

LEARNING PROCESSES LAB

Section 05

Fall 2020

Class Location: Virtual – Canvas.Rutgers.edu

Meeting Time: Thursday 6:40-9:30PM

Instructor: Marialaina Nissenbaum

Email: mn593@scarletmail.rutgers.edu or Canvas Inbox

You can anticipate a response within 24 hours.

Office Hours: Thursday at 5:30 (before class) or by appointment

Faculty Coordinator: Dr. Mimi Phan (mphan@scarletmail.rutgers.edu)

Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Kasia M. Bieszczad (kasia.bie@rutgers.edu)

Required Text: None, required readings will be posted on Canvas

Technology/Software Requirements:

- Rutgers Box account: (<https://box.rutgers.edu/>)
- Rutgers Zoom Account: (<https://it.rutgers.edu/zoom/>)
- Computer: Laptop or desktop computer. A tablet may be used in some cases.
- Internet Connectivity: Preferably a high-speed connection. You may also use a wireless hotspot through your mobile provider.
- Microphone (optional): This may be built into your device, but an external microphone or headset will provide better sound.
- Webcam (optional): Many computers have one built in, but you can easily connect an external USB camera.

Note:

Learning remotely presents new challenges. For assistance with learning how to address these challenges, please consult the resources available here: https://rlc.rutgers.edu/remote_instruction

Please visit the Rutgers Student Tech Guide page for resources available to all students. If you do not have the appropriate technology for financial reasons, please email Dean of Students deanofstudents@echo.rutgers.edu for assistance. If you are facing other financial hardships, please visit the Office of Financial Aid at <https://financialaid.rutgers.edu/>.

Learning Goals

The aim of this course is to acquaint students with scientific research within the context of learning psychology. Upon successful completion of this course, students will

- have a basic understanding of methods and techniques used in animal conditioning research
- understand the procedures for collecting data in animal conditioning research
- be able to use basic statistics and statistical software to analyze data
- be able to interpret the results of the statistical analyses
- produce an APA-style empirical paper



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.

The Division of Student Affairs Diversity & Inclusion Statement

Excerpted (<http://inclusion.rutgers.edu/>):

“The Division of Student Affairs works to create an environment of inclusion which respects and affirms the inherent dignity, value, and uniqueness of all individuals, communities and perspectives. Our practices reflect awareness and understanding of the complexity of identity and the increasing interconnectedness of our world. It is our responsibility to promote and maintain a community of compassion, embracing the rich dimensions of diversity, and facilitating opportunities for understanding and the expression of both individual and shared truths.”

Current Academic Integrity Policy

Overview: Rutgers University takes academic dishonesty very seriously. By enrolling in this course, you assume responsibility for familiarizing yourself with the Academic Integrity Policy and the possible penalties (including suspension and expulsion) for violating the policy. As per the policy, all suspected violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to):

- Cheating
- Plagiarism
- Aiding others in committing a violation or allowing others to use your work
- Failure to cite sources correctly
- Fabrication
- Using another person’s ideas or words without attribution–re-using a previous assignment
- Unauthorized collaboration
- Sabotaging another student’s work in doubt, please consult the instructor

Summary: <http://nbacademicintegrity.rutgers.edu/home-2/academic-integrity-policy/>

Resources for Students: <http://nbacademicintegrity.rutgers.edu/home-2/for-students/>

Honor pledge

All students will need to sign the Rutgers Honor Pledge on every major exam, assignment, or other assessment as follows:

On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this examination (assignment).

Self-Reporting Absence Application

Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me.

Please note: My policy for missed labs and missed exams is ...[individual professor's policy, or department policy]

Course Structure and Requirements

- **Lab Reports:** All lab reports (drafts and final versions) must be typed and written in APA format. All lab reports should be submitted on Canvas (under the Lab Report Assignment in each module) as LastName.LabReport#. Reports are due at the beginning of the class time (6:40PM). If submitted after class starts on the due date, the student will lose 10% for each day late. 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 basic breakdown of the structure of the lab reports, which we will go over in class.
 - Lab Report 1: Results, Discussion, Citations
 - Lab Report 2: Introduction, Method, Citations
 - Lab Report 3: Full Report

Resources for APA style writing:

[APA Style Index](#) is the home of APA formatting guides and tutorials, as well as the APA manual, copies of which can be found at the Rutgers library as well as for purchase from Barnes and Noble, Amazon, etc.

