

Experimental Projects

PSY 3393.005 – Fall 2019

Meeting Times: Tuesday/Thursday 2:30 PM - 3:45 PM

Meeting Location: JO 3.209

Instructor:

Dr. Gayle Schwark

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Office: GR 4.822

Office Hours: Mon/Wed: 11:30-12:30

Tu/Th: 1:20-2:20 PM

and by appointment

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Graduate Teaching Assistant (TA)

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 4:00-5:00

Thursdays 1:00-2:00

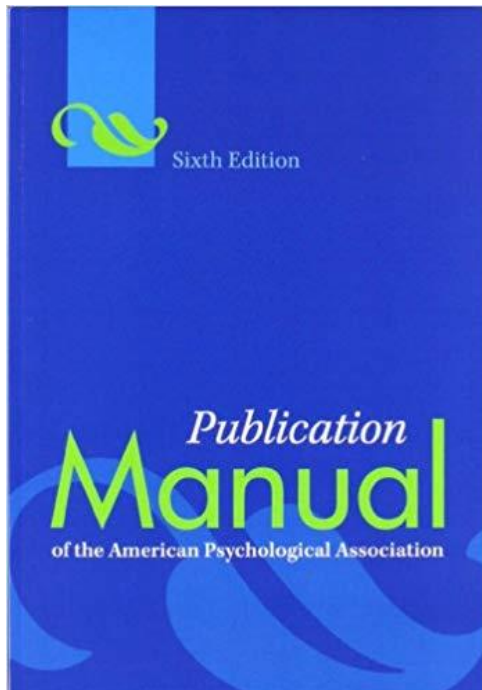
and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

PSY 3393 / CGS 3340 Experimental Projects in Psychology is the third course in the research methods sequence. You will gain laboratory and field experience in designing and conducting research, with a major emphasis on writing APA style research reports.

REQUIRED TEXT

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Sixth Edition.
ISBN: 978-1433805615

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research
- Conduct a scientific literature review using library and other resources
- Think critically about scientific research
- Identify appropriate research methodologies and designs to answer questions related to psychology
- Identify appropriate statistical tests for various research designs
- Interpret statistical analyses and formulate conclusions accordingly
- Apply ethical standards to psychological research
- Communicate scientific findings in an APA style research paper and in a conference-style presentation

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE OBJECTIVES

- Critical Thinking Skills – to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.
- Communication Skills – to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.

EMAIL

Official communication to you will come through your UTD e-mail *and* via eLearning. Please access both at least once per day. When e-mailing me, be sure to do so with your UTD e-mail or via eLearning.

Always include your full name and course in any e-mail correspondence.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1) Participation/Attendance

This course will be a largely group-based course and will cover a significant amount of material you will not get from a text book. For those reasons, attendance and participation in class is required. There will be a sign-in sheet passed around at the beginning of every class. Be sure you sign in during every class period. On any given day, I will use either an in-class assignment or the sign-in sheet to grant attendance/participation credit for that class period. Participation/attendance grades cannot be made up. I am very strict on this policy, so to accommodate for any true emergencies you may have, your two lowest attendance/participation grades will be dropped.

(Note: eLearning is set up to automatically drop your lowest participation grade, so your grade calculation on eLearning is already accounting for this policy.)

2) Research Project

Throughout the semester, you will be completing a research project in a group. You will have regular due dates for individual components of the research project, including a poster session and a full APA-style research paper which will incorporate feedback you receive on all prior drafts of each section. The project will be broken down into the following assignments:

- A. Two guided paper reviews
- B. Annotated bibliography
- C. Draft of introduction section
- D. Human subjects training
- E. Methodology proposal conference
- F. IRB application
- G. Draft of method section
- H. Draft of results section
- I. Draft of discussion section
- J. Full APA-style paper
- K. Poster presentation

Each student will be allowed to turn in *one* assignment late without penalty. Late assignments must be submitted within *one week* of the due date. Keep in mind that feedback on late assignments will also take longer than usual. Any late assignments beyond the one allowed will receive a 25% penalty *per day* late.

Exceptions to this rule: There are two exceptions to this rule.

- 1) Assignments that are to be completed or presented in person and/or during class cannot be turned in late or made up. These assignments include the methodology proposal/conference and the poster presentation.
- 2) If you use your late pass on your final paper, it must be submitted no later than *two days* after the deadline.

