

Abnormal Psychology Lab

830:341:H6

Summer 2019

Monday & Wednesday 6:00-9:40PM

Faculty Supervisor: Edward Selby, Ph.D.

Instructor: Joanne Kim, B.A.

Office Hours: By Appointment, Tillett 527

Contact Information: joanne.s.kim@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 an article 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. It is also vital that you check your email and look at the announcements on the Sakai site for additional important updates and tips.

Computer Room (Room 105):

- No food or drink is allowed in the computer lab!
- 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. Please remember to do this, as the computers in the lab make a habit of disappearing people’s data. You have been warned.
 - Do NOT save things on the desktops! They can be cleared every time you log off.
 - 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 and points may be docked off your Class Participation/Attendance grade.

Students with disabilities: Any student who feels he or she needs accommodation for a physical or learning disability should contact the Office of Disability Services (151 College Ave, Suite 123; phone 732-932-2848) and read more about Rutgers’ policy at <https://ods.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. Please try to contact me several days in advance. We can also meet before 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 it into your paper. For each written assignment, I use Google, Wikipedia, etc. 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 (the Rutgers assignment submission portal on Sakai automatically checks for plagiarism as well). **Any student who plagiarizes on any assignment 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://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu>.

Turning in Assignments:

- All assignments, drafts, and final papers will be turned in on Sakai. All assignments will be turned in on the assignments tab.
- All assignments must be:
 - Typed in 12-point font (Times New Roman) with double spacing
 - Formatted with one-inch margins all around
 - Word documents (NOT pdfs), unless otherwise specified
- You will participate in peer reviews of each other's papers. As noted further down in the syllabus, the peer reviews you write for others and submit to me through Sakai will be incorporated into your grade. We will review the requirements and grading rubric for these peer reviews in class.
- I will be giving feedback on your homework assignments and paper drafts, and you should make edits and incorporate my feedback, as well as peer review feedback, into your final drafts.

Assignments and Grading:

All assignments are due by 12pm the day of the class period, unless otherwise noted.

- 8 Homework Assignments: 10 points each (80 points total)
- Class Participation and Attendance: 35 points
- Daily Logs: 10 points total
- Peer Reviews: 10 points each (20 points total)
- Final Paper: 60 points

TOTAL: 205 points

A = 90% and higher

B+ = 87-89%

B = 80-86%

C+ = 77-79%

C = 70-76%

D = 60-69%

F = Below 60%

Description of class project:

As a class, we will investigate whether meditation improves positive mood and decreases negative mood. Students will be involved in data collection, analysis and report writing. Students will write an APA style research paper with all required sections (i.e., Abstract, Introduction, Method, Results, Discussion, References).

Summer 2019 Schedule

Day 1 (7/8): Introduction to Class

Due: Nothing

- 1.) Introduction to instructor and classmates; overview of course; discussion of mindfulness and class project
- 2.) In Class Activity #1 Reading Assignment
- 3.) In Class Activity #2 Baseline Measures

Homework: Measures (if not finished in class); Begin Log

Day 2 (7/10): Academic Writing and Literature Reviews

Due: Baseline Measures

- 1.) What research articles are, how to read them, how to do a literature review
- 2.) In Class Activity #1: Begin literature review for class project
- 3.) In Class Activity #2: Read and summarize two articles for class project

Homework: Assignment #1 (Finish Lit Review for class project); Continue Log

Day 3 (7/15): The Scientific Method

Due: Assignment #1 (Literature Review)

- 1.) In Class Activity: Present Literature Reviews
- 2.) Asking and answering scientific questions, creating hypotheses

Homework: Assignment #2 (Hypotheses); Continue Log

Day 4 (7/17): Research Methods/Study Design

Due: Assignment #2 (Hypotheses)

- 1.) How to conduct research, different types of study designs

Homework: Assignment #3 (Hypotheses for Class Project); Continue Log

Day 5 (7/22): APA Style Writing & Introduction Section

Due: Assignment #3 (Hypotheses for Class Project)

- 1.) Present Class Project Hypotheses
- 2.) Introduction to APA Style Writing
- 3.) Overview of Introduction Section
- 4.) In Class Activity #1: Introduction outline

Homework: Assignment #4 (Introduction Section); Continue Log

Day 6 (7/24): APA Style Methods Section

Due: Nothing

- 1.) Overview of APA Style Methods Section
- 2.) In Class Activity: Outline Methods Section

Homework: Finalize logs (20 entries)

Day 7 (7/29):

Due: Assignment #4 (Introduction Section)

Finalized logs (20 entries)

- 1.) Post-test measures
- 2.) Design and present a project in groups

Homework: Assignment #5 (Methods Section)

Peer Review #1 (Feedback on Introduction)

Post-Treatment Measures

Day 8 (7/31): SPSS & Data Processing & Analysis

Due: Assignment #5 (Methods Section)

Peer Review #1 (Introduction)

Post-Treatment Measures

- 3.) Introduction to SPSS & Data Processing/Analysis
- 4.) In Class Activity #1: Practice Data Processing/Analysis
- 5.) In Class Activity #2: Discuss Introduction Peer Review

Homework: Assignment #6 (Outline results)

Peer Review #2 (Feedback on Methods)

Day 9 (8/5): SPSS & APA Style Results Section

Due: Assignment #6 (Results outline)

Peer Review #2 (Methods)

- 1.) In Class Activity: Discuss Methods Peer Review
- 2.) Overview of APA Style Results Section Writing
- 3.) How to write the abstract

Homework: Assignment #7 (Results Section)

Day 10 (8/7): APA Style Discussion Section

Due: Assignment #7 (Results Section)

- 1.) Overview of APA Style Discussion Section Writing

Homework: Assignment #8 (Discussion Section)

Day 11 (8/12): APA Style Overview/Questions (Optional Lecture on Bonus Topic)

Due: Assignment #8 (Discussion)

- 1) In Class Activity: Informal peer review on Discussion section
- 2) APA style overview
- 3) Optional lecture on bonus topic

Homework: FINAL PAPER!

FINAL PAPER DUE AT 11:59PM ON 8/14