## **Abnormal Psychology Lab**

830:341:H3 Sumer 2019 Tuesday & Thursday 1:00 – 5:00 Psych 105

Faculty Supervisors: Estelle Mayhew, PhD; Eddie Selby, PhD

**Instructor:** Erick Fedorenko

Office: Tillett 325

**Office Hours:** By Appointment

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\*Note: this syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be announced and the syllabus will be updated.

**Textbook:** Any required reading for this class will be distributed during class or posted on Sakai. However, it is recommended that you purchase the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association: 6<sup>th</sup> Edition (\$30.00) 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.

**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. 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 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
  - o 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
  - o Do NOT save things on the desktops!
  - o Do NOT download anything non-class related!
- Use of the computers is a privilege, and inappropriate use of the computers may results 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 <a href="http://disability/services.rutgers.edu">http://disability/services.rutgers.edu</a>. 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 before or 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 <a href="http://ctaar.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html">http://ctaar.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html</a>.

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*. In addition, you must arrive on time to lab/lecture. Inconsistent or poor attendance will result in a lowered grade. *Points will be deducted for late assignments*. Please type all assignments in 12-point font and use double spacing with 1-inch margins.

## **Assignments and Grading:**

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

• Behavioral Activation logs: <u>10 points</u>

• Article presentations: 15 points

• Drafts of Introduction, Methods, Results, & Discussion: 10 points each (40 points total)

• Final Paper: 20 points

• Class participation and attendance: <u>15 points</u>

TOTAL: 100 points

A = 90% and higher C + = 77-79% F = Below 60%

B+ = 87-89% C = 70-76% D = 60-69%

## **Schedule of Classes**

| Date    | Topic                                   | Due                        |
|---------|---|----------------------------|
| 7/9     | Class overview                          |                            |
| (Day 1) | The scientific method                   |                            |
|         | • What is a research paper?             |                            |
| 7/11    | Research methods in clinical psychology |                            |
| (Day 2) | Behavioral activation                   |                            |
|         | Overview of class experiment            |                            |
| 7/16    | Doing a literature review               |                            |
| (Day 3) | <ul> <li>Creating hypotheses</li> </ul> |                            |
|         | Writing the Introduction section        |                            |
| 7/18    | Class discussion of 2 research papers   | Read papers for class      |
| (Day 4) |   | discussion                 |
|         |   | Notify instructor which    |
|         |   | paper you will present on  |
| 7/23    | Article presentations                   | PowerPoint presentation of |
| (Day 5) |   | your papers                |

| 7/25<br>(Day 6)  | <ul> <li>Peer review of the Introduction section</li> <li>Writing the Method section</li> </ul>  | Draft on Introduction section                        |
|------------------|--|--|
| 7/30<br>(Day 7)  | <ul> <li>Peer review of the Method section</li> <li>Writing the Results section</li> <li>Statistics review and using JASP</li> </ul>           | Draft of Method section                              |
| 8/1<br>(Day 8)   | <ul><li>Work on Results section in class</li><li>Writing the Discussion section</li></ul>  | Behavioral Activation Logs                           |
| 8/6<br>(Day 9)   | <ul> <li>Writing the Abstract and References</li> <li>Peer review of Results section</li> <li>Peer review of the Discussion section</li> </ul> | Draft of Results section Draft of Discussion section |
| 8/8<br>(Day 10)  | Extra topic of choice  |  |
| 8/13<br>(Day 11) | NO CLASS   | Final papers due at 11:59pm                          |