Conditioning and Learning Lab – 01:830:312:02 section Spring 2015

Instructor: Ruthy Glass
Email: rs1029@scarletmail.rutgers.edu
Office hours: By appointment, usually before class is best
Class meeting time/place: Fridays 10:20-1:20, Busch psychology room 361A
Textbook: None. Required readings will be provided on sakai throughout the semester

The aim of this course is to acquaint students with scientific research within the context of learning psychology. Upon successful completion of this course, students will

*   have a basic understanding of methods and techniques used in animal conditioning research
*   understand the procedures for collecting data in animal conditioning research
*   be able to use basic statistics and statistical software to analyze data
*   be able to interpret the results of the statistical analyses
*   produce an APA-style empirical paper.

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;
d) Analyze and synthesize information and ideas from multiple sources to generate new insights.

Schedule for the class

Date:	
1/30	Introductions: Me and You Go Over Syllabus OSHA/Animal Training APA: Overview, Lit Review, Hypothesis, Introductions Go Over Example Article Meet the rats! Introduction to Experiment 1: Habituation

2/6	**Group article presentations and homework due:**
	    Group 1: Habituation 1
	    Group 2: Habituation 2
	    Group 3: Habituation 3
	General discussion of articles
	Getting to know the rats
	
	DATA COLLECTION EXPERIMENT 1: WEEK 1

2/13	APA: Method, Results, Figures, Discussion, Title Page *DATA COLLECTION EXPERIMENT 1: WEEK 2* Intro to Experiment 2
2/20	**Introduction & Method Section of Experiment 1 Draft Due** Review Statistics and SPSS Review Data for Experiment 1 Answer any questions about lab reports

2/27	****QUIZ 1****
	
	Group article presentations and homework due:
	    Group 2: Operant Conditioning 1
	    Group 3: Operant Conditioning 2
	    Group 4: Operant Conditioning 3
	Review data from experiment 1
	
	DATA COLLECTION EXPERIMENT 2: WEEK 1

3/6	**Experiment 1 Lab Report Due** *DATA COLLECTION EXPERIMENT 2: WEEK 2*
3/13	Review Data for Experiment 1 Introduction to Experiment 3
3/20	**NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK!**

3/27	**Group article presentations and homework due:**
	    Group 1: Social Food Preference 1
	    Group 4: Social Food Preference 2
	    Me: Food Preference 3
	
	DATA COLLECTION EXPERIMENT 3: WEEK 1
	
	Peer Review of Lab Report

4/3	**Quiz 2** *DATA COLLECTION EXPERIMENT 3: WEEK 2*
4/10	*DATA COLLECTION EXPERIMENT 3: WEEK 3*
4/17	Review Data for Experiment 3 Any lingering Questions
4/24	**Quiz 3** Peer Review of Lab Report #3 *Final papers due 5/7 at 5pm!*

Allocation of course points:	
Lab Report 1	**15**
Lab Report 3	**25**
Attendance/Participation	**(5)/(5)=10 TOTAL**
Homework	**12 points (4 points each)**
Quizzes	**21 (7 points each)**
Presentation	**9(3 points each)**
Peer Review	**8 points**
Total	**100 points**
Extra Credit	**2 points**

Lab Reports:

All lab reports must be computer generated following the format presented in class (APA). Lab reports should be both submitted in person and on Sakai (Assignments).

Submission time will be based on when the assignment is received on sakai or in class. Submit early to avoid problems with files! If you believe you are having problems with uploading your file on sakai and are worried about it being late, please email me the report text in the body of an email to prove to me that it exists. I will not grant a time extension for corrupted files or other digital submission problems.

Time Extension Policy:

Every student will get 48 hours extension time to turn in their lab reports. This will be usable in 24 hour increments – either the full 48 hours for one report, or two 24 hours for two lab reports. You do not need to tell me if you are using extension time…If you do not hand it in when it is due, I will assume you are using extension time. After your 48 hours are exhausted, however, I will deduct 10% from the maximum grade for each day the report is late.

Academic Integrity:

- You are required to abide by the Rutgers policy on academic integrity; please familiarize yourself with this policy, you can view it at http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/integrity.shtml
- Plagiarism is a violation of academic integrity. Lab reports will be checked for plagiarism using "Turnitin"
- Although you'll be working in groups, each student is responsible for writing and submitting their own lab report. Do not have one person write the introduction, and one person write the methods…if I see a group submit a report like that, you'll each only get credit for 1 section instead of the whole report.
- Don't plagiarize. If often takes more effort to plagiarize and cover your tracks than just to write an original thought. You'll also be caught…so it's more work and less payoff compared to just writing something yourself.

Attendance/Participation:

- Attendance in this class is critical to the success of the experiments, and therefore, mandatory.
- Any unexcused absence will take one point away from the participation point.
- You will also have .5 pts deducted for a late arrival to class.
- Arriving more than 30 minutes late to class will be counted as an unexcused absence.
- **Any unexcused absence during the data collection of any experiment will result in failure to receive credit for that lab report.**
- An absence will be excused *only* with a note from the Dean's office. You are responsible for any information you missed.

Presentations:

For each experiment, three supporting articles are provided as relevant background information. Students will work in groups in order to present the relevant information from these articles to their fellow classmates. HOWEVER, each student in the class is responsible for knowing the information from all three articles. This information will be on the quiz for the relevant module, and be necessary to complete the lab report for that experiment.

Quizzes:

Quizzes will be held during the first 15-20 minutes of class at 3 timepoints during the semester. These quizzes will be based on the article presentations for each experiment, APA style, and the basic statistics used with our data throughout the semester. If you are late on the day of a Quiz, you will ONLY be allotted the remaining time to complete the

quiz. If you arrive after the quiz has finished, you will receive an automatic zero for that quiz

Mistreating or mishandling of the rats will result in a dismissal from the class and an 'F'. There are no excuses and no exceptions.