

Fall-Winter 2018-2019, INTRODUCTORY PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH REQUIREMENT

Psychology is a data-driven discipline. To become better acquainted about how data is gathered and interpreted, all introductory psychology students are required to participate in research studies and/or review research articles. This requirement promotes a deeper understanding of course content and the scientific process. If you choose to participate as a research subject, your time and efforts will be much appreciated by the 30 or so Psychology honours students who must complete a research thesis to graduate.

We want your participation to be an interesting learning experience and are interested in your feedback. Concerns and questions about this requirement can be directed to the coordinator, **Karen Barkhouse**, not your professor, **Office 4L41A, 786-9744, k.barkhouse@uwinnipeg.ca**.

In brief, you must obtain at least **6.0 research credits (4.0 credits for Evening classes)**, tracked on-line and recorded in a program called SONA, which can be accessed once you've responded to an e-mail notification in your webmail account. As long as you are registered in this course you'll also see a course listed in Nexus for the Introductory Psychology Research Requirement (Instructor K. Barkhouse). This course link includes the SONA link and journal articles if you need them.

THREE WAYS TO OBTAIN CREDITS

1. **Be an active participant in a research study: Variable credit values.** Choose from posted studies in SONA and sign-up for an appropriate time slot (*not during your PSYC 1000 class time*). Read the study description and requirements, carefully noting pre-requisites and eligibility (e.g., some studies may require only red-headed males owning pet turtles). Studies taking less than 30 minutes are worth 0.5 of a credit and those between 30 and 60 minutes are worth 1.0. Some longer or two-part studies are worth more than 1.0 credit. Some studies take place on-campus or 'in-lab' and others are classified as 'on-line studies' which are completed on a computer at home. A maximum of 4.0 credits can be from the on-line type studies and SONA will not allow you sign up for another on-line study if your account would exceed the 4.0 maximum. Please cancel any sign-up that you cannot attend, even if it is an on-line survey, so another participant can take your space, and to avoid a 'no-show' penalty.
2. **Journal Article Review: 1.0 credit value each.** Read and answer questions on pre-selected journal articles; see the list below. They are posted on your Research Requirement **Nexus site** and are also on reserve at the Library. Complete instructions are on the Article Review Form. Reviews essentially summarize the research findings in the psychology article, are graded on a PASS/FAIL basis, and the credit from acceptable reviews are posted in your SONA account. Note: An article review credit is not the same as an on-line study credit.
3. **Observer Status:** The observer-only option is for students who want to participate in a study but prefer to not have their results used. Observers do everything that active study participants do; however, they must inform the researcher in advance that they are opting for only observer status. The researcher will then not use their results. Although this option is available for most studies, some studies cannot accommodate observers.

SELECTION OF JOURNAL ARTICLES TO REVIEW

1. Berridge et al., C. W. (2016). Liking, wanting, and the incentive-sensitization theory of addiction. *American Psychologist*, 71, 670–679.
2. Dolinski, D. et al (2017). Would you deliver an electric shock in 2015? Obedience in the experimental paradigm developed by Stanley Milgram in the 50 years following the original studies. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, 1-7. DOI: 10.1177/1948550617693060
3. Fredrickson, B. (2003). The value of positive emotions: The emerging science of positive psychology is coming to understand why it's good to feel good. *American Scientist*, 91, 330-335.
4. Haslam, N. (2015). Biogenetic explanations of mental disorder: The mixed-blessings model. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 24, 399–404.
5. Melzack, R. (1992, April). Phantom limbs. *Scientific American*, 120-126.
6. Nairne, J.S. et al. (2017). Remembering the living: Episodic memory is tuned to animacy. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 26, 22 – 27.
7. Rapp, D.M. (2016). The consequences of reading inaccurate information. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 25, 281-285.
8. Rodier, P.W. (2000, February). The early origins of autism. *Scientific American*, 56-63.
9. Soto, C. J. et al. (2015). Personality traits in childhood and adolescence: Structure, development, and outcomes. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 24, 24, 358–362.
10. Steele, C. M. (1999, August). Thin ice: "Stereotype threat" and black college students. *The Atlantic Monthly*, 44-54.

INITIAL SETUP

If you're registered in the class, then a SONA account will be automatically set up for you. During the first week of classes your university webmail will receive an e-mail message containing a user ID and a temporary password to activate your SONA account. Your very first login will require the temporary password and you'll also be asked to create your own password to use going forward. (The procedure is the same for a forgotten password.) In SONA, for anonymity, you are known to researchers only by a unique 5-digit Identity Code and you're going to need this code when participating in any study. Activating your account also involves completing a very short pre-screen questionnaire because occasionally certain studies might filter participant eligibility based on pre-screen responses. ***If you do not receive an e-mail with your user ID by the end of September, contact the coordinator, not your professor! Many common questions are answered in SONA's FAQ (frequently asked questions).***

MISSED APPOINTMENTS

To respect people's time, and to not disadvantage other students, please cancel appointments that you cannot attend -- ***even the on-line ones*** -- you don't need to give a reason. Researchers will do the same. Appointment reminders are always e-mailed to you the night before your session. If you don't cancel before your appointment SONA automatically assesses you a no-show penalty (a minus) equal to the credit value of the study. Cancelling in SONA is easy as long as it is before the cancellation deadline, in which case let the coordinator know by e-mail or telephone k.barkhouse@uwinnipeg.ca or 204-786-9744, or the dept. office.

CALCULATION OF CREDITS AND PENALTIES

The 'Credits Earned' number shown on your SONA profile is your running total, including any credit penalties assessed against you. The 'Credits Needed' number is the assignments total credit requirement not the amount of credits that *you* still need. The number of credits you still need is the difference between credits earned and credits needed. A credit-penalty is the loss of that study's credit value due to a no-show. For example, if you signed up for a study but you didn't show up and you didn't cancel in SONA, then the result is two-fold, no credit is earned for that study, *plus* the credit value for that missed study is ***deducted*** from your account.

WHEN TO START AND FINISH

Credits must be earned by Tuesday, April 10, 2019. You can start looking at SONA as soon as possible. Research studies can begin in September and continue up until the end of the course in April 2019. However, you will find that the majority of studies will run in the second term. If you log into SONA and don't see studies, then none are available at the moment, or timeslots of recent studies are all full ... keep checking. Throughout the year you may receive emails when a new study is posted. If at the end of term you find yourself short of credits you can make them up by doing article reviews. *If you drop this course and are still receiving SONA messages, just send the coordinator a quick note to remove you.*

HOW THIS ASSIGNMENT AFFECTS YOUR GRADE

To PASS this assignment, students in the daytime sections must earn at least 6.0 research credits in SONA. Within the 6.0 credits you may earn any amount from 'on-campus' SONA studies (the in-person ones) and you may earn any amount of credits from article reviews, however, you will not be able to sign up for more than 4.0 credits in 'on-line' SONA studies. You can certainly earn less than 4.0 in on-line studies, but once your account reaches 4.0 credits from on-lines studies, the other 2.0 must be in on-campus studies or article reviews. In the unlikely event the supply of research available is too low; your instructor will inform you of any reductions in the total research credit requirement by the final drop date. The 6.0 research credit requirement will never be increased. You may exceed the total requirement but once you have 6.0 or more, you are finished and you can leave the spots for others. After April 10th, 2019 your credit total is reported to your professor. ***If you fail to earn 6.0 credits your final mark in the course is reduced by one letter grade; for example, from A+ to A, B to C+, or C+ to C. For students who would otherwise receive a D grade before the penalty is applied, the penalty shall be a 1% grade reduction for each credit missed.***