

**PSY 3001W (Lec section 001, Lab sections 002-009) Introduction to Research Methods
Fall, 2009**

Lectures - MW, 11:15-12:05

Fraser Hall 101

Labs - W or Th, Elliott Hall S150 or S160

Course website: <http://www2.webvista.umn.edu>

Course Description: PSY 3001W (3 cr) is an introduction to the basic concepts and procedures used to conduct and evaluate research in Psychology. Emphasis is placed on understanding traditional research methods, applying sound experimental techniques in order to produce interpretable results, and evaluating scientific claims. PSY 3001W is a writing intensive (WI) course and satisfies a Liberal Education social science requirement. As such, students will complete a number of writing assignments, culminating in an APA-style research report. This course meets the writing intensive requirement stating that at least 33% of the student's final grade must be based upon student writing.

Prerequisites: PSY 1001 (Intro Psychology), PSY 2801 (Intro to Psychological Measurement and Data Analysis), and at least sophomore standing.

Course Goals:

1. To provide you with an understanding of the fundamental concepts and procedures characterizing scientific investigation in psychology.
2. To develop your skills in critically evaluating evidence and claims arising in the behavioral sciences and the popular press.
3. To give you experience in applying data analysis techniques to data gathered in the conduct of behavioral research.
4. To develop your skills in scientific communication.

Required books:

Cozby, P. C. (2009). *Methods in Behavioral Research* (10th ed.). Boston, MA: McGraw Hill.

Instructor: Mark A. Stellmack, Ph.D.

Ways to contact me:

email: stell006@umn.edu (I usually reply pretty quickly.)

phone: 612-625-0501 (You usually will have to leave a message.)

In person at my "Student Hour": Thursdays, 11:00-12:00, N112 Elliott Hall

By appointment: Send me an email or phone me to arrange a time.

Sec	Day & Time	Room	Section Leader	email	Office Hour (Elliott Hall room)
002	W 12:30-2:30	S150	Mark Stellmack	stell006@umn.edu	Th 11:00-12:00 (N112)
003	W 12:30-2:30	S160	Matt Borneman	borne030@umn.edu	M 2:00-3:00 (N492)
004	W 2:45-4:45	S150	Dan Irons	iron0012@umn.edu	W 1:40-2:40 (S462)
005	W 2:45-4:45	S160	Patrick Dwyer	dwyer092@umn.edu	W 1:30-2:30 (N334)
006	Th 9:30-11:30	S150	Jake Buchanan	bucha057@umn.edu	F 12:00-1:00 (N506)
007	Th 9:30-11:30	S160	Sandra Shallcross	shal0012@umn.edu	Th 11:30-12:30 (N456)
008	Th 11:45-1:45	S150	Vaughn Steele	stee0237@umn.edu	F 12:30-1:30 (S501)
009	Th 11:45-1:45	S160	Alvina Kittur	kittu003@umn.edu	Th 3:00-4:00 (S315)

You may attend any Section Leader's office hours. You may ask questions about course material during lectures or office hours, or you may email questions to me or the Section Leaders.

Lectures and Textbook Readings:

Lectures will be based on material from the book and from outside sources. Students will be responsible for all material in the assigned readings in the book whether or not it is discussed in class. Slides that will be presented during lectures usually will be posted at the course web site prior to each lecture.

4 WAYS TO EARN POINTS IN THIS COURSE (also see the scorecard on the last page of this syllabus)

(1) Exams:

- There will be 3 non-cumulative exams and a cumulative final exam. Exam 1 will be worth 60 points, Exams 2 and 3 will be worth 120 points each, and the Final Exam will be worth 150 points. Thus, it is possible to accumulate 450 points on exams.
- Exams will be based on material from the Cozby text as well as lecture material. Material that is presented only in lab will NOT appear on exams.
- Students who arrive late will be able to take the exam, but **STUDENTS WHO ARRIVE AFTER THE FIRST STUDENT HAS FINISHED THE EXAM WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO TAKE THE EXAM.**
- All exams will be multiple-choice format. Please bring a #2 pencil to class on exam days.
- **Bring a photo ID to class on exam days.**
- During exams, students will not be permitted to listen to audio reproduction devices (e.g. personal stereos). Students also will be asked to turn off cell phones and place them out of sight.
- University policy requires that make-up tests be made available in very limited circumstances. Unless your situation fulfills the criteria outlined by the University, **REQUESTS FOR MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.** The Instructor alone will determine whether an absence is legitimate (see “Legitimate Absences” on page 3). Exams will be given on the dates shown on the attached Schedule (see page 5).

