

Fall-Winter 2021-2022, 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 Psychology research articles. This assignment will give you a deeper experiential understanding of the course and the scientific research process, and your time and effort will be greatly 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 always be directed to the **coordinator, Karen Barkhouse, Office 4L41A, 786-9744, k.barkhouse@uwinnipeg.ca.** (Not your professor.)

In brief, you must earn at least **6.0 research credits by Monday, April 18, 2022. (3.0 credits for the evening PSYC-1000-050, due by Monday December 13th, 2021).** Your credits and study sign ups are recorded in an online program called *SONA*. You'll receive access to SONA via an email sent in September (January for section 012). You should see *in your Nexus profile* a course called PSYC1000 Introductory Psychology Research Requirement (Instructor is K. Barkhouse) and there you will find everything you need to know about this assignment, a link to SONA, and access to the journal articles if you need them. Note: You can access SONA via the link in Nexus or browse direct to SONA website. ***SONA's FAQ (frequently asked questions) addresses several common questions.***

WAYS TO OBTAIN CREDITS

1. Actively participate in either an online or on-campus research study: You'll view a list of studies posted in SONA and sign-up for a time slot (***not during your PSYC 1000 class time***). Carefully read the study description and requirements, and note any pre-requisites and eligibility requirements (e.g., only red-headed males owning pet turtles). **Studies have variable credit values.** For example, studies taking 30 minutes or less 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. For on-campus studies, extra credit will be provided as compensation for the extra time associated with in-person participation. Please be sure to cancel any sign-up that you cannot attend--even the on-line surveys--so another participant can take your spot and you'll avoid the dreaded 'no-show' penalty. You don't need a reason to cancel.
2. Journal Article Review: **1.0 credit for each satisfactory review.** Refer to the Research Requirement link in your **Nexus account**. There are 10 articles to choose from, which are listed below and are found in your Nexus site as reserved readings. Read any article and answer three questions using the Review Form, in Nexus (instructions are also on the form). **Your review should summarize the research findings in the article and provide evidence from the article.** They are graded on a PASS/FAIL basis, and the credit for each satisfactory review is 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 @webmail.uwinnipeg.ca will receive a message containing a user ID and a temporary password to activate your SONA account. Your very first login will require that temporary password and you'll create your own password to use going forward. (The procedure is the same for a forgotten password.) In SONA, for anonymity, you will be known to researchers only by a unique 5-digit Identity Code and you'll need to know this ID number 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!***

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 also try to email participants if a study is cancelled, so try to look out for those. Appointment reminders are automatically e-mailed to you the night before your session. And remember that if you don't cancel before your appointment SONA will 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 assignment's 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. **You will not be able to receive credit twice for the same study.**

WHEN TO START AND FINISH

Your 6 research credits must be earned by Monday, April 18, 2022. Feel free to 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 2022, however please note that the majority of studies will run in the second term. If you log into SONA and don't see studies, then there are simply none available at the moment, or timeslots of recent studies are all full ... just 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. 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. Within the 6.0 credits you may earn any amount from 'on-line' studies (done on computer) any amount of 'on-campus' SONA studies (if we run any in-person ones) or any amount of credits from article reviews. In the event that the supply of research available is low you will be informed of a reduced credit requirement. The 6.0 research credit requirement will never be increased. Once you have 6.0 or more, you are done and it's best if you leave the spots for others. Your credit total will be reported to your professor.