PSYCHOLOGY 3V03
Laboratory in Human Memory and Cognition
Winter, 2006

INSTRUCTORS:

Tuesday 2:30 – 5:20 in PC 311  
Bruce Milliken (millike@mcmaster.ca)  
Room 414, Psychology Complex  
525-9140 x24361  
Teaching Assistant: Sandra Thomson (thomsosj@mcmaster.ca)  
Room 319, Psychology Complex  
525-9140 x27156

Tuesday 2:30 – 5:20 in PC 316  
Aimee Skye (skyeal@mcmaster.ca)  
Room 140, Psychology Complex  
525-9140 x24824  
Teaching Assistant: Matt Collins (collinwm@mcmaster.ca)  
Room 327, Psychology Complex  
525-9140 x24784

Monday 2:30 – 5:20 in JHE A101  
Sam Hannah (hannahsd@mcmaster.ca)  
Room 418, Psychology Complex  
525-9140 x27022  
Teaching Assistant: Matt Crump (crumpmj@mcmaster.ca)  
Room 319, Psychology Complex  
525-9140 x27156

COURSE CONTENT
The primary objective of the course is to teach students the skills necessary to conduct independent research. The objective will be achieved primarily by having students engage in research projects. In carrying out this research, four sets of skills will be emphasized. The first set of skills involves identifying a research question. There will be a series of assigned readings related to the research projects, and these readings will give students the background necessary to identify the research question of interest. Class time will be devoted to discussion of the assigned readings and how they relate to the research question. A second set of skills is required to conduct the research itself. Students will be responsible for aspects of experimental design, data collection, data analysis, and data interpretation in the research projects. A third set of skills that will be emphasized involves the interpretation of data. Students will be expected to learn the types of inferences that can be drawn from a set of data, the implications of various patterns of data for experimental hypotheses, and what kinds of follow-up research are encouraged by particular sets of data. Finally, students will be required to practice the oral and written reporting of research results. This objective will be addressed in two ways. First, each student will be responsible for one 20-minute oral presentation based on one of the assigned readings. Second, each student will be responsible for written reports of the research projects undertaken in the course.

EVALUATION
Assignment 1 10%
ASSIGNING OF FINAL GRADES

Numerical grades will be assigned for all components of the evaluation. These numerical grades will be summed at the end of the course and converted to a letter grade according to the scale below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numerical Grade</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 – 100</td>
<td>A+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85 – 89</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>80 – 84</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<td>77 – 79</td>
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<td>73 – 76</td>
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<td>70 – 72</td>
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<td>57 – 59</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<td>53 – 56</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>50 – 52</td>
<td>D-</td>
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<td>0 – 49</td>
<td>F</td>
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NOTE: Because a great deal of the organizational and informational content of the course will be delivered during our weekly meeting times, class attendance is extremely important. If you know in advance that you must miss a meeting, then please let it be known with as much advance warning as possible. Any excuses for missed assignments or exams must be submitted through the office of the Associate Dean of Social Science (or Science etc., depending on your program).

Also, attention is drawn to the Statement on Academic Ethics and the Senate Resolutions on Academic Dishonesty as found in the Senate Policy Statements distributed at registration and available in the Senate Office. Any student who infringes one of these resolutions will be treated according to the published policy.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of...</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 9</td>
<td>Discussion of ethics in research with human participants</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Description and Discussion of Assignment 1a</td>
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January 16

Assignment 1a due
Description and Discussion of Assignment 1b
Data Collection Administrative Issues
Distribute readings for Project 1
Introduction to Project 1

January 23

Assignment 1b due
Introduction to Project 1 (continued)
Discuss Method of Project 1
Data collection for Project 1 begins: January 23

January 30

Oral presentations 1-4

February 6

Oral presentations 5-8
Data collection for Project 1 ends: February 10 @ 5pm

February 13

Discuss Results of Project 1
Distribute Readings for Project 2

February 20

READING WEEK

February 27

First Draft Report of Project 1 due
Introduction to Project 2
Discuss Method of Project 2

March 6

Project 1 returned
Oral presentations 1-3
Data collection for Project 2 begins: March 6

March 13

Final draft of Project 1 due
Oral presentations 4-6

March 20

Oral presentations 7-8
Data collection for Project 2 ends: March 24 @ 5pm

March 27

Discuss Results of Project 2

April 3

Report of Project 2 due