San Jose State University

PSYCHOLOGY 120 SYLLABUS FALL SEMESTER 2010
Advanced Research Methods and Design

INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

Professor Laree A. Huntsman, Ph.D.
email: huntsman@email.sjsu.edu
Phone: 408-924-5633
Office: DMH 313
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 1:15-3:15

COURSE MEETING TIMES:

Lecture Section 20 Monday and Wednesday 12:00-1:15 DMH 356
Laboratory Section 21 Monday 3:00-5:20 DMH 339
Laboratory Section 22 Wednesday 3:00-5:20 DMH 339

PREREQUISITE:

Passage of Introduction to Psychology, Elementary Statistics, and 100W.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides an intensive introduction to the experimental, correlational, and observational methods used in conducting psychological research. As part of your course work, you will conduct research, write laboratory reports, and prepare a poster.

COURSE TEXTBOOKS:


COURSE MATERIALS:

Three textbooks (listed above)
Access to a computer and word processing program
Money for photo-copying and poster supplies
COURSE ORGANIZATION:

The course consists of two parts, lecture and laboratory. BOTH parts are required, and both are VERY IMPORTANT in determining your final grade. Although attendance is not taken, perfect attendance is critical for success in this class, therefore you should never be absent and you should never be late. However, if you are absent, refer to you classmates for lecture notes. A substantial amount of the lecture material is not covered in the textbook. Please also be aware that while I will provide you with copies of handouts at the next class meeting. I do NOT put any lecture material on the web, nor do I email them to students, nor do I give private lectures or allow students to copy my notes after class or during office hours. The only sure way for you to get lecture notes is to attend the lectures and take your own notes.

MISSED LAB:

You MUST collect your own data and attend the data days to get the data from your classmates. Anyone who does not plan to attend the data days should not enroll in the course. Attendance on data days is crucial because you must participate directly in the projects and discussions. Furthermore, most of the lab work is done as a group, and your absence would be unfair to your peers. Your fellow students have no obligation whatsoever to provide you with data you did not help to collect or analyze!

BRING YOUR CALCULATOR TO ALL CLASS MEETINGS.

HOW WILL YOUR COURSE PERFORMANCE BE EVALUATED?

Your grade will be based on LECTURE POINTS and LABORATORY POINTS.

LECTURE POINTS (400 Points):

There will be 4 exams in the lecture part of the course. Exam 4 is the cumulative essay exam (eight page large bluebook), it covers material from the entire course, and is given during the official University scheduled final exam period. Exam 1, Exam 2, and Exam 3 are multiple-choice exams (scantron form T & E 200), each have 40 questions worth 2.5 points each. The exams are closed book and notes are not allowed. Additionally, the exchange of any information during an exam is forbidden. Failure to adhere to this rule will result is a score of zero being recorded for any students who are in violation of this rule. According to the University’s Academic Integrity Policy you are required to be honest in all of your coursework. Furthermore, faculty are required to report all infractions to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS given in this course and you are required to take all exams. If you
have no way of avoiding missing an exam, you must call me BEFORE the exam to justify your intended absence.

Exam 1: 100 points
Exam 2: 100
Exam 3: 100
Exam 4: 100

LABORATORY POINTS (300 Points):

An important goal of the course is to gain experience communicating research results to others. Your laboratory work will include two laboratory reports (200 points) and one poster (100 points).

LABORATORY REPORTS (200 Points):

The reports must be written according to the guidelines of the American Psychological Association Publication Manual, 6th edition. Study the manual carefully during the first few weeks of the semester so that you will be ready for the first report. It is imperative that you have access to a computer and word processing program because I expect you to have rewritten the report several times before it is handed in. Most students find that writing the lab reports is the most difficult aspect of this course. In fact, a typical reason for failing this course is failing to submit a lab report, submitting a poor lab report, or submitting late lab reports. It is extremely important to start writing your lab reports early. Please be aware that writing a good lab report takes a lot more time than most students think it does. Procrastination is the enemy of producing a good lab report.

You are required to turn in two copies of each of your lab reports. I require hard copies. I will not accept emailed or faxed reports. One copy will be returned to you with an evaluation. The other copy will be kept on file in the department. Indicate which report you want kept on file in the department by writing the word COPY in bold letters on the title page. Although a cooperative effort by you and your classmates is needed to successfully collect the data, your report must be an independent effort, not a joint one, and can not be plagiarized in any way. Plagiarism is the act of representing someone else's work as one's own. Plagiarized laboratory reports will result in a score of zero being recorded for any students who are in violation of this rule. Furthermore, faculty are required to report all infractions to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. Reports are due at the beginning of class on the assigned day. Late lab reports will be penalized by reducing the grade by 5 points for each day of lateness. So if your lab report is due on Monday and you turn it in at the next class on Wednesday you will lose 5 points. If you turn your late lab report in the following Monday you will lose 10 points and so on. Late lab reports MUST be handed to me in person at the beginning of class. Do NOT slide a late lab report under my office door and do NOT go into the Psychology Office to get a time stamp or to put the report in my mail box.