(2) Quizzes:

Six on-line quizzes will be given during the semester, each worth 5 points, for a total of 30 possible points. Quizzes will be available on WebCT on Thursday at 3:00 p.m. and must be completed by the following Saturday at midnight. Quizzes primarily will cover material from the previous two lectures and the related sections of the text. Quizzes are intended to encourage you to keep up with the material during the semester and to clarify concepts that sometimes are troublesome for students. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO TAKE THE QUIZZES IN CASE THERE ARE COMPUTER ISSUES.**

(3) Labs:

Students will earn points in labs in two ways:

- (1) “Participation” points (5 points each lab): Students will earn points for simply performing the designated lab activities and turning in whatever worksheet or assignment is associated with those activities. To earn Participation points, you must perform the activity.
- (2) “Merit” points (5 points each lab): Students will receive points for the quality of the work on the designated worksheets or assignments completed during labs.

There are 13 labs this semester. The lowest two Merit scores will be dropped, so there are 55 possible Merit points. No Participation scores will be dropped, so there are 65 possible Participation points. Thus it is possible to accumulate 120 points in labs.

The nature of the labs is such that you must be present during the scheduled lab session in order to perform the tasks. As such, **THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP LABS.** Students who miss a lab and who provide evidence that their absence is legitimate will be given the Participation points for that lab, but not the Merit points. The Instructor alone will determine whether an absence is legitimate (see “Legitimate Absences” on page 3).

(4) Writing Assignments:

Writing Assignments will be assigned and collected during lab sessions. Most of these assignments will be related to the research manuscript that you will prepare one section at a time during the semester. A total of 198 points can be earned through Writing Assignments. The Schedule of Writing Assignments on page 4 shows when Writing Assignments will be assigned and when they are due. Unless you receive explicit instructions to the contrary, **all writing assignments must be completed independently. The misrepresentation of someone else’s writing as your own constitutes scholastic dishonesty. (See page 4.)**

Policy on Late Assignments: 50% penalty

Writing Assignments must be turned in to the Section Leader during your lab session on the due date. Assignments turned in after your lab session on the due date and received by the Section Leader before 5:00 p.m. on the following Monday will be scored but that score will be cut in half as a late penalty. Assignments will not be accepted after 5:00 p.m. on the Monday following the due date.

If you are unable to turn in an assignment during your lab due to absence for a legitimate reason (as determined by the Instructor; see “Legitimate Absences” below), you must e-mail your assignment to your Section Leader within 24 hours of the scheduled end of your lab section and it will be scored for full credit. You also must obtain the Instructor’s approval for the absence before the assignment will be graded.

Students who are registered for PSY 3001W must attend the first session of the lab for which they are registered or they will be dropped from the course. Section Leaders will take attendance at the end of the first lab session. Section Leaders also will provide a sign-up sheet/waiting list for students who are not registered for the course but who wish to register. Students who want to place their names on the waiting list must attend the first session of the lab that they want to join. The names of registered students who are absent and the waiting list will be given to the Instructor (Dr. Stellmack).

Twenty-four hours after the end of the first lab, registered students who were absent will be dropped from the course. Permission numbers will be sent to students on the waiting list based on the number of seats that have become available due to dropped students. Permission numbers will be sent to students in the order that their names appear on the waiting list.

If a student is unable to attend the first session of their lab and the student wants to remain registered for the course, the student must contact the Instructor within 24 hours of the end of the first lab session. If the Instructor determines that the absence was for a legitimate reason (see “Legitimate Absences” below), the student will be allowed to remain registered for the course.

“Legitimate Absences”: The Instructor will decide whether an absence is legitimate based on the University Senate Policy on Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences (described at <http://www.policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/MAKEUPWORK.html>). The Instructor very rarely considers absences to be legitimate. Please come to class on the scheduled exam dates and attend lab sessions to avoid unnecessary conflicts.

Extra Credit Opportunities: There are **NO** extra credit opportunities nor will any be made available during the semester.

Obtaining Help on Writing Assignments Prior to Turning Them In:

Because of the amount of grading for which the Section Leaders are responsible, Section Leaders will not be able to accept and provide feedback on drafts of writing assignments. You may obtain help or feedback on a writing assignment from Section Leaders in person during office hours only.

