
INFANT & CHILD DEVELOPMENT LAB

830:332:B2 | SUMMER 2017
TUESDAY & THURSDAY 2:00PM – 5:40PM | TILLETT 205

Instructor

Caitlin Bronson

Email

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Office Location & Hours

Tillett Hall 325 by appointment

Course Description

This course is designed to help students develop the knowledge and skills necessary to conduct scientific research within the field of developmental psychology. The course will provide students with hands-on opportunities to collect, code, interpret, and analyze data by visiting the Douglass Child Study Center located on Douglass Campus three times over the semester.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Understand basic research design methods and techniques
- Know the procedures used to collect and code data in a daycare setting
- Analyze and interpret data using basic statistics and statistical software (SPSS)
- Write and peer-review an APA-style empirical paper

SAS Core Writing & Communication Goals

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

Specifically, students will be able to:

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



Course Structure

Students are required to complete assignments and a final APA-style paper. Many assignments will be done in lab, during class hours. Further, this course requires that the students complete three research studies conducted at the Douglass Child Study Center (DCSC) located on the Douglass Campus. **Students are responsible for their own transportation to the DCSC and timely attendance is required. If you are late, you will be unable to complete the study and will receive a zero on your assignment.**

This course consists of four units that progress from simple to more complex designs and statistical analyses:

- UNIT 1: Research Methods
- UNIT 2: Peer Interactions | Correlation & t-tests
- UNIT 3: Theory of Mind | ANOVA
- UNIT 4: Contamination & Contagion | Repeated Measures ANOVA

Grading

Requests for grade changes will not be fulfilled. Grades will be **earned** based on:

- Attendance & Participation 15%
- Assignments 50%
- Final APA Style Paper 35%

Grading Scale	
A	89.5% or above
B+	84.5-89.49%
B	79.5-84.49%
C+	74.5-79.49%
C	69.5-74.49%
D	59.5-69.49%
F	59.49% or below

Attendance & Participation: You may have **one** unexcused absence. You are still responsible for asking other students for the notes and work you missed and for completing the work in a timely matter. If you already know you will miss a class, you need to email the instructor (c.bronson@rutgers.edu) within the first two weeks of the semester. **Two unexcused absences will result in a zero for your attendance and participation grade. Three unexcused absences will result in an automatic final grade of an F.** Further, being **more than 20 minutes late** to class counts as an unexcused absence. If you have an illness, religious observance, or unexpected emergency, you must provide documentation to the instructor and excuse your absence by getting a written note from your Dean. Points will be deducted from your participation grade for excessive cell phone use, sleeping, and any other disruptive class behavior.

Assignments: There are ten assignments. The due dates and number of points vary. Check the course schedule (below) and Sakai for due dates and point values. Some assignments will be group work or peer review. Each group member should submit a copy of the assignment. All assignments will be submitted through Sakai.

Final APA Style Paper: The final paper will be **due Thursday, July 6th at 11:55pm**. You must work individually on the final paper. The final paper will be submitted through Sakai.

Late Policy

Assignments will be accepted up to **two days** late, unless special arrangements have been made **in advance**. A point will be deducted for each day the assignment is late. After two days, the late assignment will not be accepted and result in a zero. **Final papers turned in late will not be accepted.** The final paper needs to be turned in on time.

Required Text

Any required text will be posted on Sakai. You may find it useful to obtain a copy of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association 6th Edition*. However, most of the information you will need for properly citing sources can be found online at <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/>.

Academic Integrity

Cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated. All work turned in must be the student's own work. Do not collaborate with others unless the instructor has explicitly stated to work in groups. Any and all sources must be appropriately cited in all written work. Refer to the APA style manual for how to properly reference sources. All work will be submitted through Turnitin and checked for plagiarism. If you plagiarize or cheat, which includes failing to properly cite sources or turning someone else's work in as your own, at the very least **you will receive a failing grade in the course**. More severe consequences are also possible. Rutgers' policy on academic integrity can be found at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/>. You are responsible for knowing what constitutes plagiarism or cheating.

Students with Disabilities

Any student with a documented disability may contact the Office of Disability Services to determine the appropriate accommodations. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations need to follow the procedures found at <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>.

Course Schedule

UNIT 1 : Research Methods

Date	In Class	Readings Due Before Next Class	Assignments
Tues 5/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overview syllabus and course structure ▪ Scientific method ▪ Designing an experiment ▪ APA style research report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Howes (1980) ▪ Fabes et al. (2003) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assignment 1: Structure of an APA research report <p>Due end of class 5/30</p>

UNIT 2 : Peer Interactions (PI)

Date	In Class	Readings Due Before Next Class	Assignments
Thurs 6/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prepare for DCSC observation ▪ Writing a method section ▪ Writing an intro section ▪ Writing a reference section 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assignment 2: PI Methods <p>Due 6/5 by 11:55pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assignment 3: PI Intro & References <p>Due 6/8 by 11:55pm</p>
Tues 6/6	DCSC Observation Day		
Thurs 6/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Correlation ▪ t-tests ▪ Data analysis for PI ▪ Writing results section ▪ Writing discussion section 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gopnick & Astington (1988) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assignment 4: PI Results & Discussion <p>Due 6/13 by 11:55pm</p>

UNIT 3 : Theory of Mind (ToM)

Date	In Class	Readings Due Before Next Class	Assignments
Tues 6/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prepare for ToM study ▪ PsychINFO (2 articles) ▪ Writing method section 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assignment 5: ToM Method <p>Due end of class 6/13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assignment 6: ToM Intro & References <p>Due 6/19 by 11:55pm</p>
Thurs 6/15	DCSC ToM Study		

- Tues 6/20**
- ANOVA
 - Data analysis for ToM
 - Peer review ToM
- Kalish (1996)
- Assignment 7: ToM Results & Discussion
- Due 6/22 by 11:55pm**

UNIT 4 : Contamination & Contagion (CC)

Date	In Class	Readings Due Before Next Class	Assignments
Thurs 6/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prepare for CC study ▪ Writing methods section 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assignment 8: CC Methods <p>Due by end of class 6/22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assignment 9: CC Intro & References <p>Due 6/28 by 11:55pm</p>
Tues 6/27	DCSC CC Study		
Thurs 6/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Repeated measures ANOVA ▪ Data analysis for CC ▪ Peer review CC 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assignment 10: CC Results & Discussion <p>Due by 7/3 11:55pm</p>
Tues 7/4	NO CLASS		
Thurs 7/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wrap up ▪ Final paper 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Final Paper <p>Due by 7/6 at 11:55pm</p>

Course schedule, due dates, and syllabus subject to change. Please regularly check Sakai for updates.