LAB REPORT 1 REWRITES:
You will be required to submit a revised version of Lab Report 1. Your final grade will be determined by the combined average of the original report and the revised report. Thus, if you received 70 points on Lab Report 1 and 90 points on the revised version of Lab Report 1 you will receive 80 points for Lab Report 1. When submitting the revised version of the first lab report, include two typed copies of your rewritten lab report as well as the original lab report with comments and the attached evaluation sheet. Lab Report 2 can NOT be rewritten for a better grade.

POSTER PRESENTATION (100 Points):

The poster presentations provide an intimate forum for exchange between presenters and classmates. The posters have to be a group effort. Poster teams are composed of no more or no less than 3-4 authors. Posters will be graded on visual appearance, content, and 5 minute oral presentation. It is important that you form a lab team and began to plan your poster project as soon as possible. Poster projects must be observational studies and they must be approved by me. On the day of the poster presentation come to class and put your poster up on the whiteboards or the tables. You may place your poster anywhere in the room. You are then to go around the room and read the posters of all your classmates. When your teacher arrives to class she expects to see a poster session in progress! Your attendance at the poster session is necessary for a successful poster presentation. Lab partners who miss the poster session will be penalized by reducing the grade by 10 points. In addition, late posters will be penalized by reducing the grade by 5 points for each day of lateness.

Lab Report 1: 100 points
Lab Report 2: 100
Poster: 100
LABORATORY POINTS TOTAL 300

HOW WILL YOUR COURSE PERFORMANCE BE DETERMINED?

Your final grade is determined by the total of all the points you have received in the lecture and in the laboratory. Grades are not curved. For example, if you get a score of 88% (B+), you earn 88 points for that exam. Because grades are never curved, it is easy to keep track of how well you are doing in the course. A form for this purpose is provided in this syllabus.) Please note: There is no extra credit in this course.

HOW TO EVALUATE YOUR PERFORMANCE ON AN EXAM OR LAB REPORT:

A 93-100 points B- 80-83 D+ 67-69
A- 90-92 C+ 77-79 D 64-66
B+ 87-89 C 74-76 D- 60-63
B 84-86 C- 70-73 F 0-59

HOW TO DETERMINE YOUR COURSE GRADE:
A 651 - 700 (93+ %)
A- 630 - 650 (90+ %)
B+ 609 - 629 (87+ %)
B 588 - 608 (84+ %)
B- 560 - 587 (80+ %)
C+ 539 - 559 (77+ %)
C 518 - 538 (74+ %)
C- 490 - 517 (70+ %)
D+ 469 - 489 (67+ %)
D 448 - 468 (64+ %)
D- 420 - 447 (60+ %)
F 0 - 419 (-59%)

GRADE RECORD SHEET:

EXAM 1 _______ (100)
EXAM 2 _______ (100)
EXAM 3 _______ (100)
LAB REPORT 1 _______ (100)
LAB REPORT 2 _______ (100)
LAB POSTER _______ (100)
FINAL EXAM _______ (100)
TOTAL _______ (700)

In order to be fair to the entire class, I do not assign extra credit to raise grades. In addition, I follow University policy on the assignment of Incompletes (i.e., at least 75% of the course work must have been completed and there must be a compelling reason). Students are responsible for understanding the policies, procedures, current deadlines, and penalties about add/drop, late drop, late add, academic renewal, etc. Refer to the current semester’s catalog policies section for specific registration information. The last day to drop or withdraw without a "W" grade is Tuesday, September 7, 2010.

If you need course adaptations, accommodations, or special arrangements because of a disability, please let me know as soon as possible. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Disability Resource Center. Additionally, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please let me know as soon as possible.

