

Psychology 303: Research Methods

Winter 1995
Tues. & Thurs.: 3:30 p.m.
Room 154 Straub Hall

Lewis R. Goldberg
Office: Straub 327
Phone: 484-2123

Teaching Assistant: Ellen Peters (312 Straub Hall; Phone: 346-4927)

Textbooks

David W. Martin, Doing Psychology Experiments: Third Edition
(Brooks/Cole, 1991).

Mark Mitchell and Janina Jolley, Research Design Explained:
Second Edition (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1992).

Course Schedule

<u>Date</u>					
<u>Week</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Reading Assignments</u>	
1	Jan.		5	Martin: Chaps. 1-5	
2	Jan.	10	12	Martin: Chaps. 6-10	
3	Jan.	17	19	Martin: Chaps. 11-14	
4	Jan.	24 Quiz 1	26	Mitchell/Jolley: Chaps. 1-2 + Appendices A and B	
5	Jan.	31	Feb. 2	Mitchell/Jolley: Chaps. 3 & 12	
6	Feb.	7	9	Mitchell/Jolley: Chaps. 4-5	
7	Feb.	14 Quiz 2	16	Mitchell/Jolley: Chaps. 6-7	
8	Feb.	21	23	Mitchell/Jolley: Chaps. 8-9	
9	Feb.	28	Mar. 2	Mitchell/Jolley: Chaps. 10-11	
10	Mar.	7	9 Quiz 3	Mitchell/Jolley: Chap. 13	

Final Reports Due: Monday, March 13

(No Final Examination)

Playing with Ideas

What are some of the most important facts about humans (or other animals) that **you personally** would like to learn?

If you had unlimited money and scientific resources available to you, what are the most important research questions that **you personally** would like to study?

Read Chapters 1 to 5 in the Martin textbook, and then go back and re-read Chapter 2. For your first assignment, think of some aspects of human or animal behavior that you consider particularly interesting or important to study.

For each such potential research topic:

- (1) Describe it in as much detail as you can.
- (2) Explain why it is particularly important to you.
- (3) Discuss one or more possible ways that it could be studied, if you had unlimited money and scientific resources.
- (4) Discuss one or more ways that you might actually be able to study it, given your own limitations in time, funds, and resources.

You may write about any number of topics you wish (we suggest an upper limit of five), and you may write as much as you wish about each topic (we suggest an upper limit of two pages or so for each topic, for an upper limit of ten pages or so over-all). Grading will reflect our assessment of the amount of effort you put into the assignment, which in turn is based on the quality and the quantity of the ideas expressed in your reports. Creativity and humor are much appreciated.

This report, and all of your other ones, should be typed double-spaced. The first page should always be a cover page, which includes (a) the assignment number and the title of your report (e.g., Assignment 1: Playing with Ideas), (b) your name, (c) the course and instructor (e.g., Psychology 303: Goldberg and Peters), and (d) the date that you wrote the report. **ALWAYS KEEP A COPY OF EACH OF YOUR REPORTS.**

This assignment is due at the beginning of the class period on Tuesday January 10th.