

**Cognition Lab Section 01**  
01:830:306:01 Spring 2013  
Monday 8:40AM – 11:40AM  
Busch Psychology Building, Room 105

**Instructor**

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Office Hours: By appointment; Psychology Building, Room A106

**Course Objectives**

The aim of this course is to provide hands-on experience and training in experimental designs and analytical methods that are common in research in cognitive psychology. The course will be devoted to (a) running in-class experiments, (b) analyzing data, (c) interpreting results, and (c) writing APA-style lab reports.

**SAS Core Goal**

This course has been certified as satisfying four of the Writing and Communication Learning Outcome Goals (including WCR and WCD) of the SAS Core Curriculum.

Specifically, students will be able to:

- (a) Respond effectively to editorial feedback from peers, instructors, and/or supervisors through successive drafts and revision (WCR);
- (b) Communicate effectively in modes appropriate to a discipline or area of inquiry (WCD);
- (c) Evaluate and critically assess sources and use the conventions of attribution and citation correctly; and
- (d) Analyze and synthesize information and ideas from multiple sources to generate new insights.



**Course Material**

No text book. All course materials can be found on <http://sakai.rutgers.edu> after you log in. It is expected that you print out Instruction materials before class. (The printer in the classroom is for printing data-related materials *only*.)

**Exam**

No exam for this class.

**Attendance**

- Attendance is *mandatory*. There is *no make-up* lab unless the absence is because of religious observation or participation in intercollegiate athletics.
- If you miss a class, you must return official documents (i.e. an official excuse note from the Dean, etc.) to be excused for class exercise.
- Contact instructor *earlier* if you have any problem of your attendance.
- If you have *more than two* unexcused absences, you will fail the class.

## Schedule

Each lab follows a two-week cycle.

- Week 1
  - Students learn theoretical background and motivation of the week's experiment.
  - Students run the experiment and act as subjects in the experiment.
- Week 2
  - Students learn analysis methods for experiment results.
  - Students analyze and interpret their results of the first week experiment.

The schedule of units is as follows. Amendments may be made as the course progresses.

Date	Lab	Week	Assignment
02/04	Lab1: Typicality	Week 1	Abstract section (Due: 02/17)
02/11		Week 2	
02/18	Lab 2: Mental Rotation	Week 1	Introduction section (Due: 03/03)
02/25		Week 2	
03/04	Lab 3: Numerical Estimation	Week 1	Methods section (Due: 03/24)
03/11		Week 2	
03/18	Spring Break – No class		
03/25	Lab 4: Category Learning	Week 1	Discussion section (Due: 04/07)
04/01		Week 2	
04/08	Lab 5: Decision Making	Week 1	Results section (Due: 04/21)
04/15		Week 2	
04/22	Lab 6: Working Memory	Week 1	Final full lab report (Due: 05/05)
04/29		Week 2	
05/06	Reserved for class changes/amendments		

## Grading

	Points
12 Class Exercises	35
5 Assignments	35
Final Report	30
Total	100

## Letter Grade

Point Grade	Letter Grade
90	A
85	B+
80	B
75	C+
70	C
60	D
Below 60	F

Grade for this course will *not* be curved or scaled.

## Class Exercise

- For each class, the instruction for running experiment/analyzing data will be provided on Sakai. Students follow the instruction, (1) to set up an experiment, (2) to act as a subject, and (3) to analyze the data.
- At each class, a quiz will be distributed. Students are asked to answer the questions about (1) design, (2) data analysis result, and (3) various exercises for writing report.
- Each class exercise includes a quiz that is finished in the class room and is confirmed by instructor before each student leaves the class room.
- Each class exercise is graded on the scale of Pass (3 points out of 3) / Fail (0 point) except the first class (Pass (2 points out of 2) / Fail (0 point)).

## Assignment

- A partial section of an APA lab report (i.e. one of Abstract, Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion sections) is asked for each lab unit.
- Return the assignments on Sakai>Assignments.
- Writing assignments are graded on the following scale:
  - P+ : excellent work (7 points out of 7 + 3 extras, thus 10 points)
  - P : good, pass (7 points out of 7 )
  - P- : minor problems, needs improvement (4 points)
  - F : fail, required redo (0 point)
- Revision option:
  - Student can have one more chance to revise the report to get a P *in three days* of the receipt of graded assignment.
  - No subsequent revisions will be accepted after the first revision.
  - You may not revise a P to receive a P+.
  - No revision for final report.
- If you have *more than two* F assignments, you will fail the class.
- The email inquiries about assignments and final project in 24 hours before the due will *not* be answered. Start assignments earlier.

## Final Report

- For the last lab (Working Memory lab), students are asked to write a complete lab report that enables students integrate skills throughout the semester as the final project of this class.
- Final project is graded on the following scale:
  - A (30 points) / B (25 points) / C (20 points) / D (15 points) / F (0 point)

## Academic Integrity Policy

- All writing assignments and reports that students turn in must be done their own work. Students should not work collaboratively on assignments.
- *Any outside sources* must be appropriately referenced. Cutting and pasting from the Internet sources and rewording other's text without proper citation are examples of plagiarism. Be careful not to forget to put a proper citation and reference of *any* sources that is not your own. Plagiarism results in failing the course.
- See Rutgers' policy on Academic Integrity at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/>.

*\* If you decide to stay enrolled in this class after receiving this syllabus, I will assume you have read the entire syllabus and have agreed to all the policies outlined.*