

Learning Processes Lab – 01:830:312:02

Main Canvas page <https://canvas.rutgers.edu/>

Fall 2020**Meeting Days, Times, and Venues**

Thursday 3:20-6:20 pm via Zoom. Students should be logged in by 3:20 pm on class days.

Zoom Link: <https://rutgers.zoom.us/j/95366062729?pwd=Q0NqODY0R1lGd3JMUUtnU3V0eGcrQT09>

Instructor's Name: Allison Matia

Email: acm263@scarletmail.rutgers.edu

Students can expect a response to an email within 2 business days.

Office hours: day, time and location: Office hours will be held via Zoom on Wednesdays from 1-2 pm

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

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

List of Required Books &/or Materials

Required readings will be provided on CANVAS throughout the semester

Technology/Software Requirements:Software:

Rutgers Box account: (<https://box.rutgers.edu/>)

Rutgers Zoom Account: (<https://it.rutgers.edu/zoom/>)

Technology:

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.

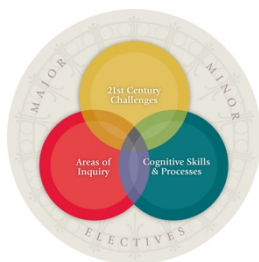
Webcam (optional): Many computers have one built in, but you can easily connect an external USB camera.

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 and Honor Pledge:

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

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).*

Summary:

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

Resources for Students:

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

Missed Labs and Assignments: Given the challenging times, try to the best of your ability to submit assignments on time and attend the synchronous lab periods. If you are facing some extenuating circumstances that may impact your ability to submit an assignment on time or attend class, please reach out to me before the assignment is due/class is held. I will try to the best of my ability to be flexible if need be. However, granting an extension on an assignment is up to my discretion.

Course Structure and Requirements

Schedule *Note that class meetings will not start until the 3rd week of Rutgers NB scheduled classes

Date:	Material Covered:	Assignments Due:
9/17 Week 1	Animal Use in Research [3R's - use of rodents (& different species)]	
9/24 Week 2	Measuring Baseline Behaviors [Experiment 0 – Elevated Plus Maze (EPM)]	<i>Quiz on Animal Use in Research. Due before class.</i>
10/1 Week 3	Habituation [Experiment 1 – Open Field (OF)]	<i>Quiz on Measuring Baseline Behaviors. Due before class</i>
10/8 Week 4	Associative Learning: Context-Reward [Introduction to Experiment 2 – Conditioned Place Preference (CPP); integration with baseline performance (EPM) and habituation (OF)] Discussion of writing Lab Reports in APA style	
10/15 Week 5	Experiment 2, Part 1 – Conditioned Place Preference (CPP) (pre-training)	<i>Lab Report 1 (Expt. 1) – Intro, Methods, Citations only</i>
10/22 Week 6	Experiment 2, Part 2 – Conditioned Place Preference (CPP) (post-training)	<i>Quiz on Conditioned Place Preference. Due before class.</i>
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]	<i>Lab Report 2 (Expt. 2) – Results, Discussion, Citations only</i>
11/12 Week 9	Associative Learning: Operant Behavior [Recap of experimental group data analysis & review]	
11/19 Week 10	Associative Learning: Extinction of Operant Behavior & Relevance for CPP [Expt. 2 & Expt. 3]	

		[Integration & Overview of Associative Learning in Extinction, highlighting recovery processes in lecture: renewal, reinstatement or recovery, spontaneous recovery]	
11/26	Week 11	THANKSGIVING BREAK	
12/3	Week 12	Writing Workshop Guide and Review for Final Lab Report 3 (Expt. 3) write-up	<i>Critical Reflection and Ted Talk Assignment Due.</i>
12/10	Week 13	Open Office Hours	<i>Lab Report 3 (Expt. 3) – Full lab report due 12/11 at 11:59 pm</i>
12/18	Week 14	NO CLASS	

Allocation of course points:

Lab Report 1	15 pts	
Lab Report 2	15 pts	
Lab Report 3	30 pts	
Quizzes	15 pts (5 pts each)	
Critical Reflection	15 pts	
Ted Talk Assignment	10 pts	

Lab Reports:

Each student will hand in 3 lab reports for the semester, corresponding to the 3 experiments done in class. Writing these lab reports is exclusively independent (meaning these reports are not group-work). Although you will work in groups to conduct the experiment, each student will hand in their own lab report. All lab reports must be computer generated following the format presented in class (APA). Lab reports should be submitted on Canvas (Assignments). Students submitting reports late (without speaking to me prior) will lose 10% of the points for that report for each day it is late.

Quizzes:

There will be three quizzes this semester based on material discussed in class. These will be completed on Canvas outside of class time.

Critical Reflection:

For this assignment, you will choose a relevant journal article on a topic in which you are interested. You will first write a summary of the article. Then, you will write your critical reaction to the article. A critical reaction may include: your critique of the study, limitations and/or strengths of the study, suggestions for future research, and reflecting upon the study's implications. Each critical reflection should 2-3 pages in length (double-spaced).

Ted Talk Assignment

The Ted Talk "Battling Bad Science" discusses bias in science and misrepresentation of scientific studies in the media. For this assignment, you will find an example of either a scientific study in which a "bad science" technique discussed in the Ted Talk has been used or an article for the popular press that misrepresents or exaggerates the results of a scientific study and explain the ways in which the study or media report of the study is biased or misrepresented. The final product should be 1-2 pages (double-spaced).

Grading disputes (shall you have any):

You have 7 days after an assignment grade is posted to dispute your grade. Keep in mind that if you choose to dispute a grade with me, I may decide to give back points or deduct points at my discretion.

Emails

Please remember to SIGN (that means first and last name) your emails. I will not respond to emails asking for information that can be found on the syllabus, on Canvas, or that can be easily garnered from attending class.

The syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

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>.