

Abnormal Psychology Lab

830:341:02
Spring 2018
Mondays 3:20-6:20

Faculty Supervisor: Edward Selby, Ph.D.

Instructor: Kathryn Coniglio, B.A.

Office: Tillett 527

Office Hours: By Appointment

Contact Information: kathryn.coniglio@rutgers.edu

Textbooks: Any required reading for this class will be distributed during class or posted on Sakai. However, it is highly recommended that you purchase the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association: 6th edition (~\$28.00) if you do not own it already.

Purpose: The ability to understand and conduct empirical research is essential for students interested in clinical and abnormal psychology. This course is designed to help you develop the necessary knowledge and skills to engage in research as a clinical scientist. First, we will learn the basic steps involved in conducting a study in clinical psychology (e.g., ethical considerations, formulating hypotheses, choosing measures, collecting and analyzing data). Then we will work on how to disseminate findings regarding clinical psychology. As a student in this course, you will be immersed in every step of the process, and will come away with a solid foundation in research in abnormal and clinical psychology, which is necessary for graduate training. A comprehensive research report in APA format is due at the end of the term.

The course is restricted to undergraduate majors in psychology who have taken Quantitative Methods and Abnormal Psychology. It is designed to meet one lab course requirement of the psychology major. Like any lab course, *this class requires more than the average amount of work for you to earn a high grade.*

Attendance and Assignments

Because this course is challenging and we cover a lot of material in every class, you are expected to attend *every class*. Inconsistent attendance will result in a lowered grade. In addition, **you must arrive on time to lab/lecture**. If you are more than 15 minutes late, you will not be allowed to participate in that lab, and will receive a 0 for the assigned homework. Missed assignments that are not excused will be given a "0." You CANNOT make up any of the take-home assignments. If you have an excused absence for an in-class exercise, with dean's note or other comparable notification, you may either a) pro-rate your final grade, or b) do a make-up assignment that will usually consist of a 1-2 page reaction paper to be attended lecture in the field of psychology. **Make up assignments will be determined on a case by case basis, and you should not assume that you will be able to make up an assignment just because you missed class, even if it is excused.** Late and excused assignments will be docked one deserved point for up to 3 days. **Assignments more than 3 days late will not be accepted.** If you miss two classes, you will be placed on probation. **If you miss three or more classes, you will**

automatically receive an “F” for the course. Please type all assignments in 12 point Times New Roman font and use double spacing.

Core Requirements

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 & critically assess sources & use the conventions of attribution & citation correctly
- d) Analyze and synthesize information and ideas from multiple sources to generate new insights.

Course website: If you are properly registered for the course, you have access to the course website through Sakai. There you will find copies of all slides and handouts, study guides, and special notices. **If you have questions about the course this should be the first place you look for an answer.** It is important to note that the syllabus is subject to change, so please consistently check the syllabus on Sakai so that you are aware of these changes.

Computer Room (Room 105):

- No food or drink is allowed in the computer lab!
- The student computers have a folder structure with a link on the desktop for the various types of labs (Psych 302, Psych 306). There are subfolders for the various sections (Mo 12, Mo 34, Mo 56 Mo 78, Tue 12 etc.).
- You are supposed to use the same computer during the entire semester and should be saving your data, analyses, and work to the correct folder for your section
 - **Back up your assignments and data each day via a flash drive (or emailing them to yourself) is HIGHLY recommended. You are responsible for securing your own files and data. Loss of files could result in a lowered grade**
 - Do NOT save things on the desktops!
 - Do NOT download anything non-class related!
- Use of the computers is a privilege, and inappropriate use of the computers may result in loss of that privilege. The computers are to be used for **class work only**, that means that you should not be using them during lecture. If you are on the computer and not paying attention during lecture, your computer privileges will be revoked.

Students with disabilities: Any student who feels he or she needs accommodation for a physical or learning disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services (151 College Ave, Suite 123; phone 732-932-2848) and read more about Rutgers' policy at <http://disability/services.rutgers.edu> . If you request accommodations for this course, you will need a letter from Disability Services. This letter must be provided to me *by our second class*, at which point you may make a request for course-specific accommodations. The Chair of Undergraduate Psychology and I will review your request and may choose to modify it before it is approved.

Office hours: My office hours are by appointment only. We can also meet after class if you schedule with me in advance. I welcome and encourage any student to contact me if he or she has any questions concerning an assignment, or something covered in class.

Plagiarism. All work that students turn in must be their own work. Students *should not* work collaboratively on assignments without prior approval from the instructor. Any outside sources (including help from other people) must be appropriately referenced in all written work. Turning in someone else's work as your own is completely unacceptable. This includes downloading information from the web and pasting or copying it into your paper. We routinely check Google, Wikipedia and other popular websites to check for plagiarism. Additionally, we require that your paper be turned in as electronic as well as hard copies so that we can check for plagiarism by matching content to information on the web. **Any student who plagiarizes will, at the very least, receive a failing grade for the course.** More severe consequences (e.g., expulsion) are also possible. More about academic integrity can be found at <http://ctaar.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html>.

