

# **Introduction to Experimental Psychology**

## **Psychology 355**

### **Summer II 2009**

**Days:** Monday - Thursday

**Class Time:** 10:15 – 12:20, SB 216

**Lab Time:** 12:30 – 2:35, SB 223

**Instructor:** Richard Ogle, PhD

**Office:** SB 110E

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Phone:** 910.962.7753

**Email:** ogler@uncw.edu

### **Texts**

American Psychological Association (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*. Washington, DC: APA.

Ness-Evans, A. & Rooney, B.J. (2007). *Methods in Psychological Research*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

### **Course Description**

How do psychologists come to know what we know? For that matter, how do you come to know what you know? This course is an introduction to one aspect of those answers. The concepts involved in experimental psychology and research design are the pillars of our science. Awareness of the strengths and weaknesses of the assumptions and methods of scientific psychology is critical for all who are interested in the science of behavior regardless of whether one wants to be a clinician, researcher, or anyone with knowledge in this field. Both in lecture and lab we will learn and apply the basics of the philosophy of science, ethics in research, design of research and statistical analysis involved in the research process.

### **Course Requirements**

Requirements for this course include:

1. Reading the assigned chapters (Bring books to class everyday).
2. Three multiple choice/short answer exams.
3. Participation in, and writing assignments relative to the activities in class and lab.
4. Final paper that is a full write-up of a project we do over the course of the session

### **Grading**

Grades will be assigned based on test scores, writing assignments, participation and the final paper.

Point totals are as follows:

1. Three 100-point exams.....300 points
2. Lab Assignments (3).....100 points
3. Final Paper.....100 points
4. Lab Participation.....20 points

Total = 520

Your grade will be based on your final point total. **The highest point total obtained in the calls will be the top of the scale.** Grades will be scaled off this total using the standard grade ranges. The grade ranges are as follows:

**90% or greater = A range**

**80% - 89% = B range**

**70 - 79% = C range**

**60 - 69% = D range**

**59% and below = F range**

**Important Information**

1. The nature of the material and the way it is presented necessitates being in class. In addition, your participation score will be influenced by attendance.
2. Normally exams cannot be made-up. If you know in advance that you cannot make a certain test date, talk to me and we can schedule the test in advance. In certain emergency/bizarre circumstances tests can be made up if missed.
3. I am not normally a fan of cheating. Cheating will be dealt with based on UNCW policies. Please refer to your student handbook. Short version – cheaters fail the course.
4. The purpose of this class is to have fun learning about yourself and others. Enjoy.

**Schedule**

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Lecture</b>	<b>Lab</b>
<b>June</b>		
<b>23</b>	<b>Course Introduction &amp; Syllabus Review</b>	<b>No Lab</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>Chapter 1: Intro to Research Design I</b>	<b>No Lab</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>Chapter 1: Intro to Research Design II</b>	<b>No Lab</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>Chapter 2: Understanding Research Literature</b>	<b>Literature Search</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>Chapter 3: Research Ethics</b>	<b>Ethics Exercise</b>
<b>July</b>		
<b>1</b>	<b>Exam 1: Multiple Choice and Short Answer</b>	<b>Exam</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Chapter 4: Hypothesis Testing, Power &amp; Control</b>	<b>SPSS Tutorial</b>
	<b>Chapter 5: Measuring Variables</b>	<b>SPSS Assignment</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Chapter 6: Selecting Participants</b>	<b>No Lab</b>

<b>7</b>	<b>Exam 2: Multiple Choice and Short Answer</b>	<b>Exam</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Chapter 7: Independent Group Designs</b>	<b>Data Collection and Analysis</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Chapter 7: Independent Group Designs</b>	<b>Lab Report Set-up</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Chapter 8: Dependent Groups Designs</b>	<b>Data Collection &amp; Analysis (LR#1 Due)</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Chapter 8: Dependent Groups Designs</b>	<b>Lab Report Set-up</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Chapter 9: Single Subject Designs</b>	<b>Intro to Final Project</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Chapter 10: Non-experimental Research</b>	<b>Data Collection (LR #2 Due)</b>
		<b>Data Collection</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>Chapter 11: Data Collection Methods</b>	<b>Data Collection</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>Chapter 12: Archival Research and Program Evaluation</b>	<b>Data Analysis &amp; Set-up</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Writing</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Writing</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>Final Exam: Multiple Choice and Short Answer (11:00 am)</b>	<b>Final Paper Due at 5:00pm</b>