

Sensation & Perception Online Lab

01:830:302:90 Fall 2017

Busch Psychology Building, Room 105

Weekly Chats: Friday 12:00 PM – 12:40 PM

In-Class Meetings: September 15 and November 3

Instructor: Jihye Ryu

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Online Discussion/Chat Session: Friday 12:00PM – 12:40PM (MANDATORY)

Office Hours: by appointment

We will be doing various lab exercises that will give you hands on experience with the research methods and important findings in Sensation and Perception. These exercises will give you opportunity to experience some phenomena first hand, as well as the opportunity to generate and test some hypotheses of your own. You'll also be able to improve some basic skills in using software, analyzing data and communicating scientific findings. The schedule of each lab exercises and assignments will be announced as the semester progresses.

Learning Goals:

1. Develop scientific thinking skills, including how to form and test hypotheses and how to draw sound conclusions from results.
2. Demonstrate some well-known cognitive and perceptual phenomena by running lab exercises.
3. Learn-by-doing the main research methods of the field.
4. Learn how to analyze data and evaluate hypotheses.
5. Learn research communication skills.
6. Improve computer literacy.

This laboratory class is meant to serve as a companion to the lecture class PSYCH-301 Sensation and Perception. The conceptual and theoretical basis for the exercises and demonstrations are developed in lecture. For this reason, concurrent or past registration in PSYCH-301 is required.

Core Curriculum Learning Goals:

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:

- Respond effectively to editorial feedback from peers, instructors, and/or supervisors through successive drafts and revision (WCR);
- Communicate effectively in modes appropriate to a discipline or area of inquiry (WCD)
- Evaluate and critically assess sources and use the conventions of attribution and citation correctly
- Analyze and synthesize information and ideas from multiple sources to generate new insights.



Class website:

All relevant course information will be posted on the Sakai website, including:

- experiment files
- powerpoints and instructional videos
- journal articles
- lab assignments
- syllabus.

In the Assignments tab:

- due date for the assignment will be posted
- All uploaded assignments must be .doc or .docx.
- All uploaded data must be in excel.
- Grades will be posted

Time Management:

Note that Rutgers University expects the median student to spend 3 hours per week on lab classes. Therefore, you should plan to spend 3 hours per week on this class.

Computers:

Lab exercises require computers that run either Windows or Macintosh operating systems. Lab software is not compatible with operating systems used on notebooks, tablets, or ipads. Lab exercises may be run on computers in a university computer lab (see <https://oit-nb.rutgers.edu/service/computer-labs-0> for a list of university computer lab locations). If you choose to run the exercises in a computer lab, be sure to bring a thumb-drive so that you can keep copies of your work. In addition, some of the exercises may require use of headphones.

Important Rules:

No electronic recording (audio, video, photos, etc.) of class materials is allowed. No online posting of class material is allowed other than as approved by the instructor.

Data Collection:

In this course we are doing lab exercises, not original research. All data for weekly exercises as well as the final project will be collected with either you or your classmates serving as the participants. Collecting data from anyone else (roommates, friends, family members, etc.) is never permitted.

Grading:

In order to pass this class, you must do the weekly assignments on time. In addition, you must do the final project. **If you do not complete both of these aspects of the course, you will automatically fail the course.** There are no tests or quizzes. Grades for this course will not be curved or scaled. Your final grade will be based on three things:

- Participation in on-line discussions - 10%
- Weekly lab assignments (REQUIRED TO PASS)
- An original project report completed during the last several weeks (REQUIRED TO PASS) – 90%

Weekly Assignment and Final Project:

Each week, you will have small written assignments, consisting of writing lab reports and some questions to answer, which may include statistical analysis. Every assignment will count towards your grade. The criteria for grading your work will be:

- Effort and class participation
- Demonstration of progress in understanding and using software tools
- Clarity of graphs and writing
- Demonstration of understanding basic perceptual concepts introduced in the labs

Weekly assignments will be graded on a scale:

- P+ : Pass-plus. Excellent work, no rewrite needed
- P : Pass. Adequate work, but there are mistakes and you would benefit from a rewrite
- P- : Pass-minus. Definite problems or needs improvements.
- Fail: Requires redo.