Note: This late policy is intended to allow for emergencies, illness, or other circumstances beyond your control.

CALCULATING GRADES

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Percentage of Final Grade</u>	<u>Letter Grades:</u>
Participation/Attendance	15%	A+= 97-100%
Research Project Assignments		A = 93-96%
- Guided paper review #1	5%	A- = 90-92%
- Guided paper review #2	5%	B+= 87-89%
- Annotated bibliography	5%	B = 83-86%
- Draft of introduction section	7%	B- = 80-82%
- Human subjects training	2%	C+= 77-79%
- Methodology proposal conference	3%	C = 73-76%
- IRB application	2%	C- = 70-72%
- Draft of method section	7%	D+= 67-69%
- Draft of results section	7%	D = 63-66%
- Draft of discussion section	7%	D- = 60-62%
Full APA-Style Final Paper	20%	F = 0-59%
Poster Presentation	15%	
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TOTAL	100%	

Note: I will round grades to the nearest percentage point. For example, if your final grade is 86.5% then you will receive a B+. If your grade is 86.4% then you will receive a B. **Do not e-mail with requests for extra points at the end of the semester.**

LATE WORK

Please see the policy for each individual assignment type above.

GRADE CHANGES

If you would like to dispute a grade, you must do so within 2 weeks of the time that your assignment is graded. After the two-week time period, I will not consider grade changes. It is your responsibility to check your grades frequently.

WITHDRAWALS

It is your responsibility to withdraw from this course if you deem it necessary. **You will not be automatically dropped from the class for any reason.** In other words, if you haven't done the paperwork, you are still enrolled in the class. Please be sure to check deadlines for course withdrawals.

CANCELING CLASS / CAMPUS CLOSURE

Though I do not anticipate this situation, if I must cancel class, I will always do so with as much advance notice as possible. You will be notified of class cancelations via e-mail and eLearning, so be sure to check frequently.

If there is a campus closure due to weather or any other reason, I will be in contact that day with further instructions.

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

The Office of Student Success operates the Student Success Center (SSC, <https://www.utdallas.edu/studentsuccess>), which offers assistance to students in the areas of writing, mathematics, communication, multiple science fields, reading, study skills, and other academic disciplines. These services are available through individual and small group appointments, workshops, short courses, and a variety of online and instructional technologies. All students enrolled at UT Dallas are eligible for these services.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

It is the policy and practice of UT Dallas to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need academic accommodations for this class, I encourage you to register with the Office of Student AccessAbility (OSA). Some aspects of this course, the assignments, the in-class activities, and the way the course is typically taught may be accommodated to facilitate your participation and progress. OSA will assist you in determining academic accommodations that are appropriate for your situation. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such. To avoid any delay, please contact OSA as soon as possible. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive and disability accommodations cannot be provided until an OSA Letter of Accommodation has been given to the instructor. Students who have questions about receiving accommodations, or those who have, or think they may have, a disability (mobility, sensory, health, psychological, learning, etc.) are invited to contact OSA for a confidential discussion. OSA is located in the Student Services Building, SSB 3.200. They can be reached by phone at 972-883-2098, or by email at studentaccess@utdallas.edu.

STUDENT COUNSELING CENTER

Many college students face personal challenges or have psychological needs that may interfere with their academic progress, social development, or emotional wellbeing. The university offers a variety of confidential services to help you through difficult times. These services are provided by staff who welcome all students and embrace a philosophy respectful of clients' cultural and religious backgrounds, and sensitive to differences in race, ability, gender identity and sexual orientation.

Student Counseling Center at UT Dallas: <https://www.utdallas.edu/counseling/>
Office Phone: (972) 883-2575
24/7 Crisis Hotline: (972) UTD-TALK
24/7 Crisis Textline: 741741
Location: SSB 4.600

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrates a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work. See <https://www.utdallas.edu/conduct/integrity/>.

Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty can occur in relation to any type of work submitted for academic credit or as a requirement for a class. It can include individual work or a group project. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, and collaboration/collusion. In order to avoid academic dishonesty, it is important for students to fully understand the expectations of their professors. This is best accomplished through asking clarifying questions if an individual does not completely understand the requirements of an assignment.

Additional information related to academic dishonesty and tips on how to avoid dishonesty may be found here: <https://www.utdallas.edu/conduct/dishonesty/>.