Writing assistance outside of class: If you would like additional help in completing your writing assignments, the **Center for Writing** offers free writing instruction and assistance. Consult their web site at <http://writing.umn.edu/sws/> for more information.

ADDITIONAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Per CLA Classroom, Grading, and Examination Procedures:

Students with Special Needs. Any student with a documented disability condition (e.g., physical, learning, psychiatric, systemic, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations should contact the Instructor and Disability Services at the beginning of the semester.

Per the Office for Student Conduct and Academic Integrity:

Student Academic Integrity and Scholastic Dishonesty. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own can result in disciplinary action. The University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as follows: **Scholastic dishonesty** means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering forging , or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

Within this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an "F" for the course and a report to the Office for Student Conduct and Academic Integrity.

*** **This syllabus is subject to change at the Instructor's discretion as the needs** ***
*** **of the course demand. Changes will be announced during lecture.** ***

SCHEDULE OF WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

The following schedule shows which writing assignments will be assigned and due in each lab.

Assignments in bold type are related to your semester-long research project.

Lab	Dates	Writing Assignments Assigned	Writing Assignments Due
1	9/9-9/10	Writing Assignment 1	(none)
2	9/16-9/17	Writing Assignment 2	Writing Assignment 1
3	9/23-9/24	Writing Assignment 3	Writing Assignment 2
4	9/30-10/1	(none)	Writing Assignment 3
5	10/7-10/8	Introduction	(none)
6	10/14-10/15	(none)	Introduction
7	10/21-10/22	Method	(none)
8	10/28-10/29	Writing Assignment 4	Method
9	11/4-11/5	Writing Assignment 5	Writing Assignment 4
10	11/11-11/12	Results & Discussion	Writing Assignment 5
11	11/18-11/19	Peer Review	Results & Discussion
12	12/2-12/3	Final Paper & Response to Review	Peer Review
13	12/9-12/10	(none)	Final Paper & Response to Review

The following is a rough outline of the topics to be covered each day. We may not adhere precisely to this schedule, but EXAMS DEFINITELY WILL BE GIVEN ON THE DATES SHOWN.

	Date	Day	Topic	Cozby
Sep.	9	W	Introduction to the Scientific Method	Ch. 1
	9-10	W-Th	Lab 1 – Assigned: Writing Assignment 1	
	14	M	Psychology as a Science	Ch. 1
	16	W	Generating Hypotheses	Ch. 2
	16-17	W-Th	Lab 2 – Due: WA1, Assigned: WA2 (QUIZ 1 DUE 9/19)	
	21	M	Ethical Research	Ch. 3
	23	W	Operational Definitions, Experiments, Causality, Validity	Ch. 4
	23-24	W-Th	Lab 3 – Due: WA2, Assigned: WA3 (QUIZ 2 DUE 9/26)	
	28	M	Constructing Surveys	Ch. 7
	30	W	Administering Surveys	Ch. 7
	30-Oct. 1	W-Th	Lab 4 – Due: WA3, Assigned: none	
Oct.	5	M	\$\$\$ EXAM 1 – Please bring a photo ID and #2 pencil \$\$\$	
	7	W	Statistics Review: Descriptive Statistics, Correlational Research	Ch. 12
	7-8	W-Th	Lab 5 – Due: none, Assigned: Introduction	
	12	M	Measurement: Reliability	Ch. 5
	14	W	Measurement: Validity	Ch. 5
	14-15	W-Th	Lab 6 – Due: Introduction, Assigned: none (QUIZ 3 DUE 10/17)	
	19	M	Naturalistic Observation, Systematic Observation	Ch. 6
	21	W	Guest Speaker: Holly Hatch-Surisook, Psychology Undergraduate Advising	
	21-22	W-Th	Lab 7 – Due: none, Assigned: Method	
	26	M	Case Studies, Archival Research	Ch. 6
	28	W	Confounding, Basic Experiments, Independent Groups	Ch. 8
	28-29	W-Th	Lab 8 – Due: Method, Assigned: WA4 (QUIZ 4 DUE 10/31)	
Nov.	2	M	Repeated Measures, Developmental Research Designs	Ch. 8
	4	W	Statistics Review: Hypothesis Testing, Inferential Statistics	Ch. 13
	4-5	W-Th	Lab 9 – Due: WA4, Assigned: WA5	
	9	M	\$\$\$ EXAM 2 – Please bring a photo ID and #2 pencil \$\$\$	
	11	W	Quasi-Experimental Designs	Ch. 11
	11-12	W-Th	Lab 10 – Due: WA5, Assigned: Results & Discussion	
	16	M	Single Case Experimental Designs	Ch. 11
	18	W	Complex Experimental Designs	Ch. 10
	18-19	W-Th	Lab 11 – Due: Results & Discussion, Assigned: Peer Review (QUIZ 5 DUE 11/21)	
	23	M	Main Effects and Interactions	Ch. 10
	25	W	THANKSGIVING NO LECTURE, NO LABS	
	25-26	W-Th		
	30	M	More Main Effects and Interactions	Ch. 10
Dec.	2	W	Manipulating the IV, Measuring the DV	Ch. 9
	2-3	W-Th	Lab 12 – Due: P.R., Assigned: Final Paper & Resp. to P.R. (QUIZ 6 DUE 12/5)	
	7	M	Additional Considerations in Designing and Conducting Experiments	Ch. 9
	9	W	Generalizing Research Results	Ch. 14
	9-10	W-Th	Lab 13 – Due: Final Paper & Response to Peer Review	
	14	M	\$\$\$ EXAM 3 – Please bring a photo ID and #2 pencil \$\$\$	
	16	W	Review for Final Exam	
	19	Sat.	\$\$\$ FINAL EXAM, 10:30-12:30 – Please bring photo ID and #2 pencil \$\$\$	