Students who hand in their assignments on time will be given the option of handing in one revised version within 1 week of receipt of the graded assignment. The revised report will then be graded. Revising an assignment DOES NOT guarantee you a higher grade. No revisions of previous assignments will be accepted after this one-week period. If you need help on writing the revised version, feel free to meet with me to discuss the material and your performance.

If you do not turn in an assignment on time, you will lose the option to revise it. You can still receive partial credit if you submit by the end of the revision period, and the maximum grade you can receive will be a P. If you do not submit by the revision due date, it will become an F.

You are allowed to miss up to 2 assignments to pass this course. However, receiving F's will have an impact on your Final Project grade. (see below)

The Final Project is the writing of a full laboratory report based on an original experiment carried out in class during the final weeks of the semester. These reports will be given a letter grade (A, B+, B, C+, C, D F). Note, for each 3 P+'s you receive for your weekly assignments, the grade for the final project will move up a letter grade. For each 3 P-'s and F's you receive for your weekly assignments, the grade for the final project will move down a letter grade.

All laboratory assignments and reports must be completed by the individual student. Collaborative reports will be given an F grade. Please see Academic Dishonesty Policy below.

Weekly Sakai Chat-room Attendance/Participation:

Each week, we will have a weekly chat meeting in the chat-room on the class Sakai site. This meeting gives you an opportunity to ask any questions you may have about the experiment/assignment for the week. This is MANDATORY, and will determine your participation grade in the course. You must be in the chat room on time, for the entire time, and you must contribute meaningfully to the discussion. A "meaningful contribution" includes comments such as a question about the material that is not answered in the

power-point or the movies assigned, or answering someone else's question with a reasonable answer. Contributions that will not be counted include comments such as "I understood everything," or "What did everyone do this weekend?" Each student is required to remain and participate in the chat-room for the full scheduled time.

Prior to attending the chat-room session, you are responsible for reading the posted power-point slides and watching the posted movies, and doing some exercises that are due on certain weeks. Expect to spend about 1-1.5hr to prepare for the chat-room session! So make sure you leave yourself enough time to understand the material before the mandatory weekly chats.

Class participation counts as 10% of your grade. At the start of the semester, everyone begins with a full 10%. Each time you make an unexcused absence, or participate poorly during class discussion (e.g., remain silent during the entire class) your attendance grade will be deducted by 1%. For example, if you are absent twice during the semester, you will get 8% for your attendance.

If you are more than 20 minutes late, you will be marked down as having an unexcused absence. If you miss a class for a legitimate reason (e.g., illness, religious holiday) you must show an official excuse note (e.g., doctor's note) to be excused. However, you are still responsible for understanding the material, and handing in your assignment on time.

Academic Dishonesty Policy:

In science, there is absolutely no room for fraud or untruth. Our job as scientists is to search out facts, not just for ourselves but for society as a whole. Consequently, you should be very clear that, just as I expect you to learn about the topic matter, I also expect you to learn about scientific honesty. In the work that you present to me, falsifying, plagiarism, or copying without attribution will not be tolerated. Additionally, re-use of assignments from other classes will not be permitted. Intentional ethical violations will be handled in accordance with the university's academic integrity policy. All assignments will be submitted to the Turn-it-in system, where its originality will be verified. Please check the school guidelines for further clarification of violations.

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<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/>

Take a 20 minute interactive-tutorial on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity,

<http://www.scc.rutgers.edu/douglass/sal/plagiarism/intro.html>

If you decide to stay enrolled in this class after receiving this syllabus, I will assume you have read the entire syllabus and have agreed to all the policies outlined.