and conduct a naturalistic observation study.

Design and conduct an empirical research study that involves the use of at least two variables, one of which is a true experimental variable.

Create data files in SPSS, select and run the appropriate statistical test, and interpret the SPSS output.

Write laboratory reports of empirical research using the editorial style and format of the American Psychological Association.

LABORATORY WORK

Students will work in groups of no more than 4 persons for some lab exercises. Other work will be done individually. In addition to class exercises and discussion, laboratory time may be used for development of the research proposal and data collection for the major research project.

Laboratory papers are to be written and typed using APA style (see your textbook, the recommended text by Scott et al. (2002), and the *Publication Manual* for instructions on APA style). Grades on papers will depend on quality of writing (clarity of thought, accuracy of spelling, and use of correct punctuation and grammar) as well as quality of content. See the first two chapters of the *Publication Manual* for guidance on the orderly presentation of ideas and writing style. You may make an appointment for a one-hour interactive reading session for as many as four papers per term at the UWF Writing Laboratory (Bldg 52, Room 157, 474-2029).

All laboratory papers and other written assignments *must* be done individually. This means that each student *must* prepare these written assignments *independently and in their own words*.

Attendance Policy

Attendance during the laboratory is ***required*** and attendance will be taken daily. Students are expected to arrive at the laboratory prepared to participate in the activities planned. Promptness is important, especially on days when data collection for in-class experiments and other group activities are planned.

Classroom Behavior

Classroom courtesy is essential. Students who attend class are motivated to learn and are annoyed when other students engage in disruptive behavior. Cell phones, beepers, chatting with friends, crackling food wrappers, and similar behaviors are annoying and distracting to other students. Please respect the right of each student to hear the lecture and participate in class discussion. Turn off all cell phones and beepers during class (or put them on “buzz” and sit near the door if you cannot protect your time and must be available to the outside world during class). If you must respond to a call or feel the need to have a private conversation with a classmate, please leave the room so that your activities will not disrupt class or interfere with the attention of other students.

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC CONDUCT

Honesty in our academic work is vital, and we will not knowingly act in ways which erode that integrity. Accordingly, we pledge not to cheat, nor to tolerate cheating, nor to plagiarize the work of others. (UWF Student Handbook, page 46)

Academic dishonesty is a serious offense and will be taken seriously. Please refer to the UWF Student Handbook (page 48) for information about procedures that will be followed with cases of academic dishonesty.

ASSISTANCE FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Students with special needs who require specific accommodations for examinations or other course activities should contact Barbara Fitzpatrick, Director of Disabled Student Services (DSS) (e-mail: dss@uwf.edu, telephone: 474-2387). DSS will provide the student with a letter for the instructor that will specify recommended accommodations.

GRADING

Laboratory Assignment Grade

Your laboratory assignment grade will be the percentage of total points that you earn on laboratory assignments as follows:

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Points Earned</i>	<i>Date Due</i>
Plagiarism Assignment	10	Sept 16
Journal Summary	10	Sept 18
Peer Evaluation of Naturalistic Observation	5	Sept 18
Statement of Research Topic	3	Sept 25
Bibliography	10	Oct 16
Report on First In-Class Experiment	20	Oct 16
Proposal for Major Research Project	25	Oct 28
IRB Form	2	Oct 28
Informed Consent Form	5	Oct 28
Report on Second In-Class Experiment	30	Nov 6
Poster Presentation	10	Dec 4
Completed Research Portfolio	10	Dec 4
TOTAL POINTS FOR ASSIGNMENTS	140	

Late papers will be penalized 1/3 letter grade per day late.

Participation Grade

Participation grades will be based on the percentage of total points earned for participation as follows:

Attendance during exercises (1 point per class)	25
Data Collection: Correlational Data	5
Group Presentation on Naturalistic Observation	5
Data Collection: Experiment 1 Data	5
Data Collection: Experiment 2 Data	5
TOTAL PARTICIPATION POINTS	45

Final grade in the laboratory will be determined as follows:

Participation:	10%
Laboratory Assignments:	40%
Major Research Project Paper:	50%

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

93% or better	A	77% to 79%	C+
90% to 92%	A-	73% to 76%	C
87% to 89%	B+	70% to 72%	C-
83% to 86%	B	60% to 69%	D
80% to 82%	B-	50% or less	F

LABORATORY EXERCISES AND ACTIVITIES

DATE	ACTIVITY	READING
Aug 26	Overview of Laboratory	Syllabus
Aug 28	APA Style, Writing Research Papers	Handout for Research Project APA Manual, Ch 1 & 2 Goodwin, Appendix A Scott et al., Ch 1, 3, & 4
Sept 2	Form Groups, Data collection for correlational data project	
Sept 4	Library Workshop - Mr. Douglas Low Meet in classroom on 1 st floor of the library	Goodwin, Ch 3 Scott et al., Ch 6
Sept 9	Plan Naturalistic Observation Project Discuss descriptive statistics	Kranzler, Ch 4, 5, & 13
Sept 11	Discuss Plagiarism	Web sites to be assigned in class Scott et al., Ch 5
Sept 16	Plagiarism Assignment Due Developing Research Ideas Brainstorming activity	Goodwin, Ch 3 Scott et al., Ch 11
Sept 16	Journal Summary Due	
Sept 18	Group presentation on Naturalistic Observation Discuss IRB activity for next week	
Sept 23	IRB Group Activity	Materials to be posted
Sept 25	Statement of Research Topic Due; Groups discuss IRB review	
Sept 30	EXAM 1 for lecture - Laboratory meeting canceled	
Oct 2	Collect Data for in-class experiment (Experiment 1) Discuss methods used in Experiment 1	
Oct 7	Using SPSS for t-tests	Kranzler, Ch 10, 11 Goodwin, Appendix C
Oct 9	continue discussion of SPSS analysis	
Oct 14	Collect data for in-class experiment (Experiment 2)	
Oct 16	Bibliography Due Research Report on Experiment 1 Due Discuss methods used in Experiment 2	

DATE	ACTIVITY	READING
Oct 21	Using SPSS for ANOVA	Kranzler, Ch 12 Goodwin, Appendix C
Oct 23	ANOVA, continued	
Oct 28	Research Proposal Due; IRB Form with Informed Consent Due	
Oct 30	Open lab for data collection (for projects with completed IRB review & approval)	
Nov 4	EXAM 2 for lecture Open lab for data collection	
Nov 6	Research Report on Experiment 2 Due Open lab for data collection	
Nov 11	Veteran's Day Holiday	
Nov 13	Open lab for data collection	
Nov 18	Discuss correlation - class exercise on using SPSS to compute correlations	
Nov 20	Open lab for data collection. All data collection for individual research projects should be completed by end of this lab meeting.	
Nov 25	Open lab for data analysis	
Nov 27	Thanksgiving Holiday	
Dec 2	Open lab for data analysis	
Dec 4	Poster Session - Research Paper and Research Portfolio Due	