RECORDINGS

Video/audio recording of this course is *not* permitted without the explicit permission of the instructor. Under no circumstance may recordings of this course be distributed in any way, even if you have obtained permission to record.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If you experience any issues with your UT Dallas account, contact the UT Dallas Office of Information Technology Help Desk: assist@utdallas.edu or call 972-883-2911. UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day/7 days a week. The services include a toll free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service. Please use this link to access the UTD eLearning Helpdesk: <https://ets.utdallas.edu/elearning/helpdesk>.

ADDITIONAL UT DALLAS SYLLABUS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The information contained in the following link constitutes the university's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the professor.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Date	Topic	Before class preparation	Assignment
Tue. 8/20	Syllabus		
Thu. 8/22	APA Formatting	Familiarize yourself with the APA manual and APA formatting	APA formatting in-class activity
Tue. 8/27	How to find and read journal articles	Find and start reading the first assigned journal article	
Thu. 8/29	Breaking down journal articles	Read the assigned journal article and complete the Guided Paper Review #1 Assignment	Guided Paper Review #1 due before 2:30 PM
Tue. 9/03	Review different areas of psychology		
Thu. 9/05	Group and research idea formation	Spend some time thinking about what kind of research you might be interested in.	Group member names and general research idea due by end of class
Tue. 9/10	Sharing initial review with group members / Idea revision	Find an article related to your research topic, read it, and complete Guided Paper Review #2	Guided Paper Review #2 due before 2:30 PM Revised (and more specific) research idea due by end of class
Thu. 9/12	Plagiarism	Continue looking for and reading journal articles related to your topic	In-class activity
Tue. 9/17	Literature review / How to write an annotated bibliography	Compile a list of relevant journal articles you have found	
Thu. 9/19	Discuss introductions/ Work on annotated bibliography	Work on your annotated bibliography. Come prepared with any questions you have about the assignment.	Annotated bibliography due by 11:59 PM
Tue. 9/24	Human subjects training		
Thu. 9/26	Review research designs and the statistical tests that should be used with them	Finish writing the draft of your introduction section. Start thinking about how you will design your study	Human subjects training certificate due by 11:59 PM Draft of introduction section due by 11:59 PM
Tue. 10/01	IRB form	Think about <i>how</i> you will execute your study, how you will operationally define your variables, and how you will analyze your data after it is collected	

Thu. 10/03	Work on designing your study and planning your statistical tests	Finish your study design	Sign up for your conference time. Make sure all group members will be in attendance at the conference.
Tue. 10/08	Method Proposal Conference	Have everything prepared for your IRB, including all attachments you may need.	
Thu. 10/10	Method Proposal Conference	Have everything prepared for your IRB, including all attachments you may need.	
Tue. 10/15	How to set up data in a spreadsheet	Finish and submit your IRB proposal.	Deadline to submit your IRB proposal
Thu. 10/17	SPSS Tutorial	Make sure you know what type of statistical test you plan to use to analyze your data	
Tue. 10/22	Practice data analysis	Create a set of fictional data based on your own research proposal and bring the fictional data to class	In-class activity
Thu. 10/24	How to write a method section	Start collecting data if your IRB has been approved	
Tue. 10/29	Data collection – No class	Finish writing your method section	Draft of method section due by 11:59 PM
Thu. 10/31	Come to your normal class and come to Section 005 at 11:30 AM (same room) to collect data		
Tue. 11/05	Data collection – No class		
Thu. 11/07	Data collection – No class		
Tue. 11/12	Data analysis	Format your data properly to prepare for analysis and bring your data to class. Data entry should NOT be done during class time.	
Thu. 11/14	How to write a results section	Make sure you have completed your data analysis and bring all outputs to class with you.	
Fri. 11/15			Draft of results section and SPSS output due by 11:59 PM
Tue. 11/19	How to write a discussion section	Bring one of the articles from your literature review to class with you	In-class activity
Thu. 11/21	Sample poster presentation	Finish writing your discussion section	Draft of discussion section due by 11:59 PM

Tue. 11/26	FALL BREAK – NO CLASS		
Thu. 11/28			
Tue. 12/03	Work on posters	Work on poster presentations and work on your final draft of your research paper	
Thu. 12/05	Work on posters	Finish your final draft of your research paper	Final draft of research paper due by 11:59 PM
Poster Session <i>(Tentative)</i> Tue. 12/10 2:00 PM - 4:45 PM	Poster Session		