SCHEDULE
Monday Wednesday

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WEEK 1 Orientation
8/25
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WEEK 2 Chapters 1 and 2 Appendix A and B 8/30 Chapter 7 9/1
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WEEK 3 *** HOLIDAY *** Chapter 4 9/6 9/8
Lab Activity
WEEK 4 Chapters 5 & 6 (pp. 131-149) Bring lab packet 9/13 Bring calculator 9/15
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WEEK 5 *** EXAM 1 *** Lab Report 1
Chapters 1-2, 4-7 *** Data Analysis Day ***
Bring Scantron Bring calculator
Bring #2 pencil Bring lab packet
*** Sternberg Data is Due *** 9/22
Page 66 CogLab (Lab Report 9/20
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WEEK 6 Chapters 3 and 14 Chapters 8-9
Bring APA Manual 9/29
Bring Textbook
Bring Lab Report 1 draft
EXAM 1 RETURNED 9/27
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WEEK 7 Chapters 8-9 Chapters 8-9
10/4 *** LAB REPORT 1 DUE *** 10/6
No Class *** EXAM 2 ***
WEEK 8 10/11 Chapters 8-9
Bring Scantron
Bring #2 Pencil
*** Mental Rotation Data Due ***
Page 105 CogLab (Lab Report 2) 10/13
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WEEK 9 Laboratory 2 Chapter 6 (pp. 149-157)
*** Data Analysis day *** EXAM 2 RETURNED
Bring calculator 10/20
Bring lab packet
10/18

Chapters 10-11 Chapter 10-11
10/25 LAB REPORT 1 RETURNED
WEEK 10 10/27

WEEK 11 Chapter 10-11 *** EXAM 3 ***
11/1 Chapters 6, 10-11 Bring Scantron
Bring #2 Pencil
11/3

Chapters 12-13 Chapters 12-13 Bring lab packet Bring lab packet
WEEK 12 11/8 EXAM 3 RETURNED
*** LAB REPORT 1 REWRITE DUE *** 11/10

WEEK 13 Lab 3 *** LAB REPORT 2 DUE ***
Bring lab packet Lab 3 cont.
11/15 11/17

WEEK 14 Lab 3 cont. Lab 3 cont.
.Group Meetings Group Meetings
11/22 11/24

WEEK 15 Lab 3 cont. Lab 3 cont.
Group Meetings Group Meetings
11/29 12/1

Lab 3 cont. *** POSTER SESSION ***
WEEK 16 Group Meetings LAB REPORT 1 REWRITE RETURNED
12/6 LAB REPORT 2 RETURNED
12/8

*** FINAL EXAM ***
WEEK 17 Bring large 8-Page Bluebook
Monday, 9:45-12:00
12/13

EXAM AND LAB REPORT DUE DATE SCHEDULE (7 X 100 = 700 Points):

100 Points *** EXAM 1 *** Monday, September 20
LAB REPORT 1 DUE *** Wednesday, October 6
100 Points *** EXAM 2 *** Wednesday, October 13
100 Points *** EXAM 3 *** Wednesday, November 3
*** LAB REPORT 1 REWRITE DUE *** Wednesday, November 10
100 Points *** LAB REPORT 2 DUE *** Wednesday, November 17
100 Points *** POSTER SESSION *** Wednesday, December 8
100 Points *** FINAL (EXAM 4) *** Monday, December 13

LAB REPORT RAW DATA DUE DATE SCHEDULE:

*** LAB REPORT 1 DATA DUE *** Monday, September 20
*** LAB REPORT 2 DATA DUE *** Wednesday, November 17

LAB REPORT DATA ANALYSIS SCHEDULE:

*** LAB REPORT 1 DATA ANALYSIS DAY *** Wednesday, September 22
*** LAB REPORT 2 DATA ANALYSIS DAY *** Monday, October 18

EXAM AND LAB REPORT RETURN SCHEDULE:

*** EXAM 1 RETURNED *** Monday, September 27
*** EXAM 2 RETURNED *** Wednesday, October 20
*** LAB REPORT 1 RETURNED *** Wednesday, October 27
*** EXAM 3 RETURNED *** Wednesday, November 10
*** LAB REPORT 1 REWRITE RETURNED *** Wednesday, December 8
*** LAB REPORT 2 RETURNED *** Wednesday, December 8
*** POSTER RETURNED *** Monday, December 13
*** GRADES VIEWABLE ON MySJSU *** Thursday, December 23

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:

Come to class with a positive attitude.
Be familiar with the information provided in your greensheet.
Behave respectfully to your instructor and to your peers.
Come to class everyday.
Be punctual (late students are to enter the room discreetly and sit in the back).
Do not leave early (if you absolutely must leave early sit near the door and leave discreetly).
Unless you have an emergency there are no in and out privileges.
Be prepared (have necessary materials with you).
Do assigned homework and readings on time.
Do not interrupt.
Do not talk/joke with your class-mates during lecture.
Do not read the newspaper during lecture.
Raise your hand if you wish to ask a question or make a comment.
Cover your mouth if you yawn, burp, or cough.
Refrain from eating, drinking (water is fine), or chewing gum.
Refrain from wearing perfume, colognes, and/or scented deodorants.
Turn off watch alarms, pagers, and cellular phones.
Do not send or receive text messages during class.
Do not sleep during class.