

# LEARNING PROCESSES LAB

Section 05

Fall 2018

**Class Location:** Busch Psychology, Room A361

**Meeting Times:** Weds 3:20-6:20pm

**Instructor:** Megan Giedraitis

**Email:** megan.elizabeth@rutgers.edu

**Office Hours:** by appointment (email or talk to me after class to schedule a time)

**Required Text:** None, required readings will be posted on Sakai

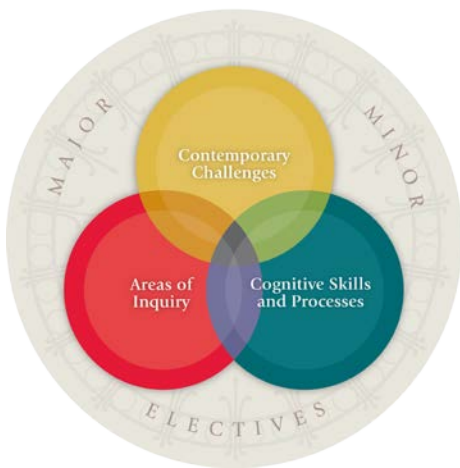
## CLASS OBJECTIVES:

Through the readings, experiments, and assignments it is expected that as a student you will:

1) Have a basic understanding of methods and techniques used in animal conditioning research, 2) Understand the procedures for collecting data in animal conditioning research, 3) Be able to use basic statistics and statistical software to analyze data, 4) Be able to interpret the results of the statistical analyses, 4) Produce an APA-style empirical paper.

Additionally, 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.



## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- **Lab Reports:** All lab reports (drafts and final versions) must be typed and written in APA format. All lab reports must be submitted in person (hard copy) and on Sakai (under the “Assignments” tab). Reports are due at the beginning of class. Although the experiments are a group activity, the lab reports are an *individual* assignment. Should copying and turning in someone else’s work occur, both the student who copied the work and the student who gave the material to be copied will automatically receive a zero. Below is a breakdown of the structure of the lab reports, which we will go over in class.

- Lab Report 1: Results/Discussion
- Lab Report 2: Introduction/Methods
- Lab Report 3: Full Report

Resources for APA style writing:

<http://www.apastyle.org/>

[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/apa\\_style/apa\\_style\\_introduction.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_style_introduction.html)

- **Readings:** Three articles will be provided as background information for each experiment. These will be available on Sakai. You are responsible for reading these articles before the lab.
- **Quizzes:** Quizzes will be held during the first 15-20 minutes of class. These quizzes will be based on the articles read for each experiment. 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.
- **Creative Proposal Presentation:** You will design an experiment based on a research question related to learning. In the presentation, you will answer the question, describe the importance of this question, outline your experimental design (i.e. methods), and clearly state your hypotheses. Be creative with this project, since it is imaginary you have unlimited funding, resources, and time. The presentation will be 6-10 minutes long. Please cite all sources used according to APA format.
- **Final Lab Report Draft:** You will have the opportunity to email a draft of your final lab report to me before the final due date (see calendar). In order to receive both credit and feedback, the draft must be typed, APA style, and include specific questions/comments for me to review.

### Grading:

The maximum total is 100 points.

Assignment	Maximum Points
Lab Report 1	15
Lab Report 2	15
Lab Report 3	30
Quiz 1	5
Quiz 2	5
Quiz 3	5
Creative Proposal	10
Lab Report 3 Draft	5
Attendance	10

### CLASS POLICIES:

- **Academic Integrity:** You are required to abide by the Rutgers policy on academic integrity; please familiarize yourself with this policy. Plagiarism is a violation of academic integrity. Lab reports will be checked for plagiarism using “Turnitin”. If you plagiarize your lab report, you will be reported to the Rutgers academic counsel as well as you will get a zero for that lab report.

<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/>

- **Attendance/Participation:** It is expected that you will attend all lab meeting times, come to class on time, and complete all assignments. Everyone will start with 10 attendance points (~1 point per class). Unexcused absences will receive a deduction of 1 point; arriving late >15 minutes will result in a .5 deduction. Arriving more than 20 minutes late will count as an unexcused absence. As the lab reports are dependent on the experiments in class, an unexcused absence during the data collection period will result in a 0 for that lab report. An absence will only be excused with a note from the Dean’s office. Students who miss a lab should consult with a fellow class member to obtain missed material.
- **Late Policy for Assignments:** Assignments turned in late will lose 10% for each day late. You will have plenty of time to work on your assignments, so don’t wait until the last minute.
- **Cell Phones:** Please silence or set the “vibrate” setting on your cell phones prior to class. If you must answer your cell phone, do so outside of the classroom. Texting or taking photos/videos with your phone during class will not be tolerated.
- **Animal Handling:** Mistreating or mishandling the rats will result in a dismissal from the class and an F. There are no excuses or exceptions.

Date	Topic	Assignments Due
9/12/18	Class Introduction, IACUC, Introduction to Experiment 1	
9/19/18	Experimental Design, Care and Handling of Lab Rats, APA review  Data collection Experiment 1: Week 1	Read articles for Experiment 1
9/26/18	APA review  Data collection Experiment 1: Week 2	
10/3/18	Review of Experiment 1, Stats review, Introduction to Experiment 2  Quiz 1	
10/10/18	Data collection Experiment 2: Week 1	Read articles for Experiment 2  Lab Report 1 due by 3:20pm
10/17/18	Data collection Experiment 2: Week 2	
10/24/18	Review of Experiment 2, Introduction to Experiment 3  Quiz 2	Lab Report 2 due by 3:20pm
10/31/18	Data collection Experiment 3: Week 1	Read articles for Experiment 3
11/7/18	NO CLASS	

11/14/18	Data collection Experiment 3: Week 2	
11/21/18	NO CLASS	
11/28/18	Review of Experiment 3  <b>Quiz 3</b>	
12/5/18	Review/Wrap Up, <b>Creative Proposal Presentations</b>	Draft of Lab Report 3 due by 3:20pm
12/10/18	NO CLASS	Lab Report 3 due by 3:20pm

**Note: Course content, calendar, and grading policies may be changed at the discretion of the instructor to accommodate class needs and/or special circumstances.**