

PSYC 001 Participant Pool: Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How do I contact the Pool Coordinators?

A: Email them at inpypool@lehigh.edu if necessary. PLEASE DON'T contact the instructor for this class. The instructor has nothing to do with running the participant pool. The instructor can only say "contact inpypool@lehigh.edu."

Q: Must I do experiments?

A: No. You can write a research paper instead. The experiments will take 6 hours of your time. Reading the articles for the research paper will take at least that much time, and then you need to do the actual writing. If you fail to do either of the options you get an incomplete for the course.

Q: How many experiments do I need to do?

A: You need to do as many as you are asked to do, but no more than 6 hours worth. Whether you do a full 6 hours or less, remember that you have met your requirement. You are randomly assigned to experiments and so the exact number of hours you complete may vary by chance. Only failing to sign up or failing to show up can affect your status for the Research Requirement.

Q: Is it optional to sign up when I get assigned to an experiment?

A: Once you get assigned to an experiment, it is not an option whether to sign up or not. You have been randomly placed in that experiment, and the person running that experiment depends on the people assigned to it to show up. Of course, you have the right not to participate after showing up and learning what the experiment involves.

Q: What happens if I am assigned to an experiment and just never sign up?

A: If you are assigned to an experiment and never sign up for it you will not have completed that portion of the requirement for the course. The requirement is to participate in all the experiments assigned to you. Thus, failure to sign-up means that your participation is incomplete. You can erase this by doing extra experiments.

Q: I set up my SONA account, but have not been assigned to any experiments. When can I get started?

A: It may be days or even a few weeks before you are assigned. If you haven't been assigned any experiments after 1 month, you may want to contact inpypool@lehigh.edu to make sure you are properly registered.

Q: I did an experiment, but I do not see the credit for it reflected in my account. Why? What should I do?

A: When you do an experiment, the person in charge of the experiment needs to report the fact that you have done the experiment to the SONA system. The accounts get updated, and the credit is reflected in your account, only when that report has been filed. This should happen within a couple of days of doing the experiment. If your credit has not appeared after several days, contact the experimenter.

Q: I need to cancel an appointment that I arranged, what should I do?

A: Within certain time limits you can cancel appointments on SONA. If the time limit has passed, you will need to contact the researcher directly. Email the person in charge of that particular experiment at least half a day before the appointment and reschedule it. Do not contact the Pool Coordinators about rescheduling an appointment.

Q: I missed an experiment that I signed up for, will I be penalized?

A: If you miss an experiment, you are liable to be penalized. You may contact the experimenter and ask if you can reschedule. Sometimes this is possible. However, if the experimenter is unable to reschedule you, the penalty cannot be removed. So it is best not to miss your appointments.

Q: I signed up for an experiment, but I don't remember where it is, who it is with, or what it was called. Who can I contact?

A: You can log on to your SONA account and find the information there.