

## Psychology 303 Lab Syllabus Spring 2011

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### **Lab Homework and APA Term Paper**

The lab component of the course will give you hands-on experience conducting your own research study. There will be several in-class lab activities and assignments for you to complete throughout the term, but the largest portion of your work in lab (and your lab grade) will consist of working on your research study and writing an APA paper. Assignments **MUST** be turned in by the beginning of your lab period to SafeAssign on Blackboard. Assignments (i.e., homework, drafts, etc.) turned in late will be penalized 10% for every day they are late, and assignments will NOT be accepted for grades after 4 days (including weekends) past their due date.

You will be required to submit all of your individual written work to SafeAssign. This technology will be used to prevent plagiarism, protect the originality of student work, ensure a level playing field, and make you more aware of and knowledgeable about plagiarism. When you submit papers, they are checked against SafeAssign's comprehensive databases of source material (which includes published sources, websites, other students' papers, etc.). The papers are then delivered to us, along with reports about how original the papers statistically appear to be.

Early in the term in lab, you will form small groups of 3-5 people and a research topic will be agreed upon. You must find journal articles on your topic and formulate a research question and hypothesis. You will then create or obtain measures of your constructs, administer them to your classmates (i.e., collect data during Data Collection Day on **Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> during lecture**), analyze the data, draw conclusions about your results, and write an APA style paper about your study (further instructions and guidelines will be provided in class). The final paper must be formatted correctly in APA style (see the APA Publication manual, your textbook, and the lab handouts).

The term paper is due by **11:59PM on Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011** to SafeAssign on Blackboard. In addition to your final paper, you must also turn in your Group Evaluation. Late papers will be penalized 10% for every day they are late and will NOT be accepted for a grade after 4 days (including weekends) past their due date.

## **Academic Honesty**

Group discussion outside of class is encouraged. However, all work submitted in this course must be your own and produced exclusively for this course. Copying or paraphrasing information from any source, print or electronic, without citation, is plagiarism. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must therefore be properly acknowledged and documented. **The writing portion of the lab is work that must be completed individually, NOT as a group or in collaboration with your group-mates**. If we receive papers that have substantial portions matching in text, if one paper appears to have text from another paper with only minor modifications, or if your paper has portions of text that have been taken from published sources without proper acknowledgment, you will be in danger of failing the assignment and the course and being reported to Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards. We will be reading your papers very closely because it is our goal to note formatting details and responsiveness to draft suggestions; therefore, this is definitely not the class where you would want to take the risk of turning in work that is not your own! If you are in doubt regarding any aspect of these issues, please come and speak with your lab instructor BEFORE you turn in your assignment.

For more information about the University of Oregon's Student Conduct Code and the consequences of academic dishonesty, refer to the Schedule of Classes published quarterly and the following website: <http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/Home/tabid/36/Default.aspx>. Violations of the Student Conduct Code will be taken seriously and are noted on student disciplinary records and may result in failing.

### **Tips for Success:**

- Stay on schedule and in touch!
  - Consult the lab calendar to see when homework assignments and section drafts are due.
  - Turn in ALL lab assignments on time.
  - Be a responsible group member, and make frequent use of Blackboard.
  - Come to lab and stay the entire time.
  - Check your UO email account *at least* once a day.
  - Stay in touch with your lab instructor and your group mates.

<b>Lab Points Breakdown (180 points)</b>
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### **Homework (20 points)**

Article Summary: 5 points  
Design Outline: 5 points  
Study Materials: 5 points  
Group Member Evaluations: 5 points

### **APA Research Paper (160 points)**

Introduction Outline: 10 points  
Introduction Draft: 10 points  
References Draft: 5 points  
Method Draft: 10 points  
Results Draft: 10 points  
Discussion Outline: 10 points  
Abstract Draft: 5 points  
Final APA style Paper: 100 points

## Lab Schedule:

Week	Lab Topic	Items Due
1	Introduction; Group Topics; PsycINFO	-
2	Research Design and Experimental Method	Article Summary Due
3	Hypotheses; Finding Measures	Design Outline Due
4	The Introduction Section References, and Citations	Study Materials Draft Due (one copy per group)*
5	Method Section	Lab (4/25 or 4/26): Introduction Outline Due Friday (4/29): Copies of Final Study Materials Due by 4:00**
6	Choosing the Right Statistic; Data Entry	Method Draft Due
7	Data Analysis	Introduction and References Drafts Due
8	Abstract and Discussion Section	Results Draft Due (due Wednesday, 5/18 by 4:00PM to SafeAssign)
9	Writing Help; Title Page; Final Paper Formatting	Abstract Draft and Discussion Outline Due
10	No lab!	-
Finals	<b>Final Paper and Group Evaluations due by 11:59PM on Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup> to SafeAssign on Blackboard</b>	

\*You are required to turn in a hard copy of your Study Materials at the beginning of your lab section (you only need to turn in one copy per group).

\*\*Finalized hard copies of your Study Materials are due by **4:00 on Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>** to your lab instructor's mailbox in the main Psychology Office (Straub 131). You will need to make 40 copies of your finalized Study Materials per group. You will get more details in class.

To submit an assignment to SafeAssign:

1. Log in to Blackboard
2. Click on the Blackboard page for this class
3. Click on 'Assignments', which is in the green navigation menu on the left side of the Blackboard page.
4. Find the appropriate assignment name (e.g., Article Summary, Intro Outline, etc.)
5. Click on 'View/Complete' – the Upload SafeAssignment page will appear
6. Click 'browse' and upload your assignment. **Please make sure that your assignment is in .doc or .docx format.**
7. You have the option of submitting your paper to the Global Reference Database that will allow other papers from other institutions to be checked against yours (this will protect the originality of your work across institutions) – this is completely optional.
8. Click Submit

It is recommended that you double check that your assignment has been submitted properly. To do this, you can follow the above instructions – this will take you to a page with information about the assignment you submitted. If your assignment does not appear, please email it to your lab instructor as a back-up (this will ensure that you do not lose points for lateness). After your assignment has been graded, you can go to this page (or View Grades) to find your grade, comments from your lab instructor (he or she will attach a document with track changes that you will be able to open to read your feedback), and your SafeAssign report (i.e., your plagiarism score). \*\*If you ever have trouble with SafeAssign (e.g., there is an error message, your assignment does not appear, etc.), please email your assignment to your lab instructor.\*\*