

Course Syllabus: RESEARCH EXPERIENCES & METHODS (Spring 2011)

Psych V89.0999 -- 001 (4 credits)

New York University, Department of Psychology

Class Time: Tuesday – 3:30 – 5:20 PM

Location: Meyer Hall (6 Washington Place), Room 771

Professor: Marjorie McMeniman, Ph.D., M.S.

Contact Info: mm4241@nyu.edu; Mailbox in Room 416b; (212) 998-7786

Office: 6 Washington Place, Room 408

Office Hours: After class, and by arrangement

Teaching Assistant: Lauren Kois, lek303@nyu.edu

Writing Consultant: Lorraine Doran, lorraine.doran@nyu.edu

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Learning Objective: The main goal of this course is for the student to acquire an understanding of the important aspects of conducting research in psychology, and to learn what is involved in being a scientist. This includes an increased understanding of the logic, nature, and process of the research/experimental investigation (for more details, see ‘Course Goals’).

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Required Books: *Research Design & Methods: A Process Approach (8th Ed., 2010) K. S. Bordens & B. B. Abbott, McGraw-Hill, NY
Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th Ed., 2010)
 Author/Publisher: American Psychological Association, Wash., DC

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NYU Bobst Library: Psychology Research Guides at: <http://nyu.libguides.com/index.php>, then go to the “Psychology & Neural Science,” “Social Sciences,” or “Education and Applied Psychology” guides.

Books on Oral Presentations:

- *Clear and to the Point: 8 Psychological Principles for Compelling PowerPoint Presentations. (2007). Kosslyn, S. M., NY: Oxford
- *Presentation Zen: Simple Ideas on Presentation Design and Delivery. (2008). Reynolds, G. Berkeley, CA: New Riders (Pearson Education).
- *The Cognitive Style of PowerPoint: Pitching Out Corrupts Within. (2006). E. R. Tufte, Graphics Press LLC

Psychological Tests/Instruments References:

- *Mental Measurements Yearbook .(17th Ed., 2007). Eds: K. F. Geisinger, R. A. Spies, J. F. Carlson & B. S. Plake; Boros Center for Testing, Univ. of Nebraska Press
- Tests in Print VII. (2006). Eds: L. L. Murphy, R. A. Spies, & B. S. Plake; Boros Center for Testing, Univ. of Nebraska Press -- **Bobst has V: 1st Floor, Reference**
- *Directory of Unpublished Experimental Mental Measures, Vol. 9 (2008). B. A. Goldman & D. F. Mitchell, American Psychological Association, Wash., D.C.

General Writing References:

- The Elements of Style (2000) Strunk, W. & White, E. B. NY: Longman/Allyn & Bacon.
- Little, Brown Handbook. (2006). Aaron, Jane E. NY: Longman
- Bem, D. (2004). Writing the empirical journal article. In J. M. Darley, M. P. Zanna, & H. L. Roediger (Eds.) *The compleat academic: A career guide* (pp. 185-219). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

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References for Statistical Software (SPSS, R and SAS): see Bb

* see course reserves at Bobst (Lower Level 2)

REM Course Schedule: Spring 2011

(subject to change/revision*)

Date	Reading**	Homework Assignments Due***	Lecture/Class Exercise Topic
Jan 25	---	---	Orientation: Review of course goals & documents; Choosing sponsor, Human Subjects, etc.; Researcher attributes
Feb 1	B & A: Ch 1 & 2	Find a Research Sponsor & learn about project	Communicating research – Presentations & Journal article review (research report organization/ writing in APA style). Writing of Intro – Lorraine Doran, WID
Feb 8	B & A: Ch 3	(1a) Introduction: Draft due	RefWorks – Jason Phillips (class at Bobst, Mac Lab, Lower Level 1); Plagiarism
Feb 15	B & A: Ch 4	(1b) Introduction: Revision due	Plagiarism Quiz; Presentation by TA Lauren Kois; Student presentations begin (1); Scientific method/Experimental design - Internal, external validity - Exercise on IVs & DVs
Feb 22	B & A: Ch 5	---	Student presentation (1); Exercise on Reliability/Validity
March 1	B & A: Ch 6 & 7	(2) Variables / Formulation of Scientific Hypothesis	Student presentation (1); Article Review
March 8	B & A: Ch 8	---	Student presentation (2); Exercise on Between- and Within-Ss Designs
March 15	---- SPRING BREAK ----		
March 22	B & A: Ch 10, Ch. 16 (p.495-9)	(3) Method I - Design	Student presentation (1); FILM: Ethical issues in research - Human subjects - Scientific integrity
March 29	---	(4) Method II – Participants; Materials/Apparatus	Student presentation (1); Data analysis overview
April 5	B & A: Ch 11	(5) Method III – Procedure (Peer Review)	Student presentation (1); Exam review – Jeopardy format
April 12	---	---	EXAM (Chs 1 – 8, 10, 11)
April 19	B & A: Ch 13	(6) Statistical Analyses	Student presentations (2); Poster making
April 26	B & A: Ch 16	[research report] Last day to turn in Hmwks	Student presentations (2); Writing Guidelines review; Discussion section
May 3	---	[research report]	In-Class Poster Session (#?); Future of research methods; Research and your career
Exam Wk (May 10)	---	Final Research Report Due	---

* Class attendance is required. But if you do miss class, please be sure to check Blackboard, where important scheduling changes will be posted.

** B & A: Bordens & Abbott

*** For details on assignments, see separate document: 'Homework Assignments.' Note that homework should be submitted on time. This facilitates prompt feedback that may benefit the quality of your next homework.

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Course Requirements/Grading: see 'Course Details'