

Abnormal Psychology Lab

Course 341:03

Spring 2020

Thursdays 6:40pm-9:30pm

Instructor: Benjamin Billingsley, M.S.

Office: 317 George Street, Suite 105, New Brunswick, NJ

Office Hours: By Appointment

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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: Current 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. 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).

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 (i.e. a research paper) **in APA format** is due at the end of the class.

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 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. Absences will only be excused with the presentation of a dean's note or other comparable notification. **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. Missed classes include those that you were more than 15 minutes late to.** Please type all assignments in 12-point font, use double spacing, and submit in word format.

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. Please note that I will be posting the slides from each class **after** every class. **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.**

Busch Psychology Room 101

No food or drink is allowed in the computer lab!

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 fourth 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, since my schedule tends to change week-to-week. 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 it into your paper. We require that your paper be turned in as electronic 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://ctaar.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html>.

Assignments and Grading:

All assignments are due by 6pm on Thursday (except for the final paper and essay #2):

4 First Draft Assignments: 15 points each (60 points)

Class Participation and Attendance: 50 points

Log and Weekly Reflections: 50 points

Final Paper: 100 points

Essay #2: 50 points

Total: 310

A = 90% and higher

C+ = 77-79%

F = Below 60%

B+ = 87-89%

C = 70-76%

B = 80-86%

D = 60-69%

Late Assignments

Homework assignments that are handed in any time after 6pm the day they are due will be docked five points every twenty-four hours. For example, if the assignment is due on Thursday at 6pm and you hand it in on Saturday at 6pm, you will lose ten points on that assignment. In addition, I cannot guarantee that I can edit late assignments.

NOTE: The final two papers will be docked 15 points for every 24 hours after the deadline they have not been handed in. After 7 days you will automatically receive a zero on the final paper.

Spring 2020 Schedule

A quick note: For each class, the syllabus lists an “Assignment” and a “Due” section. The “Due” section is what you’re supposed to hand in on that day. The “Assignment” section is the homework you will be assigned that day, which is due the next class.

January 30th: Introduction to the Course; Traditional Cognitive Behavior Therapy

- 1) Syllabus
- 2) Overview of purpose of the course
- 3) What is traditional CBT

Assignment: None

Due: Nothing

February 6th: Acceptance and Commitment Therapy; Study start date

- 1) ACT lecture
- 2) Explain class study
- 3) Hand out measures

Assignment: Begin recording in log

Due: Nothing

February 13th: Introduce Study

- 1) Scientific Method Lecture
- 2) How to write an introduction section
- 3) How to do a literature review
- 4) In-class Activity: Begin working on introduction

Assignment: Write Introduction Section

Due: Nothing

February 20th: CLASS CANCELLED

February 27th: Peer Review; Methods section

- 1) Peer review introduction section
- 2) How to write a methods section
- 3) In-Class Activity: Revise Intro; Work on Methods section

Assignment: Write Methods section

Due: Introduction Section

March 5th: Peer review

- 1) Peer review methods section
- 2) Review basic stats principles
- 3) Practice data analysis

Assignment: Edit Methods section

Due: First draft of methods

March 12th: Conducting Data Analysis

- 1) Hand in activity logs
- 2) Complete measures
- 3) Work on introductions returned by instructor

Assignment: None

Due: Edited methods section

March 19th: NO CLASS; SPRING RECESS

March 26th: Results Section

- 1) Analyze study data in class

- 2) Write results section in class

April 2nd: Discussion Section

- 1) Review how to write a discussion section
- 2) In-Class Activity: Discussion section

Assignment: Discussion section

Due: Nothing

April 9th: Peer Review; Explain Essay #2

- 1) Peer review discussion section
- 2) Explain essay assignment
- 3) Assign partners
- 4) Work on essay #2 in class

Due: Discussion section

April 16th: Essay #2

- 1) Work on essay #2

April 23rd: Essay #2

- 1) Work on essay #2

April 30th: Essay #2

- 1) Work on final essay/essay #2

FINAL PAPER AND ESSAY #2 ARE DUE ON May 1st AT 11:59PM. IF THE PAPER IS LATE YOU WILL RECEIVE A 15 POINT PENALTY FOR EVERY TWENTY-FOUR HOURS IT IS LATE (e.g., if you submit 05/02 by 11:59pm you will lose 15 points, if you submit on 05/03 by 11:59 pm you will lose 30 points, etc.)