

Conditioning and Learning Lab – 01:830:312 section 07 Fall 2016

Instructor: Jennifer Francesconi

Email: Jennifer.francesconi@rutgers.edu

Office hours: Before/After class and by appointment.

Class meeting time/place: **Fridays 12pm – 3pm** - Busch Campus, Psychology building, room 361A

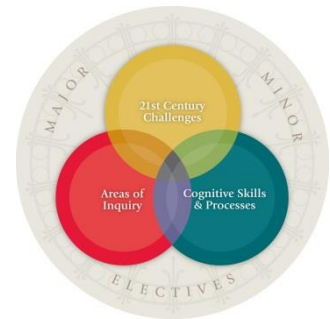
Textbook: None. Required readings will be provided on sakai throughout the semester

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

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Material Covered:</u>	<u>Due:</u>
09/16 WEEK 1	Course Introduction, OSHA surveys, Plagiarism Animals in research APA: Overview, Title page, Abstract, Introduction Introduction to Experiment 1 How to conduct a literature search for a research article	
09/23 WEEK 2	Experimental Design, Care and Handling of Lab Animals APA: Method Section & Results Meet with presentation group to research an article (~25 mins) Data Collection Experiment 1 week 1	- Read articles for Exp. 1 (Poucet, 1986; Poucet, 1988; Shukitt-Hale, 2001) - OSHA and orientation training due.
09/30 WEEK 3	**Quiz #1** APA: Figures, Discussion, References Brief meet with presentation group to discuss (~20 mins)	

	Data Collection Experiment 1: Week 2	
10/7 WEEK 4	Review Exp. 1 articles in class Review of Statistics Review Data for experiment 1 Intro to Experiment 2 --- Presentation #1 ---	- Draft of Introduction & Method section due by 11:59pm.
10/14 WEEK 5	Data collection Experiment 2: Week 1	- Read articles for Exp. 2 - Draft of Lab Report due by 11:59pm.
10/21 WEEK 6	**Quiz #2** Data Collection Experiment 2: Week 2	
10/28 WEEK 7	Review Exp. 2 articles in class Review Data for Experiment 2 Introduction to experiment 3 --- Presentation #2 ---	- Lab Report for Exp. 1 due by 11:59pm.
11/4 WEEK 8	Data collection experiment 3: Week 1	-Read articles for Exp. 3
11/11 WEEK 9	**Quiz #3** Data collection experiment 3: Week 2	
11/18 WEEK 10	No class --SFN	
11/25 WEEK 11	No class -- Thanksgiving	
12/2 WEEK 12	Review experiment 3 articles in class Review data for experiment 3 SPSS/Excel --- Presentation #3 ---	
12/9 WEEK 13	--- Presentation #4 --- Peer-Review of Lab Report #3	- Peer review of lab report(s) *report printed and brought to class* - Lab report for Exp. 2 due by 11:59pm
12/16 WEEK 14	No class	- Lab report for Exp. 3 due by 11:59pm

Allocation of course points:	
Lab Report 1	15
Lab Report 2	20
Lab Report 3	25 (5 points for peer review)
Attendance/Participation	(5)/(5)=10 TOTAL
Quizzes	21 (7 points each)
Presentation	9

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 (1st time: warning + 30% penalty, 2nd time: report to academic integrity + 100% penalty). Lab reports will be checked for plagiarism using "Turnitin"

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 20 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.

Lab Reports:

All lab reports must be computer generated following the format presented in class (APA). Lab reports should be submitted on Sakai (Assignments). Students submitting reports late will lose 10% of the points for that report for each day it is late.

Presentations:

Students will work in groups in order to present a relevant article of the group's choice to their fellow classmates. All students are expected to equally contribute both in the creation and presentation of the article. Presentations should be roughly 15 minutes in length and presented via PowerPoint.

Quizzes:

Quizzes will be held during the first 15-20 minutes of class at 3 points during the semester. These quizzes may be based on the articles for each experiment, APA style, and/or 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.

