PSYC 001 RESEARCH REQUIREMENT – Spring 2024

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The Research Requirement is administered by the Participant Pool and is separate from the rest of your course. *All questions about the Research Requirement should be directed to Lehigh Participant Pool <inpypool@lehigh.edu>, and NOT to your PSYC 1 Professor or TA.*

1) RESEARCH REQUIREMENT

   Most introductory science courses have a lab requirement. Similarly, Introduction to Psychology has a research requirement that is intended to provide you with firsthand experience of psychological research. This requirement involves either A) participating in research studies or B) writing a paper about research studies. Participating in studies provides invaluable support to the cutting-edge research being conducted in the Psychology Department at Lehigh.

   This semester most labs conduct in-person data collection. Whether on-line or in person, the learning objectives for this component of PSYC 001 are the same.

   A – STUDY PARTICIPATION OPTION: Participating in studies will take 6 hours (6 research credits) over the semester, that is approximately 1 hour every other week. Some studies take less than an hour, others take more than an hour or involve multiple sessions, and therefore, the number of studies might not match the number of hours. However, no study will give you less than .5 hours or credit. You will sign up for studies *on the research management system SONA*. You will set up your account in the beginning of the semester and will receive detailed instructions in class (and via email) on how to register and use the system.

   B - PAPER OPTION: Writing the research-based paper, if you choose that option, will require reading and reviewing 4 scientific journal articles, three assigned by us and one that you find on your own. We expect it will take about as much time as the Experiment Option. The task will be to pick a topic (chosen from a list that will be provided) and to use your review of journal articles for that topic to show how data that they contain help us understand the specific psychological issue. The specific research topics for the paper option and details for completing and turning in the paper will be provided later in the semester if you select this option.

   Studies will end on and the paper will be due by FRIDAY, April 26, 2024

2) STUDY PARTICIPATION OPTION DETAILS

   If you choose this option, you have three responsibilities. You need to
   (1) look and sign up for studies on SONA, and
   (2) attend ALL study sessions as scheduled
   (3) closely monitor your hours/credits of participation to complete 6 hours by 4/26.

   ● Available studies will be posted on SONA. Each study will have specific timeslots for which you can sign up. If you are having trouble finding a time that works, contact the researcher directly. Researchers try their best to be accommodating!

- SONA will serve as your access point to the experiments. If you forget details of your appointment or need to cancel it, log in to SONA. All the information about your appointment, and how to contact the relevant researcher if you need to, will be there. If you need to cancel an appointment, be sure to do so well in advance.

- *If you miss an appointment (or show up more than 5 minutes late), t*his will be recorded in the SONA system. If something comes up and you cannot attend a session, contact the experimenters in advance, just as you would with any other appointment. You will then be rescheduled. If you are absent without timely notice, you may still contact the experimenter and ask if you can reschedule. Sometimes this is possible, but sometimes it is not. It is the experimenter's decision. If the experimenter does not reschedule you, the appointment will be shown as missed assignment.

3) GRADING

If you chose the STUDY PARTICIPATION Option but acquire two unexcused no-shows (e.g., showing up too late to participate, not cancelling 24 hours in advance, or not providing appropriate documentation for a no-show, not responding to rescheduling emails), you will be ineligible to sign up for additional studies and will default to the Research Paper option.

It is your responsibility to sign up for studies continuously throughout the semester/ to complete the research paper on time. As with other course requirements, there is a consequence to your grade for not properly completing the research requirement. You will receive a ⅓ letter grade deduction for the course (e.g., B would be reduced to a B-, C+ would be reduced to C, etc.).

4) HOW DO I BEGIN?

In the first week of the semester, you will receive an email inviting you to register in SONA, the web-based system for research participation. In SONA, you will fill in a Pre-screen survey and select whether you would like to participate in research studies or choose the research paper option. You will need to respond by the deadline. If you choose the study participation option, you will need to monitor SONA for available research studies and sign up for timeslots that fit your schedule.

If you choose the research paper option, you will receive the assignment by email about halfway through the semester.

5) FURTHER INFORMATION

Essential information on the Research Requirement is available via your CourseSite. This memo, and additional information can be found on the Participant Pool Webpage. Before contacting us with questions, please ALWAYS check the web pages first. Many answers can easily be found there.
The Research Requirement page provides:
- The Research Requirement options and procedures (this document)
- A guide for using SONA and managing your account
- An explanation of your rights as a participant
- A frequently asked questions (FAQ) document

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