San José State University  
Department of Psychology  
Psych121C, Advanced Research Methods: Clinical Psychology  

Fall 2012

Instructor: R. Jay Schulz-Heik, Ph.D.

Office Location: DMH 323

Telephone: 650 427-0819

Email: Please email me at jay.schulzheik@gmail.com for all purposes. Please note that if you email me at my SJSU email account (Robert.schulz-heik@sjsu.edu) my response may be slower.

Preferred communication methods:  
1) In person  
2) Email  
3) Phone

Office Hours: 35 minutes immediately following each class

Class Days/Time: Monday; 4:30PM - 6:00PM

Lab Days/Time: Monday: 6:20PM – 8:20PM

Please note that the proportion of class time and lab time will vary from week to week.

Classrooms: DMH 208 (lecture); DMH 236 (lab)

Prerequisites:  
Psychology 1 (Introduction to Psychology)  
Statistics 95 (Introductory Statistics)  
Psychology 100W (Writing Workshop)  
Psychology 120 (Research Methods)  
*** If any of these prerequisites are not met, you must get instructor permission for course registration ***

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. will be delivered electronically. We will use Desire2Learn heavily. You are responsible for regularly checking the D2L course page.
Course Description
The purpose of this 2-unit course is to provide students with hands-on experience in the design, execution, and analysis of research in clinical psychology. The goal is to provide students with an appreciation for, and familiarity with, different types of research strategies. The course will be divided into two halves. During the first half, the class will consist of both lectures and lab exercises. After receiving a brief overview on a particular research topic and methodological strategy, students will complete laboratory assignments, often in groups. These assignments will provide hands-on experience with data collection, analysis, and reporting of results. During the second half of the course, students will focus on an independent, original group research project. You will conduct all aspects of a small research study, including study design, data collection and analysis, and written and oral reports.

Course and Program Learning Objectives

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

By the end of this course, you should be able to:
CLO1 Understand the research methods that are used to study psychopathology and its treatment
CLO2 Use experimental evidence as a tool for critically assessing theories
CLO3 Read and understand journal articles related to clinical psychology
CLO4 Synthesize several research studies and draw conclusions, in written format
CLO5 Design and conduct an independent, original research study
CLO6 Use statistics to interpret the results of research studies
CLO7 Write reports of research findings according to APA style
CLO8 Give a professional oral presentation of research findings

Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)
Upon successful completion of the psychology major requirements…

PLO2 – Research Methods in Psychology – Students will be able to design, implement, and communicate basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretations.

PLO3 – Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology – Students will be able to use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and a scientific approach to address issues related to behavior and mental processes.
Required Texts/Readings

Required Textbook

- This book will be available in the bookstore. You may wish to search elsewhere to find a used or otherwise discounted copy.

Other Readings

All other readings will be distributed electronically. They include:


Recommended Text

- Your final paper must be formatted according to APA style. Therefore, it is recommended that you purchase a copy of this book if you do not have one already. This is a commonly required text, so you may be able to borrow a copy from a friend.

- You may also use the 5th edition. No points will be deducted for following the guidelines set forth in this edition.

Definition of a Credit Hour
Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course, or three hours per
week. This is a two credit course, so you should expect to spend at least 6 hours per week on the course. The proportion of the time spent on lecture, lab, and reading will vary from week to week and from the initial lecture-lab-exam portion of the class to the latter portion dedicated to your original empirical research projects. On average, you should spend at least 1 hour on lecture, 3 hours on labs, and two hours reading per week.

Classroom Protocol

I ask that everybody follow the following guidelines to help the class run more smoothly as well as to limit the amount of distractions that occur.

1. Please turn off all pagers, cell phones, etc. prior to entering the classroom.
2. If you arrive late or have to leave early, please do so quietly.
3. Please be respectful of others by not speaking when others are doing so
4. Please be respectful of other people’s experiences and comments even though you may not agree with what they are saying.

USE OF LAPTOPS IN THE CLASSROOM

Laptops are permitted in the classroom for note-taking purposes only. Use of laptops for any other purpose (e.g., emailing friends or surfing the web) will not be permitted.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester’s Catalog Policies section at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic calendar web page located at http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/. The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

Assignments and Grading Policy

It is expected that all readings will be completed prior to class and that class participation and discussions will reflect this preparation. Because most research papers in psychology involve a team effort, distribution of work, timeliness, and a collaborative spirit are essential to a successful project. In order to assist me in accurately grading class participation, you will be invited to submit a brief confidential statement describing the relative contributions or each member of your final project team. Fifteen (15%) percent of your final grade will be based on your participation and collaborative efforts.

There will be one exam which will count 15% towards your final grade.
There will be several writing assignments based on exercises in lab. Most assignments will be turned in by each student individually. Each lab activity will include instructions about the product (calculations, graphing, write-up, etc.) that should be turned in. You will lose 10% of the point value of a lab report for each day it is late. If the assignment is returned to the class before you hand in your lab report, you will receive no credit. Your lowest lab grade will be dropped. However, if you complete all labs and no one grade is significantly worse than the rest, I will increase your total lab grade by up to one third of a grade (e.g. from a B to a B+). This is intended to give you incentive to do your best on all labs.

The most important requirement of this course (35% of your course grade) is your participation in the design, execution, and presentation of a research study. Students will form small groups. These groups will meet regularly to plan, execute, analyze, and evaluate a research project. At the end of the semester, these small groups will give an oral presentation of their project. Ten percent of your grade will be based on your group’s presentation. Twenty-five percent of your grade will be based on your own written description of the study. In other words, each student is required to submit his or her own final paper.

**Grading**

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<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
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<td>Written assignments based on labs</td>
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<td>Exam</td>
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<td>Student project (written)</td>
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<td>Student project (oral)</td>
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**Grading**

- A+ 98-100
- A 93-97
- A- 90-92
- B+ 88-89
- B 83-87
- B- 80-82
- C+ 78-79
- C 70-72
- D+ 68-69
- D 63-67
- D- 60-62
- F < 60

**University Policies**

**Academic integrity**

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University’s Academic Integrity policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), located at [http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html) is available at [http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html).

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have
submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

**Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Disability Resource Center (DRC)](http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/) to establish a record of their disability.

**Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

**Learning Assistance Resource Center**

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to inspire them to become independent learners. The Center's tutors are trained and nationally certified by the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA). They provide content-based tutoring in many lower division courses (some upper division) as well as writing and study skills assistance. Small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring are available. Please visit the [LARC website](http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/) for more information at http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/.

**SJSU Writing Center**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/) is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/.
Peer Mentor Center

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop-in basis, no reservation required. The Peer Mentor Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/
# PSYC121C/ Advanced Research Methods: Clinical Psychology, Fall 2012, Course Schedule

Please note that this schedule is subject to change with fair notice. Changes will be announced in class and also made available via MySJSU.

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<th>Table 1 Course Schedule</th>
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