

Learning Processes Lab – 01:830:312:04

Main Canvas page: <https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/189978> *All course material will be on canvas*

Fall 2022

Class Location: Learning Lab A361

Meeting Time: Wednesdays 3:50 – 6:50pm

Instructor's Name

Jennie Mejaes

Email: jim61@scarletmail.rutgers.edu or Canvas Inbox

Office Hours: after class or by appointment

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>)

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.

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/>

Attendance Policy and Late/Missed Work

Absence Reporting: Students are expected to attend all lab class meetings; 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 your TA.

Every class meeting builds up to the lab reports you will be writing throughout the semester, which will report on data that YOU collect in class. Data collection will be done within small groups that consist of your lab team/group members.

Participation Policy: Since your lab group works together to collect and organize the data for each experiment, participation matters and will play a role in determining your final report grade.

On data collection days, each lab group member will evaluate your effort working in the team on a scale of 0 to 5 (0 being no effort, 5 being ideal effort) in 3 categories: (1) Did you attend for the entire data collection period? (2) Did you communicate with the group for the entire data collection session?, and (3) Did you satisfactorily complete your assigned role in data collection? Completion of these peer group evaluations is a valuable tool in collaborative work and will be counted as part of your final grade.

Policy on missed labs: You must complete all work for the labs (data scoring) to earn full points for the lab reports. If you are absent on a data collection day, please contact me to make arrangements to make up the work. Failure to make up the work within 2 weeks will result in 50% reduction in lab report score.

Policy on late assignments: There will be a 10% point reduction for each day an assignment is late.

Policy for chronic absences: After 2 unexcused absences, I will contact the Dean of Students. If you have extenuating circumstances that prevent you from attending class, please get in touch with me as soon as possible.

Course Structure and Requirements

- 1. 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 "Assignments" tab) as LastName.LabReport#. If reports are submitted after the due date and time, 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.

Resources for APA style writing

- A. [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.
- B. [Purdue OWL](#) provides general formatting guidelines and example papers.
- C. [Rutgers Library](#) has style manuals, examples, video tutorials, and practice exercises to familiarize yourself with how to cite properly.

- 2. 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.

3. **Quizzes:** All quizzes will be based on the articles read for each experiment and/ or the protocol for that day. If you complete the reading and not the related quiz by the due date you will receive an automatic zero for that quiz.
4. **Peer Group Evaluation:** You will rate your lab partner(s) for effort extended in the group data collection exercises.
5. **Peer Lab Report Review:** You will submit a draft of your final lab report to be reviewed by a classmate and conduct a peer review for a classmate. To earn full points, you must both submit your draft, and complete your review of a draft on time.
6. **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 readings OR FROM ANOTHER ACADEMIC SOURCE OF THEIR CHOOSING and present a summary and critical reflection to the class for approximately 10 minutes in the format of a POWERPOINT. Two (2) points of the presentation grade will be for engaging in OTHER students' presentations with thoughtful questions/comments throughout the semester. Eight (8) points will be based on content and preparedness. You must provide me with your slides prior to class!

Grading: The maximum total is 100 points.

Assignment	Maximum Points
Lab Report 1 (Experiment 1): Intro, Methods, Citations only	15
Lab Report 2 (Experiment 2): Results, Discussion, Citations only	15
Lab Report 3 (Experiment 3): Full lab report	30
3 Quizzes	15 (5pt each)
Peer Group Evaluation	10
Peer Lab Report Review	5
Paper Presentation	10

Grading Rubric: Rutgers Letter Grade scheme as follows:

A	100 % to 89.5%
B+	< 89.5 % to 84.5%
B	< 84.5% to 79.5%
C+	< 79.5 % to 74.5%
C	< 74.5 % to 69.5%
D	< 69.5 % to 59.5%
F	< 59.5 % to 0%

Grading Questions: After a grade has been 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.

Schedule *Note that class meetings will not start until the 2nd week of Rutgers NB scheduled classes and is subject to change, at the TA's discretion.

<u>Date</u>	<u>In Class</u>	<u>Assignments DUE after Class Time</u>
9/7/2022 wk 0	No Class	
9/14/2022 wk 1	(1) Class intro, (2) Animal use in research	OSHA form submitted eIACUC animal safety training completed
9/21/2022 wk 2	(1) Intro to writing (2) Measuring baseline behaviors Exp. 0: Elevated Plus Maze *Video scoring*	Peer Group Evaluation 0
9/28/2022 wk 3	(1) Review Exp 0 Data; (2) Habituation intro & "behind the scenes", (3) review Exp 1 readings Exp. 1: Open Field *With live animals*	Peer Group Evaluation 1 Reading 1 and Quiz 1
10/05/2022 wk 4	(1) Review Exp 1 (OF) Data; (2) Writing review (Intro, Methods)	Paper Presentations Topics due (EPM/ OF related)
10/12/2022 wk 5	(1) Intro to Exp 2 (CPP), context-reward learning Exp. 2- Conditioned Place Preference, part 1 *Video scoring*	Lab Report 1 (based on Exp 1)- intro, methods, citations ONLY Peer Group Evaluation 2.1
10/19/2022 wk 6	(1) CPP Reading review Exp. 2- Conditioned Place Preference, part 2 *Video scoring* *Paper Presentations in class*	Peer Group Evaluation 2.2 Reading 2 and Quiz 2
10/26/2022 wk 7	(1) Writing workshop, Lab Report 2 (based on Exp 2 - results, discussion, citations ONLY) (2) Prepping rats for operant/shaping *Paper Presentations in class*	
11/2/2022 wk8	(1) Intro to Operant Conditioning Exp 3, part 1: Operant Conditioning, part 1 Shaping *With live animals*	Lab Report 2 (based on Exp 2)- results, discussion, citations ONLY Peer Group Evaluation 3.1
11/09/2022 wk 9	(1) Intro to Extinction (2) Reading review Exp 3, part 2: Operant Conditioning, part 2 Extinction *With live animals*	Peer Group Evaluation 3.2

11/16/2022 wk 10	SFN Conference	
11/23/2022 wk 11	THANKSGIVING	
11/30/2022 wk 12	(1) Experiment 3 recap (2) Data analysis of shaping and extinction (3) Integration & overview of Extinction and Recovery processes between Experiment 2 and Experiment 3	Reading 3 & Quiz 3
12/07/2022 wk 13	<i>WRITING WORKSHOP</i>	Lab Report 3 Draft (based on Exp 3) intro, methods, results, discussion, citations ONLY
12/14/2022 wk 14	**NO FORMAL CLASS; PLEASE SCHEDULE OFFICE HOURS IF WANT HELP WITH FINAL REPORT**	Lab Report 3 Peer Review (send back to partner and post on canvas to me)
*** FINAL: Lab report 3 due (based on Exp 3: intro, methods, results, discussion, citations ONLY) Friday December 16, 11:59 PM EST ***		

Commented [MN1]: Propose having lab report due the week before finals this feels too late

Student-Wellness Services: All of these services are being provided remotely and in person during Fall 2021.

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>.