

Research Participation Guidelines - *Mind and Brain (PSY 201-Spring10)*

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(10% of total grade)

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There are **two** options for completing the **research requirement** in this course:

1. You may participate in the Psychology Department's Human Subjects Pool and get experience as a subject in actual psychology experiments. Students and faculty run many experiments on varied topics (e.g., attention, memory, social interaction). An important part of the introduction to psychology is the understanding of how research is conducted and a partial perspective on this can be gained by participating in research as a subject. To participate in experiments, you will need to sign up on an electronic bulletin board at: <http://uopsych.sona-systems.com/>.

When you go to this site, there will be an option for you to request a username and password. Once logged in, you will find a list of studies that are available to you, as well as when and where these studies take place. After participating in a study, you will be electronically credited for the time allotted for that study. **You need to complete 4.5 hours (not necessarily the same thing as 4.5 studies!)** of experimental credit.

More details about participating in research studies will be provided in class and you can read more at: <http://www.uoregon.edu/~hscoord/hs-students.html> If you encounter any technical problems while trying to complete this assignment on the web (either signing up for experiments or completing the RERs), please contact the human subjects coordinator via e-mail (hscoord@uoregon.edu). You can also find more information in the *HSintro_presentation* on blackboard in the course documents section.

IMPORTANT OPTION 1 ISSUE: *Note that if you fail to show up to TWO studies without good reason, you will not be allowed to complete Option 1 to meet your Research Participation requirement, and will, instead, be forced to complete Option 2 to meet your Research Participation requirement and to receive a grade for the course.*

2. Students who do not wish to participate in experiments have the option of reading research papers instead. You will read 4 research articles provided by your TA. For each paper you read, you will be required to complete a report on Blackboard. If you wish to pursue this option, you must **contact your teaching assistant by the second week of class for instructions and guidelines**. Each article you read will count as **1 credit** and take about one hour to read thoroughly. You will gain knowledge of the methodology used in psychology studies by reading about, rather than experiencing, the methods. This assignment should take you just as long as the research participation option--6.5 hours (corresponding to 4.5 hours of experiments, and one hour for each required RER), and will be graded to the same standards.

In order to encourage you to understand the researchers' methods and hypotheses, you will need to complete a **Research Experience Report (RER)** electronically on Blackboard after participating in 2 of the studies you do. Each RER counts for 5% toward your grade (10% total). Please note that **even though you only need to complete RERs for 2 studies, you must complete 4.5 credit hours** of participation in studies in order to complete this requirement. For option 2, you will be required to complete an RER for **all** of the studies that you read. Your grade on one of the first 2 reports (selected at random) will count towards the grade for RER1 and your score on one of the second 2 reports will count towards RER2 for a total of 10% of final grade. **The first RER must be completed by midnight on Friday of week 6. The second RER must be completed by midnight on Friday of week 9.**

If you find yourself needing to do a combination of the 2 options, you must meet with your TA to obtain permission and articles for option 2. Failure to fulfill the research requirement will result in an **"Incomplete"** grade for this class. In order to have this Incomplete changed to the grade you earned in class, the missing experiments have to be completed **within one quarter** of the end of this class. After that time, incomplete grades will be changed to no pass. For experiments you did not complete during the class term, there will be no opportunity for participating in graded RERs.

To avoid an incomplete, please begin early in the term with the experiments. Please be aware that scheduling your participation also depends on the number of studies available at different times during the term. In the past, students who began late have often encountered scheduling problems and have been unable to do all the experiments.