

PSYC 300: Advanced Experimental Psychology
2012-2013

Fall Term Instructor:

Jill A. Jacobson

Email: jill.jacobson@queensu.ca

Office: Craine 318

Office Hours: Open door or by appointment at

<http://jacobson.calendarspot.com>

Winter Term Instructor:

TBA

Head Teaching Assistant:

Rachael Bosma

Email: rachaelbosma@eac Objectives

information on selected topics. As in PSYC 100, this message board is intended only as a forum for posting questions and discussing topics related to the PSYC 300 course material. Messages pertaining to inappropriate topics like mark changes, course complaints, or subjects unrelated to PSYC 300 content will be deleted, and if those messages are deemed harassing, abusive, or insulting, disciplinary action will be taken. (Please also see the section below labeled "Civility Clause.")

Because students' questions tend to be similar, please post your questions in the appropriate Moodle forum rather than emailing the Head TA or the instructor directly. The Head TA and the instructor will check the forums regularly and will respond to your questions there. This way everyone in the class has access to the same information. If you do email questions that should have been posted on Moodle, your email will be returned unanswered or you will be directed to Moodle for the reply.

Lectures

Two 90-minute lectures are scheduled for each week. A short quiz on the lecture material will be available for 24 hours following each lecture. Typically quizzes are used for evaluative purposes; however, the quizzes in this course are strictly to help the students learn the material. Multiple studies have shown that tests enhance learning (TEU) increases students' retention of the course material and yields statistically significant improvements in exam performance (e.g., Hattikudur & Postle, 2011; McDaniel, Roediger, & McDermott, 2007). You will be given credit rather than a mark for having completed the quiz, and these points will contribute to your participation mark, which is worth 15% of your final grade. To further encourage students to take advantage of this opportunity to enhance their understanding of the course material and maintain a regular review of the concepts covered in class rather than relying on cramming at the end, a random sample of the questions from the quizzes will be included on the fall and winter exams.

Laboratories

All labs are held in Humphrey Hall Room 210 and will begin during the 2nd week of each term. No lab meetings will be held during the last two weeks of the semester. Laboratories will focus on: 1) writing; 2) statistical exercises with

experimental design. However, it must involve at least two predictors or independent variables, so that an interaction or mediation can be assessed. In other words, to address Project 2 research questions, you will be limited to one or more of the following statistical techniques covered during the Winter term: factorial- or between-subjects ANOVA, ANCOVA, or MANOVA; mixed-design ANOVA; moderated or mediated regression or logistic regression. As with Project 1, before groups can begin collecting the data for their studies, the instructor first must approve the proposal. Although the study is designed and collected by a group, each student will submit an individually written proposal during the 5th week of the Winter term. Groups will have an opportunity to gain feedback on their ideas during the lab meeting the 4th week of the Winter term. You also will be responsible for providing peer reviews on two proposals randomly assigned to you via Turnitin. The proposal and peer reviews of two other students' proposals will be marked by the TA and the average mark will be worth 5% of your final grade.

Evaluation

You are responsible for all lecture and laboratory material and all corresponding material in the texts and on Moodle. You are expected to write all exams as scheduled and submit projects and lab work indicated due date. Exceptions will be made only under relevant circumstances and when appropriate, written documentation is supplied. Will be applied to late projects and proposals.

Re-Marking. If you believe that an error was made in grading one of your exams or project papers, you must complete the remark form available for download from Moodle. Exams should be submitted to the Head TA who will reassess only the item(s) in dispute and written assignments should be submitted to the tutor who will remark the entire paper. On the form, you must specify the nature of the error and, if necessary, supporting documentation to defend your position. The remark will stand as the final mark even if it is lower.

Grading Scheme

EXAM TOTAL	3 Exams	45%
PROJECT TOTAL	2 Projects, 2 Proposals, 4 Peer Reviews	40%
PARTICIPATION TOTAL	Quizzes, lab work, etc.	15%
GRAND TOTAL		100%

Grading Method

In this course, some components will be graded using numerical percentage marks. Other components will receive letter grades, which for purposes of calculating your course average will be translated into numerical equivalents using the Faculty of Arts and Science approved scale:

Arts & Science Letter Grade Input Scheme

Assignment mark	Numerical value for calculation of final mark
A+	93
A	87
A-	82
B+	78
B	75
B-	72
C+	68
C	65
C-	62
D+	58
D	55
D-	52
F48 (F+)	48
F24 (F)	24
F0 (0)	0

Your course average will then be converted to a final letter grade according to Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale:

Grade	Numerical Course Average (Range)
A+	90-100
A	85-89
A-	80-84
B+	77-79
B	73-76
B-	70-72
C+	67-69
C	63-66
C-	60-62
D+	57-59
D	53-56
D-	50-52
F	49 and below

Schedule of Important Dates

Date	Event	Grade %	Location	Time
September 14, 2012	Labs Cancelled	--	--	--
September 21, 2012	Last day to request lab chan	--		

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is constituted by the five core fundamental values of honesty, fairness, respect and responsibility (see www.academicintegrity.org). These values are central to the building, nurturing and sustaining of an academic community in which all members of the community will thrive. Adherence to the values expressed through academic integrity forms a foundation for the "freedom of inquiry and exchange of ideas" essential to the intellectual life of the University (see the Senate Report on Principles and Priorities <http://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/policies/senateandtrust/principlespriorities.html>).