[Purdue OWL](#) provides general formatting guidelines and example papers.

[Rutgers Library](#) has style manuals, examples, video tutorials, and practice exercises to familiarize yourself with how to cite properly.

- **Readings:** Three articles will be provided as background information for each experiment. These will be available on Canvas. You are responsible for reading these articles before the lab.
- **Quizzes:** Quizzes will be held during the first 15-20 minutes of class at 6 points during the semester. These quizzes may be based on the articles for each experiment, APA style, and/or the basic statistics used with our data throughout the semester. 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.

- **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). To receive feedback, the draft must be typed, APA style, and include specific questions/comments for me to review.
- **Paper Presentation:** Throughout the semester, you will be expected to read several academic papers to support the concepts and experiments in the course. Each student will choose a paper from the assigned reading and present a summary and critical reflection to the class via Zoom.

Grading: The maximum total is 100 points.

Assignment	Maximum Points
Lab Report 1	15
Lab Report 2	15
Lab Report 3	30
6 Quizzes	30 (5 points each)
Paper Presentation	10

After a grade is posted to Canvas, you have 7 days to submit in writing a question/request to me via email.

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

Syllabus

	Topic	Assignments Due
9/17 Week 1	Animal use in Research 3 R's – use of rodents	
9/24 Week 2	Measuring Baseline Behaviors Experiment 0: Elevated Plus Maze (EPM)	Quiz 1
10/1 Week 3	Habituation Experiment 1 – Open Field (OF)	Quiz 2
10/8 Week 4	Associative Learning – Context Reward Introduction to Experiment 2 – Conditioned Place Preference (CPP) Integration with baseline performance (EPM) and habituation (OF)	Lab Report 1 (Exp 1) Introduction, Methods, and Citations 15 pts
10/15 Week 5	Experiment 2 Part 1 – Conditioned Place Preference (CPP) pre-training	Quiz 3
10/22 Week 6	Experiment 2 Part 2 – CPP post-training	Quiz 4
10/29 Week 7	Associative Learning – Operant Behavior Experiment 3 Part 1 - Shaping	
11/5 Week 8	Associative Learning – Operant Behavior Experiment 3 Part 2 - Extinction	Lab Report 2 (Exp 2) Results, Discussion, and Citations 15 pts
11/12 Week 9	Associative Learning – Operant Behavior Recap of experiment group data analysis and review	Draft of Lab Report 3 Methods and Results Quiz 5
11/19 Week 10	Associative Learning: Extinction of Operant Behavior and Relevance for CPP (Exp 2 and Exp 3) Integration and Overview of Associative Learning in Extinction, recovery processes	Draft of Lab Report 3 Discussion Quiz 6
11/26 Week 11	NO CLASS – HAPPY THANKSGIVING!	
12/3 Week 12	Writing Workshop Guide and Review for Final Lab Report	Draft of Introduction and Citations
12/10 Week 13	Open office hours	Lab Report 3 (Exp 3) 30 pts DUE FRIDAY DECEMBER 11 at 11:59PM
12/17 Week 14	NO CLASS – GOOD LUCK ON FINALS, HAPPY HOLIDAYS!	

Student-Wellness Services: All of these services are being provided remotely during Fall 2020.

Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/ <http://health.rutgers.edu/medical-counseling-services/counseling/>

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professionals within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community, and consultation and collaboration with campus partners. Crisis Intervention: <http://health.rutgers.edu/medical-counseling-services/counseling/crisis-intervention/>

Report a Concern: <http://health.rutgers.edu/do-something-to-help/>

Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / www.vpva.rutgers.edu/

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

Disability Services

(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.