

**Rutgers University
Department of Psychology
Fall 2012**

Course Syllabus: 830:341:03, Abnormal Psychology Laboratory

Instructor Contact:

Name	Mary Himmelstein, MA
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Office	Tillett Hall 409 (Livingston Campus)
Class Location	Busch Psychology, 105 (Computer Lab)

Office Hours: T: 10am-12pm or by appointment

Number of Credits: 1

Required Texts and Supplementary Materials

- **Reading Material:** Required resources will be distributed via Sakai.
- **USB Drive:** You need to bring this to class every day to save your material on it. Do not save material on the computers.
- **Highly Recommended:** Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association: Sixth Edition (\$20-\$30). Make sure that you buy the second printing or later (see <http://www.apastyle.org/manual/corrections-faqs.aspx>)

Course Objectives:

The ability to understand and conduct empirical research is essential for students interested in clinical 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 individually and in teams to conduct, write up, and present investigations of the effectiveness of various simple interventions adapted for an undergraduate lab setting.

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.***

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, resources and assignments. **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.** You are responsible for all the information contained in this syllabus, and for all changes to the syllabus that I announce in class or post on the website.

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 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.

Computer Room (Room 105):

- No food or drink is allowed in the computer lab!
- You are supposed to use the same computer during the entire semester unless there is a problem with your computer.
- You should save ALL work to your USB drive
- Students should NOT be saving anything on the desktops.
- Students should NOT be downloading anything non-class related to the computer.

Grading Policy:	1. Participation / Attendance	10%
	2. In Class Lab Activities (4)	10%
	3. Assignments (7)	60%
	4. Paper	20%

A = 90-100%	C = 70-76%
B+ = 87-89%	D+ = 67-69%
B = 80-86%	D = 60-66%
C+ = 77-79%	F = Below 60

PARTICIPATION/ ATTENDANCE 10% of your final grade

You are expected to attend **every** class and arrive **on time**. You will lose 25 points on your participation grade for every class you miss. **Missing more than 3 classes will result in an automatic F for the course.** If you are more than 15 minutes late, you will not be allowed to participate in that lab, and will receive a 0 for the assigned homework and classwork. If you miss class it is **your responsibility** to get the material you missed from a classmate. You will lose points for sleeping, texting, obviously not paying attention or being rude to fellow classmates.

IN CLASS LAB ACTIVITIES 10% of your final grade (2.5% each)

There are four in class activities on the following topics: (1) finding academic sources, (2) data entry and cleaning, (3) data analysis and (4) a final presentation of your Behavioral Activation Project. If you are more than 15 minutes late for any class involving an in class activity you will not get credit for the lab activity that day

ASSIGNMENTS 60% of your final grade

There are 7 homework assignments. Assignments 1 and 3 are worth 5 points each. Assignments 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7 are worth 10 points each. **Assignments are due at the beginning of class.** Assignments will not be accepted at the end of the class or from students who are more than 15 minutes late. Assignments that are not handed in at the beginning of class will receive a zero. All assignments should be typed in APA format (Times New Roman, 12 point, Double Space, Name in Header).

Assignments 2 & 4-7 must be submitted to turnitin.com by 8:30AM on the day they are due. Not submitting these assignments to turnitin.com will result in failure of that assignment.

PAPER 20% of your final grade

Papers should be completed in APA format. Papers must be submitted to turnitin.com by 8:30AM on 12/06/2012. Papers not submitted to turn it in will receive a zero.

The paper involves completion of your research report on Behavioral Activation (Title Page, Abstract, Methods, Results, Discussion, References, Tables). You should revise any sections you previously received feedback for.

Papers are due at the beginning of class on 12/06/2012

TURNITIN.COM INFO

Assignments 2 and 4-7 and the final paper must be submitted to turnitin.com by noon on the day they are due. Not submitting these assignments to turnitin.com will result in failure of that assignment or paper

- **Class id: 5414314**
- **Class password: abn0rmalLaB**

LATE POLICY & MAKE UP POLICY

Late work will not be accepted. I generally do not allow make-ups unless an extreme circumstance occurs. If an extreme circumstance occurs you must provide a written note from your dean in order to be eligible for a make up-assignment. Make-up assignments are determined on a case by case basis. **Homework assignments cannot be made up. If you are absent you should submit the assignment to me via email before the due date.**

WITHDRAWAL POLICIES:

If you decide not to complete the course it is **your responsibility** to notify the college of your intention to withdraw before the deadline. (The last day to withdraw is **Monday, October 29, 2012**).

CHEATING & PLAGIARISM:

I will not tolerate plagiarism or cheating without exception. **A first offense will be reported on your college record and will result in the failure of the class. Consider this your warning.**

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 <http://ctaar.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html>.

Schedule and Due Dates

Date	Topics Covered	Assignments Due
09/13/2012	Intro to Research & Hypothesis Activation Workshop	
09/20/2012	Behavioral Activation	Assignment 1: (Hypotheses) Due
09/27/2012	Writing a Literature Review In Class Assignment 1: Finding Sources	Assignment 2 Part 1 of 3: BA Plan and Blank BA Log Due
10/04/2012	De-Stress, Data entry & Literature Review In Class Assignment 2, Part 1 of 2: Data Entry	Assignment 3: BA Measures & BA References Due
10/11/2012	Introduction to Peer Review & Data Cleaning In Class Assignment 2, Part 2 of 2: Data Cleaning	Assignment 4: Lit Review Due
10/18/2012	Writing a Methods Section	Assignment 2, Part 2 of 3: Partially Completed BA Log Due
10/25/2012	Data Analysis 1 & Tables In Class Assignment 3 Part 1 of 2: Data Analysis	Assignment 5: BA Methods Section Due
11/01/2012	Interpreting SPSS & Writing Up Results 1: Results Section In Class Assignment 3 Part 2 of 2: Data Analysis	Assignment 2, Part 3 of 3: Completed BA Log Due
11/08/2012	Interpreting SPSS & Writing Up Results 1: Discussion Section	Assignment 6: Class Results Section Due
11/15/2012	Finalizing your Project I	Assignment 7: Class Discussion Section Due
11/22/2012	Finalizing your Project II	
Tuesday, 11/27/2012	RUTGERS IS ON A THURSDAY SCHEDULE, BUT WE WILL NOT HAVE CLASS	
12/06/2012	Presentations, Projects & Graduate School In Class Assignment 4: BA Presentation	Final Paper Due