

## Abnormal Psychology Lab

830:341:04

Spring 2013

Thursdays 8:40-11:40 AM

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**Faculty Supervisor:** Richard Contrada, Ph.D.

**Instructor:** Sara Manuel, M.A.

**Office:** Tillett Hall 607

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Contact Information:** SaraKManuel@gmail.com

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### **Required Texts and Supplementary Materials:**

- **Reading Material:** Required resources will be distributed via Sakai.
- **Highly Recommended:** Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association: Sixth Edition (\$20-\$30).
- **USB Drive:** You need to bring this to class every day to save your material on it. Do not save material on the computers.

### **Course Objectives:**

The ability to understand and conduct empirical research is essential for students interested in clinical psychology. This course is designed to help you develop the necessary knowledge and skills to engage in research as a clinical scientist. First, we will learn the basic steps involved in conducting a study in clinical psychology (e.g., ethical considerations, formulating hypotheses, choosing measures, collecting and analyzing data). Then we will work individually and in teams to conduct, write up, and present investigations of the effectiveness of various simple interventions adapted for an undergraduate lab setting.

As a student in this course, you will be immersed in every step of the process, and will come away with a solid foundation in research in abnormal and clinical psychology, which is necessary for graduate training. A comprehensive research report in APA format is due at the end of the term.

**The course is restricted to undergraduate majors in psychology who have taken Quantitative Methods and Abnormal Psychology. It is designed to meet one lab course requirement of the psychology major. Like any lab course, this class requires more than the average amount of work for you to earn a high grade.**

**Course website:**

If you are properly registered for the course, you have access to the course website through Sakai. There you will find copies of all slides, resources and assignments. It is important to note that the syllabus is subject to change, so please consistently check the syllabus on Sakai so that you are aware of these changes. You are responsible for all the information contained in this syllabus, and for all changes to the syllabus that I announce in class or post on the website.

**Students with disabilities:**

Any student who feels he or she needs accommodation for a physical or learning disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services (151 College Ave, Suite 123; phone 732-932-2848) and read more about Rutgers' policy at <http://disability/services.rutgers.edu> . If you request accommodations for this course, you will need a letter from Disability Services. This letter must be provided to me *by our second class*, at which point you may make a request for course-specific accommodations. The Chair of Undergraduate Psychology and I will review your request and may choose to modify it before it is approved.

**Computer Room (Room 105):**

- No food or drink is allowed in the computer lab!
- You are supposed to use the same computer during the entire semester unless there is a problem with your computer.
- You should save ALL work to your USB drive
- Students should NOT be saving anything on the desktops.
- Students should NOT be downloading anything non-class related to the computer.

**Office hours:**

My office hours are by appointment. However, I welcome and encourage any student to contact me if he or she has any questions concerning an assignment or something covered in class.

**Assignments and Grading:**

All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period.

- 7 Homework Assignments: (#1 & 3= 5 points each) (#2, 4, 5, 6, & 7= 10 points each) = 60 points total
- Final Research Paper: 20 Points
- Lab activity assignments: 10 points
- Class participation and attendance: 10 points

TOTAL: 100 points

A = 90 points and higher

C+ = 70-74 points

F = Below 50 points

B+ = 85-89 points

C = 60-69 points

B = 75-84 points

D = 50-59 points

### **Attendance and Assignments:**

Because this course is challenging and we cover a lot of material in every class, you are expected to attend **every class**. Inconsistent attendance will result in a lowered grade. If you miss two classes, you will be placed on probation. If you miss three or more classes, you will automatically receive an “F” for the course. In addition, **you must arrive on time to lab/lecture**. If you are more than 15 minutes late, you will not be allowed to participate in that lab, and will receive a 0 for the assigned homework.

Make ups and excused assignments will be determined on a case by case basis; do not assume that you will be able to make up an assignment if you miss class. Approved excuses include (but are not limited to): doctor’s appointments (with notes), religious events, etc. Assignments more than 3 days late will not be accepted. Missed assignments that are not excused will be given a “0.” Please type all assignments in 12 point font and use double spacing.

### **LATE POLICY & MAKE UP POLICY:**

Late work will not be accepted. I generally do not allow make-ups unless an extreme circumstance occurs. If an extreme circumstance occurs you must provide a written note from your dean in order to be eligible for a make-up assignment. Make-up assignments are determined on a case by case basis. Homework assignments cannot be made up. If you are absent you should submit the assignment to me via email before the due date.

### **Plagiarism:**

All work that students turn in must be their own work. Students *should not* work collaboratively on assignments without prior approval from the instructor. Any outside sources (including help from other people) must be appropriately referenced in all written work. Turning in someone else's work as your own is completely unacceptable. This includes downloading information from the web and pasting or copying it into your paper. We routinely check Google, Wikipedia and other popular websites to check for plagiarism. Additionally, we require that your paper be turned in as electronic as well as hard copies so that we can check for plagiarism by matching content to information on the web. Any student who plagiarizes will, *at the very least*, receive a failing grade for the course. More severe consequences (e.g., expulsion) are also possible. More about academic integrity can be found at <http://ctaar.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html>.

### Schedule and Due Dates

Date	Topics Covered	Assignments Due
1/31/2013	Intro to Research & Hypothesis Activation Workshop	
2/7/2013	Behavioral Activation	<b>Assignment 1: (Hypotheses) Due</b>
2/14/2013	Writing a Literature Review <b>In Class Assignment 1: Finding Sources</b>	<b>Assignment 2 Part 1 of 3: BA Plan and Blank BA Log Due</b>
2/21/2013	Discuss Lit Review & complete Test Anxiety Modules	<b>Assignment 3: BA Measures &amp; BA References Due</b>
2/28/2013	Peer Review & Introduction to SPSS and Data <b>In Class Assignment 2: Data Entry</b>	<b>Assignment 4: Lit Review Due</b>
3/7/2013	Writing a Methods Section	<b>Assignment 2, Part 2 of 3: Partially Completed BA Log Due</b>
3/14/2013	Data Analysis 1 & Tables <b>In Class Assignment 3 Part 1 of 2: Data Analysis</b>	<b>Assignment 5: BA Methods Section Due</b>
3/21/2013	SPRING BREAK!	N/A
3/28/2013	Interpreting SPSS & Writing Up Results 1: Results Section <b>In Class Assignment 3 Part 2 of 2: Data Analysis</b>	
4/4/2013	Interpreting SPSS & Writing Up Results 1: Results & Discussion Section <b>In Class Assignment 3 Part 2 of 2: Data Analysis</b>	<b>Assignment 2, Part 3 of 3: Completed BA Log Due</b>
4/11/2013	Finalizing your Project I	<b>Assignment 6: Class Results Section Due</b>
4/18/2013	Finalizing your Project II	<b>Assignment 7: Class Discussion</b>
4/25/2013	Presentations, Projects & Graduate School <b>In Class Assignment 4: BA Presentation</b>	
5/2/2013		<b>Final Paper Due</b>