

INTRODUCTORY PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH REQUIREMENT PSYC 1000 Fall-Winter 2017-2018

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 read 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.

Briefly, you must obtain 7.0 credits (4.0 for Evening or Spring classes), tracked on-line and recorded in a program called SONA. A Nexus link to the Introductory Psychology Research Requirement will appear once your enrolment in the course is confirmed, if it isn't there already. Links to SONA can be found in Nexus, as well as other information about the psychology research requirement.

We want your participation to be an interesting learning experience and are interested in your feedback. Feedback and questions or concerns about this requirement can be directed to the coordinator, Karen Barkhouse, not your professor.

Karen Barkhouse, office 4L41A, 786-9744, k.barkhouse@uwinnipeg.ca.

THREE WAYS TO OBTAIN CREDITS

1. **Be an active participant in a research study:** Choose from a list of studies in SONA and sign-up for an appropriate time slot (*not during your PSYC 1000 class time*). Read the description and requirements carefully noting pre-requisites and eligibility (e.g., some studies may require only red-headed males owning pet turtles). Research studies vary in credits. Studies taking less than 30 minutes are worth 0.5 of a credit and those between 30 and 60 minutes are worth 1.0. Occasionally, longer or two-part studies are worth more than 1.0 credit. The credit value will be stated in the study description. Also, some studies occur on campus and others on-line that you can do anywhere on a computer. A maximum of 4.0 credits can be on-line studies and SONA will not allow you sign up for another on-line study if your account would exceed the 4.0 maximum. An article review credit is not counted as on-line credit. Please cancel any sign-up that you cannot attend, even if it is an on-line survey, so another participant can take your space.

2. **Journal Article Review:** Read and answer questions about a pre-selected journal article (from the list shown at the end). Articles are available at the Library and on the Research Requirement Nexus site. Follow the instructions on the Article Review Form. Reviews are subject to the same rules as other course assignments regarding academic misconduct such as plagiarism and unauthorized collaboration. Your review should show that you understood the research in the article and are graded on a PASS/FAIL basis. Acceptable reviews are worth 1.0 credit. Deposit them in the drop box outside of 4L41 or use the electronic drop box method in Nexus. 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 regular participants do; however, in addition, must inform the researcher in advance that they opt for observer status. The researcher will then not use the results. Although this option is available for most studies, some studies cannot accommodate observers.

INITIAL SETUP

At the start of term you will receive an e-mail about how to register your SONA account. On your first log-in you will be asked to change the temporary password. You will also receive a 5 digit Identity Code that you must enter for every study to get credit. For anonymity, you will always be identified to researchers by a unique 5 digit SONA Identity Code. To obtain any type of research credit you must register your account and complete an initial pre-screen. Pre-screen questions are used for eligibility in future studies. This is your only

opportunity to complete the screening and it will affect your ability to participate in all studies. ***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 on-line ones*** – you do not need to give a reason. Researchers will do the same. Appointment reminders are always e-mailed to you the night before. If you have not cancelled in the time stated in the study description, you will receive a no-show penalty, and will receive a penalty (-0.5 credits, -1.0 credits, etc., depending on the credit value of the study). Cancelling in SONA is easy or let the coordinator know by e-mail or telephone k.barkhouse@uwinnipeg.ca or 204-786-9744.

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 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 Wednesday, April 11, 2018. 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 2018. 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 a net total of 7.0 research credits.

Within the 7.0 credits, you cannot exceed 4.0 credits worth of on-line studies. No minimum, or maximum, exists for the amount of credits you can earn via on-campus studies or article reviews. Evening and Spring students need a net total of 4.0 research credits, with a maximum of 2.0 on-line credits. In the unlikely event the supply of credits available is too low; your instructor will inform you of any reductions in the 7.0 research credit requirement by the final drop date. The research credit requirement will never be increased. Your ending participation credits are reported to your professor. If you fail to complete the research requirement, 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.

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.