Student Experiments Options for Final Project

Listed below are a few options for experiments that could be conducted to fulfill your final project requirement in PSY355. Also listed are some relevant references. Note that these are only general ideas that will need additional thought (from you!). I encourage you to select or amend these ideas to fit with your interests; or even to propose something not listed here (although all will still need to be ok’ed by me). Whatever you decide, the minimum requirement is that your experiment involve at least 2 IVs, one of which is experimentally manipulated. The other IV(s) can be also be manipulated (making it a true experiment) or ex post facto (e.g., male/female; introvert/extrovert; etc.). Your experiment should also be relatively brief (~ 10-20 minutes).

1. The effects of X on Y. Where...

X (manipulated) = stereotype priming (e.g., male or female models; people of different races or ages; etc.); self-awareness; distraction (e.g., via music or visual stimuli); background color; common symbols (e.g., stop signs); processing fluency; working in groups vs. isolation; etc.

X (ex post facto) = gender; SES; GPA; introversion/extroversion; etc.

Y= problem solving (e.g., word or math problems); judgment (e.g., about perceptual characteristics, attractiveness, etc.); speed of processing; memory; creativity; IAT performance; self-perception (e.g., body-image); etc.


2. Using the Stroop task to measure motivation & interest (e.g., with drugs, sex, power, body-image, etc.).