PSY 214
Research Methods Lab
Spring 2008
Tuesday 3:00 - 4:50 PM (section 2)
Thursday 3:00 - 4:50 PM (section 4)
AB4 205

Angela Rickelm
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(Do not leave a message on voicemail)
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Office Hours:
Tuesday- 5:00-5:30
Wednesday- 3:00-3:30
Thursday- 5:00-5:30
Friday- 12:30-2:00

Required: A highlighter will be needed for class activities.

Recommended Text


Objective of the course

The lab meeting is designed to walk you step by step through the process of completing a research proposal. Each week you will learn another step in producing a sound research design. At the end of the project, you will have the knowledge and skills to conduct scientific research.

Attendance

Attendance is compulsory, and 5 points will be deducted from your grade for every day absent (except with a doctor’s note). It is possible to make-up an absence by attending the other lab meeting (within the same week).

For attendance points, you need to be: Awake, participating in the class activity, and NOT TALKING OR TEXTING ON A CELL PHONE. You are required to be present for the entire class (3:00-4:50 pm) and will loose attendance points by leaving early or coming in late.
Unless you have a doctors note for missing class, you are still responsible for turning in your homework assignment on time. For students with a doctors note, the assignment will be due during the next lab meeting.

Assignments

There will be an assignment due almost every week. A hardcopy of the assignment will be due at the beginning of class. All assignments must be typed and double spaced. For every day that an assignment is late, 5 points will be deducted. Assignments being dropped off outside of class time can be turned into the Psychology office in AB IV Monday-Friday during office hours.

Give the assignment to Rhonda, Leon, Jackie, or Debbie to put in my box.

KEEP A COPY OF ALL OF YOUR ASSIGNMENTS. This way if there is any discrepancy about what you turned in at the end of the semester, you will have evidence.

Academic Dishonesty

Cheating and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any student found guilty will receive a failing grade for the course. Although it is perfectly fine to work together, the assignments need to be put into your own words and turned in separately. Your final proposal papers will be processed through Turnitin.com.

Classroom Conduct

Students are expected to participate in the class, use appropriate language (e.g. no cursing), and to respect their classmates and instructor. Failure to do so may result in the student being asked to leave the class for the day in which case they will also loose the attendance points.

Visitors in Class

Any student wanting to bring a visitor must first ask permission. Visitors will only be allowed in extreme circumstances and under the condition that they do not disrupt the class.
Religious Holidays

Consistent with section 51.911 (b) of the Texas Education Code, there will be no penalty for missing classes due to observation of a religious holiday or holiday travel. It is your responsibility to make prior arrangements to meet with me to discuss the timeframe for making up course work.

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities will need to register with the counseling center to receive accommodations.

Extra Credit

You have three ways to earn extra credit for the course. You may only receive a maximum of 10 points of extra credit.

1.) Participate as a participant in research experiments conducted in the Psychology department. You may receive two extra credit points for every hour of participation. This means you would need to participate for 5 hours to receive the 10 extra credit points. However, if you sign up for a research project and do not show up for the appointment, you will receive minus points.

2.) Present a research topic for the class. The presentation needs to be approved and arranged with me. The presentation point value will depend on the depth of the presentation and will be discussed upon approval of the topic.

3.) Finally, you can earn extra credit by writing a 1pg. synopsis about a research article. The article needs to be preapproved. The paper may not be an assignment used for another class. One paper, will earn you 4 points of extra credit.
PSYCHOLOGY 214
RESEARCH METHODS LAB Grading Scale
2008 Spring

**TOPIC**

Describing behavior objectively

Presentation of results from previous week 60
Organization of a manuscript 60

Library Resources presentation

Library Resources data collection 60
Experimental Design 30
The Independent Variable 30

Using the computer to analyze data 60
Stop-sign Behavior data collection 60
Independent Research Projects approval

Lab Assignment 8 30
Draft 30

Independent Research Project 100
Attendance 50

Total possible 570

A: 513 - 570
B: 456 - 512
C: 399 - 454
D: 342 - 398
F: 0 - 341
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Class Activities/Assignments Due</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
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| Jan. 29/31| Operation Definition  
Assignment 1 (in class)                  | 30          |
| Feb. 5/7  | Organization of a Manuscript  
Assignment 2 Due                               | 30          |
| Feb. 12/14| Library Resource Presentation  
(Class in the Library)  
Assignment 3 Due                        | 60          |
| Feb. 19/21| Experimental Design  
Assignment 4 Due                               | 60          |
| Feb. 26/28| Experimental Design  
Lab 5 Due  
Lab 6 Due                               | 30          |
| Mar. 4/6  | SPSS  
(I give you the location at a later date) |             |
| Mar. 11/13| **Spring Break**                              |             |
| Mar. 18/20| Stop Sign Behavior Activity  
Proposal Topic Due  
SPSS Assignment Due | 30          |
| Mar. 25/27| Proposal Topic Approval Due  
Assignment 8 Due                               | 30          |
| April 1/3 | APA Style  
Proposal Draft Due                               |             |
| April 8/10| APA Style/ Research Project                       |             |
| April 15/17| APA Style/ Research Project                        |             |
| April 22/24| **Proposal Due**                                |             |