

Conditioning and Learning Lab – 01:830:312 section 06 Fall 2017

Instructor: Jennifer Francesconi

Email: Jennifer.francesconi@rutgers.edu

Office hours: Before/After class and by appointment.

Class meeting time/place: **Thursday 10:20am – 1:20pm** - Busch Campus, Psychology building, room 361A

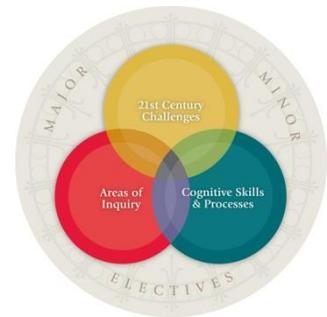
Textbook: None. Required readings will be provided on sakai throughout the semester

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>
9/11 – 9/15 WEEK 1	Course Introduction, OSHA surveys, Plagiarism Introduction to Experiment 1 Animal Orientation Training	
9/18 – 9/22 WEEK 2	Experimental Design, Care and Handling of Lab Animals APA: Overview, Title page, Abstract, Introduction APA: Method Section & Results How to conduct a literature search for a research article Meet with presentation group to research an article (~25 minutes) Data Collection Experiment 1 week 1	- Read articles for Exp. 1 (Poucet, 1986; Poucet, 1988; Shukitt-Hale, 2001) -Orientation training due*
9/25 – 9/29 WEEK 3	**Quiz 1** APA: Figures, Discussion, References Intro to Experiment 2	

	Brief meet with presentation group to discuss (~20 minutes) Data Collection Experiment 1: Week 2	
10/2 – 10/6 WEEK 4	Review of Statistics Review Experiment 1 articles Review Data for experiment 1 Data collection Experiment 2: Week 1	- Read articles for Exp. 2
10/9 – 10/13 WEEK 5	Introduction & Method Section Draft Due ** Quiz 2** Data Collection Experiment 2: Week 2	- Draft of Lab Report 1 due by 11:59pm.
10/16 – 10/20 WEEK 6	Presentation # 1 Review Experiment 2 Articles Review Data for Experiment 2	
10/23 – 10/27 WEEK 7	Lab Report Due via Sakai: Experiment 1 ** Quiz 3** Presentation # 2 Introduction to experiment 3	- Final Lab Report for Exp. 1 due by 11:59pm.
10/30 – 11/3 WEEK 8	Presentation # 3 ** Graded Peer-Review of Lab Report 2** 5 of the total 20pts for Lab Report 2 will be based on this Data Collection Experiment 3: Week 1	- Read articles for Exp. 3 **Bring a copy of report to class with you!**
11/6 – 11/10 WEEK 9	Data Collection Experiment 3: Week 2	
11/13 – 11/17 WEEK 10	Lab Report Due via Sakai: Experiment 2 **No Class**	- Final Lab Report for Exp. 2 due by 11:59pm
11/20 – 11/24 WEEK 11	**No Class**	
11/27 – 12/1 WEEK 12	Presentation # 4 Review Experiment 3 articles SPSS (analyze data in groups) Review Data for Experiment 3	
12/4 – 12/8 WEEK 13	Peer-Review of Lab Report 3	
12/11 – 12/15 WEEK 14	**No Class** Lab Report Due via Sakai: Experiment 3 ON WEDNESDAY BY 5pm	- Lab report for Exp. 3 due by 5:00pm on WEDNESDAY 12/13***

Allocation of course points:	
Lab Report 1	15
Lab Report 2	20 (5 points for peer review)
Lab Report 3	25
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.

Peer Review:

Students will conduct multiple peer review sessions throughout the semester. The goal of these sessions is to practice your newly developed scientific writing skills by providing constructive feedback to your fellow classmates’ lab reports. One of these peer review sessions (Peer review for Report 2) will be graded. I will grade the quality of your peer review of another student’s work. This peer review will be worth 5pts and will be added onto your own score for the final report for experiment 2 (see box above concerning allocation of course points).

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.**