



Time: Thurs 5:00-5:50 PM

Place: 257 Straub Hall

Professor: Lou Moses, 427 Straub, 346-4918, moses@uoregon.edu

Office hours: By appointment

COURSE OBJECTIVES: During Winter term we will focus on a set of issues that are foundational for all researchers, such as replicability, research ethics, and fostering skills for presenting research findings effectively, both via narrative and by means of figures and other visual media. Regular attendance and participation in discussion are crucial. Assigned readings will be available on Canvas.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COURSE: There are five course requirements this term:

- 1) Regular attendance and participation
- 2) Read all assigned articles
- 3) Post a comment on the readings on the Canvas discussion board for relevant class meetings by **Wednesday, 8pm**, of each week we hold class. Comments on assigned readings would typically be a paragraph or two detailing criticisms or positive reactions to the readings, outlining new ideas sparked by a reading, or your own different take on the issues dealt with in the readings.
- 4) Submit a draft of the first paragraph of your thesis to the discussion board (**due Friday, March 9**). Comment on three of your peers' paragraphs by the following Wednesday (What do you like about the paragraph? How might it be improved?). Each paragraph should have no more than three commenters so that everyone will receive a good amount of feedback.
- 5) Submit a project update (**due Thursday 8pm, March 22**). These should be no more than a page in which you describe where you're at with your projects (data collection, analysis, writing, etc., and any problems you may be encountering).

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (and assigned readings)

WEEK 2, Jan 18: Project Presentations

WEEK 4, Feb 1: Research Ethics, the Replicability Crisis, and Open Science

There is emerging recognition of a “replicability crisis” within the sciences, including Psychology. The crisis seems to have numerous causes. Publication bias, widespread use of questionable research practices, underpowered studies, and even outright fraud all contribute. We will discuss the replicability crisis, the nature of questionable research practices, and the emerging open science movement.

Assigned readings:

- 1) Nelson, Simmons, & Simonsohn (in press)
- 2) Spellman (2015)
- 3) Gross (2011), writing about the Hauser ethical misconduct case, found at <http://www.thenation.com/article/165313/disgrace-marc-hauser?page=0,2>

WEEK 6, Feb 15: Visualizing Data

A discussion of best practices for displaying your data and how to avoid being misled by graphical representations of data.

Assigned Readings:

- 1) Land & Sandor (2009)
- 2) Kosslyn (2006)

WEEK 8, March 1: Writing Like a Psychologist

How to write a quality scientific paper.

Assigned Readings:

- 1) Popova, M. *The Psychology of Writing and the Cognitive Science of the Perfect Daily Routine*
- 2) DeLong, M. *Twenty-One Suggestions for Writing Good Scientific Papers*

WEEK 10, March 15: First Paragraph Day

A discussion of a sample of the previously submitted first paragraphs.