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: Final grades will be determined as follows: Note: Independent of total points,
Exam 1  15%  75 points  
495-500 = A+  385-399 = C+
in order to pass the course with a
Exam 2  20%  100 points  
460-494 = A  345-384 = C
C- or better, you must turn in a
Short Paper  10%  50 points  
450-459 = A-  330-344 = C-
final project and you must receive at
Long Paper  20%  100 points  
440-449 = B+  300-329 = D
least 100 points on the final project.
Final Project  35%  175 points  
410-439 = B  < 300  = NC
400-409 = B-

COURSE SYLLABUS

Week 1 (Aug. 26th & Aug. 28th)
Intro, Lecture: Chapters 1 & 2

Week 2 (Sept. 2nd & Sept. 4th)
Lecture: Chapters 3 & 4

Lab: #1  Assignment: Short Paper

Week 3 (Sept. 9th & Sept. 11th)
Lectures: Chapters 5 & 6
BEFORE MIDNIGHT to Shelley)

Assignment: Short Paper (via email: Due FRI. Sept. 12th)

Week 4 (Sept. 16th & Sept. 18th)
Lecture: Chapter 8

Week 5 (Sept. 23rd & Sept. 25th)
EXAM #1  DATE: TUES. Sept. 23rd
Lectures: Chapters 9 & 10

Week 6 (Sept. 30th & Oct. 2nd)
Lab: #2  Assignment: Long Paper
Lecture/Discussion of Lab #2

Week 7 (Oct. 7th & Oct. 9th)
Lectures: Chapters 11 & 12

Week 8 (Oct. 14th & Oct. 16th)
Lectures: Chapters 13 & 14
BEFORE MIDNIGHT to Shelley)

Due FRI. Oct. 17th: Long Paper (via email:

Week 9 (Oct. 21st & Oct. 23rd)
Review & Final Project Overview

FINALE PROJECT MONTH  (NOTE: CLASS WILL BE HELD FOR DATA COLLECTION, &
PRESENTATIONS ONLY - DATES HIGHLIGHTED IN BLUE)

Week 10  10/27 – 11/2  EXAM #2, DATE: TUES. Oct. 28th; PROPOSAL
DEVELOPMENT (meet with me)
Week 11  11/3 -  11/9    STIMULI DEVELOPMENT *(meet with me)*
Week 12  11/10 -  11/16  SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT *(meet with me)*
Week 13  11/17 -  11/23  SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT *(meet with me)*
Week 14  11/24 -  11/25  DATA COLLECTION  WED 11/26 to SUN 11/30
THANKSGIVING
Week 15  12/1 -  12/4    DATA ANALYSIS *(meet with Shelley) & BRIEF PRESENTATIONS *(THURS. Dec. 4th)*

PAPER DUE:    DATE: WED. Dec. 17th, FINAL PROJECT *(via email: BEFORE MIDNIGHT to ME)*