PSY 3001W SCORECARD

NON-WRITING:

Exams:	
1	/ 60
2	/ 120
3	/ 120
Final	/ 150
Total 1	/ 450

Quizzes:

1	/ 5
2	/ 5
3	/ 5
4	/ 5
5	/ 5
6	/ 5
Total 2	/ 30

Labs: Participation Merit (drop 2 lowest)

1	/ 5	/ 5
2	/ 5	/ 5
3	/ 5	/ 5
4	/ 5	/ 5
5	/ 5	/ 5
6	/ 5	/ 5
7	/ 5	/ 5
8	/ 5	/ 5
9	/ 5	/ 5
10	/ 5	/ 5
11	/ 5	/ 5
12	/ 5	/ 5
13	/ 5	/ 5
Sub-Total	/ 65	/ 55
Total 3	/ 120	

NON-WRITING TOTAL

Total 1 + Total 2 + Total 3: ____ / 600

Non-Writing Total	Percent (approx.)	Non-Writing Credits	NonWrit Grade
552-600	92-100	12	A
540-551	90-91.9	11	A-
528-539	88-89.9	10	B+
492-527	82-87.9	9	B
480-491	80-81.9	8	B-
468-479	78-79.9	7	C+
432-467	72-77.9	6	C
420-431	70-71.9	5	C-
408-419	68-69.9	4	D+
360-407	60-67.9	3	D
< 360	< 60	0	F

NON-WRITING CREDITS: ____ /12

WRITING:

Writing Assignments Related To Final Paper:

Introduction	/ 24
Method	/ 12
Results + Discussion	/ 24
Peer Review	/ 10
Final Paper	/ 50
Response to Peer Review	/ 10
Total 4	/ 130

Other Writing Assignments:

Writing Assignment 1	/ 10
Writing Assignment 2	/ 10
Writing Assignment 3	/ 12
Writing Assignment 4	/ 12
Writing Assignment 5	/ 24
Total 5	/ 68

WRITING TOTAL

Total 4 + Total 5: ____ /198

Writing Total	Percent (approx.)	Writing Credits	Writing Grade
182-198	92-100	12	A
172-181	87-91.9	11	A-
166-171	84-86.9	10	B+
132-165	67-83.9	9	B
122-131	62-66.9	8	B-
114-121	58-61.9	7	C+
83-113	42-57.9	6	C
73-82	37-41.9	5	C-
65-72	33-36.9	4	D+
41-64	21-32.9	3	D
< 41	< 21	0	F

WRITING CREDITS: ____ /12

FINAL GRADE CALCULATION:

NON-WRITING CREDITS: ____ /12

+ WRITING CREDITS: + ____ /12

= TOTAL CREDITS: = ____ /24

Grades: Grades will be based on the **total number of credits** that you accumulate in the course, which is the sum of the non-writing and writing credits that you earn. Final grades will be assigned as shown in the table to the right.

Total Credits	Final Grade
23-24	A
21-22	A-
19-20	B+
17-18	B
15-16	B-
13-14	C+
11-12	C
9-10	C-
7-8	D+
6	D
< 6	F