Turning in Assignments:

- All assignments, drafts, and final papers will be turned in on Sakai These must be typed (double-spaced, 12pt font)
 - Homework and Peer Reviews will be turned in on the Assignments tab
 - Behavioral Activation draft and final paper will be turned in on the Dropbox tab
 - Behavioral Activation logs and pre and post treatment measures will be turned in in person
- All behavioral activation logs will be turned in at the beginning of class in hard copy. These may be typed or hand-written.

Assignments and Grading:

All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period.

- 8 Homework Assignments: 10 points each (80 points total)
- Behavioral Activation Logs: 10 Points
- Peer Reviews: 10pts each (20 Points Total)
- Behavioral Activation Draft: 15 Points
- Behavioral Activation Final Paper: 35 Points
- Class participation and attendance: 40 points

TOTAL: 200 points

A = 90% and higher

B+ = 87-89%

B = 80-86%

C+ = 77-79%

C = 70-76%

D = 60-69%

F = Below 60%

Spring 2018 Schedule

Week 1 (1/22): Introduction to Class

Due: Nothing

- 1.) Overview of Course
- 2.) Introduction to Instructor and Classmates
- 3.) Expectations Survey
- 4.) Discuss Reading Assignment

Week 2 (1/29): Review of Depression

Due: Read Chapters 1-2 of *Full Catastrophe Living* (for quiz)

- 1.) Overview of Depression
- 2.) Introduction to Behavioral Activation (BA)
- 3.) Discussion of Mindfulness and Positive Psychology
- 4.) Reading Quiz
- 5.) Discussion of BA Project

Week 3 (2/5): Literature Review

Due: Baseline Measures & Pick Individual Project Topic

- 1.) Discuss Literature Review Process
- 2.) In Class Activity: Group BA Literature Review
- 3.) Discuss Assignment #1 (Individual Project Literature Review)

Week 4 (2/12): Hypotheses

Due: Assignment #1 (Literature Review & Topic Summary)

- 1.) Present Literature Reviews
- 2.) Discussion of The Scientific Method
- 3.) Discussion of Hypotheses
- 4.) Discuss Assignment #2 (Write 3 Scientific Hypotheses)

Week 5 (2/19): Research Methods/Study Design

Due: Assignment #2 (Hypotheses)

- 1.) Present Hypotheses
- 2.) Overview of Study Design/Research Methodology
 - a. Variables
 - b. Measures
 - c. Sampling/Distribution
- 3.) In class activity: BA Study Design
- 4.) Discuss Assignment #3 (Individual Project Study Design)

Week 6 (2/26): APA Style Writing & Method Section

Due: Assignment #3 (Study Design)

- 1.) Present & Critique Study Designs
- 2.) Introduction to APA Style Writing
- 3.) Overview of Method Section
- 4.) Discuss Assignment #4 (BA Methods Section)
- 5.) Practice “study pitch” to partner

Week 7 (3/5): APA Style Introduction Section

Due: Assignment #4 (BA Methods Section)

Peer Review #1 (Feedback on study pitch)

- 1.) Mid-class feedback
- 2.) Overview of APA Style Introduction
- 3.) In Class Activity: Outline BA Introduction Section in groups
- 4.) Discuss Assignment #5 (BA Introduction)

Week 8 (3/19): Individual Project Proposal Presentations

Due: BA logs

Week 9 (3/26): SPSS & Data Processing & Analysis

Due: Assignment #5 (BA Introduction Section)

Post-Treatment Measures

- 1.) Introduction to SPSS & Data Processing/Analysis
- 2.) In Class Activity: Practice Data Processing/Analysis
- 3.) Discuss Assignment #6 (BA Data Analysis)

Week 10 (4/2): SPSS & APA Style Results Section

Due: Assignment #6 (BA Data Analysis)

- 1.) Meet with Peer Reviewer
- 2.) Overview of APA Style Results Section Writing
- 3.) In Class Activity: Practice Interpretation of SPSS Output
- 4.) Discuss Assignment #7 (BA Results)

Week 11 (4/9): APA Style Discussion Section

Due: Assignment #7 (BA Results)

- 1.) Overview of APA Style Discussion Section Writing
- 2.) Discuss Assignment #8 (BA Discussion)

Week 12 (4/16): APA Abstract & References (Optional Lecture on Bonus Topic)

Due: Assignment #8 (BA Discussion)

Week 13 (4/23): Spillover Day

Due: BA Abstract & References

Peer Review #2: Feedback on Discussion section

Week 14 (4/30): Extra Class If Needed due to Previous Snow Cancellation

Due: BA Final Drafts