Experimental Psychology 301

Instructor:
Sandra Hale, Ph.D.
423B, Psychology Building
Email: dr.sandy.hale@gmail (daily contact)
Office hours: Wed. 1-2 (and by appt)

Meeting place:  Room 224, Psych Bldg
(11th ed.)

Teaching Assistant:
Shelley Kohlman
208A, Psychology Building (office phone: 935-7027)
Email: skohlman@wustl.edu
Office hours: Mon. 1-2, Wed. 10-11am


Course Overview:  This course is both a lecture class and a hands-on laboratory and it is divided into two parts. My goals are (a) that you should come away from the course excited about what we can learn using experimental behavioral scientific methods, (b) that you should understand these methods comprehensively, and (c) that you should have a rewarding experience applying this knowledge in a substantial independent project. The reading is moderate in amount and difficulty, to allow you time to work on the laboratory component. There will be several writing assignments - each is designed to shape your scientific writing skills. Your grade will be based on 2 exams, 1 short paper, 1 long paper, and a final research project. Each exam is non-cumulative and will consist of two parts. A portion of each exam will consist of objective questions (short answer questions) and the remainder will consist of applied questions (i.e., problems to solve). The final project will be an experiment that you will design, carry out, describe in the form of a complete experimental paper, and present to the class. As you conduct your project, you will complete a proposal worksheet as well as a final written report. Your grade on the research project will reflect all of these components, with the final written report weighted most heavily. This course is designed to be an intensive laboratory experience. Throughout the course, the writing you do will be based on your work in the laboratory. Therefore, it is essential that you attend all the sessions and participate in the discussions and laboratory activities. All assignments should be handed in on time; late work will receive a reduced grade. All written assignments should be exclusively your own. Please be sure to familiarize yourself with University Policy regarding academic integrity (e.g., plagiarism).
Grades are based on a point system:

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<th>Final grades will be determined as follows:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>495-500 = A+</td>
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<td>385-399 = C+</td>
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<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>460-494 = A</td>
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<td>345-384 = C</td>
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<td>Short Paper</td>
<td>450-459 = A-</td>
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<td>receive at</td>
<td>330-344 = C-</td>
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<td>Long Paper</td>
<td>440-449 = B+</td>
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<td>project.</td>
<td>300-329 = D</td>
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<td>Final Project</td>
<td>410-439 = B</td>
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<td>&lt; 300 = NC</td>
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<td>400-409 = B-</td>
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Note: Independent of total points, in order to pass the course C- or better, you must turn in final project and you must receive at least 100 points on the final.

COURSE SYLLABUS

Week 1 (Jan. 14th & Jan. 16th)
Intro, Lecture: Chapters 1 & 2

Week 2 (Jan. 21st & Jan. 23rd)
Lecture: Chapter 4
Lab: #1 (Chap 3 mini-lecture available)
Assignment: Short Paper

Week 3 (Jan. 28th & Jan. 30th)
Lectures: Chapters 5 & 6
Due FRI. Jan. 31st: Short Paper (via email: BEFORE MIDNIGHT to TA)

Week 4 (Feb. 4th & Feb. 6th)
Lecture: Chapter 8
EXAM #1 (Review Session available)
DATE: THURS. Feb. 6th

Week 5 (Feb. 11th & Feb. 13th)
Lectures: Chapters 9 & 10

Week 6 (Feb. 18th & Feb. 20th)
Lab: #2
Lecture/Discussion of Lab #2
Assignment: Long Paper
Week 7 (Feb. 25th & Feb. 27th)
Lectures: Chapters 11 & 12

Week 8 (Mar. 4th & Mar. 6th)
Lectures: Chapters 13 & 14  Due FRI. Mar. 7th: Long Paper (via email: BEFORE MIDNIGHT to your TA)

SPRING BREAK

Week 9 (Mar. 18th & Mar. 20th)
Final Project Overview  (Review Session available)  DATE: THURS. Mar. 18th

FINAL PROJECT MONTH  (NOTE: CLASS WILL BE HELD FOR DATA COLLECTION, & PRESENTATIONS ONLY - DATES HIGHLIGHTED IN BLUE)
Week 10  3/25 & 3/27  PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT (meet with me)
Week 11  4/1 & 4/3  STIMULI DEVELOPMENT
Week 12  4/8 & 4/10  SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT (meet with me)
Week 13  4/15 & 4/17  DATA COLLECTION (TUES. APR. 15th) & DATA ANALYSIS (by appt)
Week 14  4/22 & 4/24  DATA ANALYSIS (by appt) & BRIEF PRESENTATIONS (THURS. APR. 24th)
PAPER DUE: DATE: TUES. May 6th, FINAL PROJECT (via email: BEFORE MIDNIGHT to ME)