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the regulations concerning academic integrity and for ensuring that their assignments conform to the principles of academic integrity. Information on academic integrity is available in the Arts and Science Calendar (see Academic Regulation 1 <http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academic-calendars/2012calendar/academicregulations/regulation1>), on the Arts and Science website (see <http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academic/graduate/academicintegrity>), and from the instructor of this course. Departures from academic integrity include plagiarism, use of unauthorized materials, facilitation, forgery and falsification, and are antithetical to the development of an academic community at Queen's. Given the seriousness of these matters, actions that contravene the regulation on academic integrity carry sanctions that can range from a warning or the loss of grades on an assignment to the failure of a course to a requirement to withdraw from the university.

Civility Clause

The teaching assistants and instructors do not take any joy in seeing you perform poorly, and the requirements of this course were designed to improve your skills and better prepare you for future challenges that do not antagonize you. Thus we need not have an adversarial relationship nor should we be subjected to a hostile work environment. To this end, it is our course policy that everyone be treated with mutual respect and civility. You are free to question the views offered in this course and to come to their own conclusions about debatable issues. We welcome and encourage such critical thinking. However, you do need to demonstrate respect for diversity including ideas and approaches that differ from your own personal preferences or prior learning experiences. Also, during class time, please be respectful of the other students, and the instructor's or TA's obligation to cover the course material within the allotted time. If your question is not answered to your satisfaction on the first attempt, please accept the instructor's or TA's word and resume with the lecture or tutorial and instead speak with him or her after the class.

NOTE: Students who do not write the make-up exam are advised to drop the course. If you do not write the make-up exam due to a serious extenuating circumstance for which you provide new documentation, you will either be granted a second deferral by the instructor or be supported to appeal to drop the course after the deadline though this decision rests with the Associate Dean (Studies).

Travel during exams

According to university regulations, students are expected to be available to write scheduled exams at any time during the official December and April examination periods as well as during any scheduled class times. Requests to write a make-up exam because of conflicting travel plans (flight bookings) or requests to miss a class exam due to other plans will NOT be considered except under extraordinary circumstances. Students are advised to wait until the exam schedules are posted before making any travel arrangements.

Accommodation after the fact

Once a student has written an exam or submitted an assignment, they will not subsequently be granted accommodation such as being offered a second opportunity to write the exam or assignment or have it count for less than originally specified in the course syllabus (reweighted). Students who cannot perform to the best of their ability due to a serious, extenuating circumstance must inform their instructor before attempting an exam or completing a course to arrange appropriate accommodation. Appeals to change a grade after the fact must be made to the Associate Dean (Studies) and will be supported by the Department only in exceptional circumstances.

Special Note about Admission to the Final Year of Honors and PSYC 501

Contrary to popular belief or what you may be accustomed to from previous years of the psychology major, admission to the final year of honors is not limited, and PSYC 300 is not a cut course. That is, your rank relative to the other students in this course will not determine your admission into the final year of the psychology major. Everyone in PSYC 300 can be admitted. You just need to get a minimum mark of 65% in this course plus an average of 70% or more in all of your PSYC classes and in PSYC 202, 203, and 300 combined. For both of the latter criteria, your PSYC 300 grade is just one of several marks used in the calculations, and it is not worth more than any of the other grades. So if you struggle with the material in this course, do not despair. You could make up for it by doing well in your other PSYC classes.

Although admission to the final year of honors is not limited, constraints may be placed on the number of students in the thesis course, PSYC 501, because that class is dependent on the number of professors who are available to be supervisors in a given year as well as the number of students each professor is willing to accept. Again though please keep in mind that if limitations must be made, this decision will not be based on your PSYC 300 grade alone. To enroll in PSYC 501, you need to satisfy the criteria above for admission to honors, but your average in all of your PSYC courses now must be at least 75%. If enough professors are willing to take all the students who are interested in doing a thesis, then everyone who qualifies gets to do one. If there are not enough supervisors, then the number is determined by your overall PSYC average. In other words, if space is limited, admission to PSYC 501 absolutely and positively will NOT be determined by just your mark in PSYC 300 or even your average in PSYC 202, 203, and 300. Your grade in PSYC 300 will be only one of many in the calculation.

Finally, even if you are not admitted to PSYC 501, you still can complete the courses required for your honors degree (non-thesis option) if you have passed PSYC 300 (i.e., earn a mark of 50% or higher). The awarding of any Bachelor's degree in the Faculty of Arts & Science, however, is conditional upon receiving an overall average of 60% as well as an average of 60% in the courses required for your PSYC concentration.

My hope is this information will ease some of the stress you might be feeling about this course. So good luck, work hard in all of your courses, and let's have a good year!