Research Methods in Applied Psychology (Psych 302)
Summer 2009
MTWUF 1:20pm – 2:30pm
Location: 107 Kildee Hall

Instructor: Christopher (Chris) Barlett, M.S., Ab.D.
Office: W 283 Lagomarcino Hall
Email: cpb6666@iastate.edu
Phone: 294-2335 (leave a message)
Office Hours: M, W, U 4:00-5:00 or by appointment

Instructor: Edward (Ted) Swing, M.S., Ab.D.
Office: Science 1 484
Email: eswing@iastate.edu
Phone: 294-2335 (leave a message)
Office Hours: M,W,U 2:30-3:30 or by appointment

Course Description: This course is designed to extend training in the areas of research methods, experimental designs, data analysis and interpretation, and the reading and writing of research reports. Emphasis will be placed on the critical evaluation of research articles and on using APA writing style to report the results of your own research. This student-driven research will be conducted as part of a required class project, which is designed to provide a “hands-on” experience in the entire research process, from the identification of a viable question to the discussion and interpretation of data collected in an effort to answer the question. Some class sessions will take place in the computer lab, during which time students will be instructed in the use of data analysis software.

Student Outcomes: At the end of this course, students will be able to…

1. Use relevant databases to locate articles in scholarly journals
2. Collect data from research participants and utilize SPSS to analyze this data
3. Select appropriate inferential statistical tests and present test results in APA form
4. Write manuscripts describing research they conducted and using APA form
5. Read and edit manuscript drafts written by classmates
6. Create a poster illustrating research results
7. Complete an oral presentation describing their research project

Prerequisites: Statistics 101 and Psychology 301

Textbooks:
Publication Manual of the APA, 5th Edition (recommended, but not required)
Writing with APA Style, Lenore Szuchnman
Ready, Set, Go! A Student Guide to SPSS 14, Pavkov & Pierce (includes SPSS software)

Course Evaluation: The course grade will be based on performance on papers, homework assignments, presentation, and quizzes.
Letter grades will be decided according to the following criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Possible Points</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>279-300</td>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>270-278</td>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<tr>
<td>261-269</td>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>249-260</td>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>237-259</td>
<td>79-82</td>
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<td>225-236</td>
<td>75-78</td>
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<td>213-224</td>
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<td>201-212</td>
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<td>189-200</td>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<td>177-188</td>
<td>59-62</td>
<td>D</td>
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<td>165-176</td>
<td>55-58</td>
<td>D-</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt; 164</td>
<td>Below 55</td>
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Grades are earned, not given!!

*For final grades, I go by TOTAL POINTS earned in the course! Final grades will not be “bumped”!! You will earn the lower grade, even if it is only by a point or two.

Grade Breakdown

- Quizzes: 8 quizzes X 10 points = 80 points
- Homework: 10 assignments X 10 points = 100 points
- Group Paper: 25 points
- Individual Paper: 50 points
- Individual Presentation: 45 points
- Total Points Possible: 300 points

Attendance and Late Work:
Everyone is expected to attend class meetings regularly. This is especially important because of the many editing and peer feedback activities that are a part of this course. Success on papers, exercises, and homework will depend on satisfactory completion of weekly activities in class; however, it is recognized that life can interfere with your course schedule. I expect you to behave responsibly about any interference that comes up during this course. If you have to any assignments, papers, or presentations, please make sure that I have written documentation AHEAD OF TIME so that we can make appropriate arrangements for you to take the due date. Talking to me in person about the reason for the miss is the ideal approach, but any contact (e-mail, phone call) is better than none at all. If I do not know that you will be missing an assignment, paper, or presentation, you may not have the option to make it up. Also, there will be no make-ups allowed for classroom participation barring the proper documentation. I have the right to deal with missed points and documentation on a case-by-case basis.

Cellular Phones/Pager Policy:
It is distracting to the other students and me if a cellular phone or pager rings in the middle of class. If I hear or see a cellular phone, pager, blackberry, or any other non-sanctioned electronic devices, I will ask you to turn it off and continue. If this occurs multiple times, I will ask you to leave the lecture for the day.

Academic Honesty:
Incidents of academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating, etc.) will be dealt with as outlined in the ISU Bulletin. Students found guilty of academic dishonesty are subject to academic penalties determined by the instructor, as well as penalties under the university student conduct regulations. Violations will be reported to the dean of students.
Academic Accommodations:
If you have any condition, such as a physical or learning disability, which will make it difficult for you to carry out the work as outlined or which will require academic accommodations, please notify me as soon as you can. Please request that the Disability Resources staff send a SAAR form verifying your disability and specifying the accommodation you will need.

Tentative Schedule:
Please note that this schedule is not set in stone and is subject to change deemed appropriate by the two instructors.

Week 1 (May 18 - May 22)
- **Monday**: Introduction to Class/Theory
- **Tuesday**: Stats Review: Day 0: definitions and concepts
- **Wednesday**: Stats Review: Day 1 (descriptive/inferential)
- **Thursday**: Writing Introductions
- **Friday**: Group Project Introduction and articles

Week 2 (May 25 - May 29)
- **Monday**: DAY OFF: MEMORIAL DAY
- **Tuesday**: Stats Review: Day 2 (t-tests)
- **Wednesday**: Finding Articles
- **Thursday**: Writing APA format: Day 1 (methods/ref)
- **Friday**: Stats Review: Day 3 (correlations)

Week 3 (June 1 - June 5)
- **Monday**: Stats Review: Day 4 (one-way ANOVAs)
- **Tuesday**: Stats for type of research question
- **Wednesday**: Group Data Analysis
- **Thursday**: Group Data Analysis
- **Friday**: SPSS output interpretation

Week 4 (June 8 – June 12)
- **Monday**: Writing Results/discussion
- **Tuesday**: Writing Group Paper
- **Wednesday**: Peer Review
- **Thursday**: Questions/Work Day
- **Friday**: Stats Extra: effect sizes and CIs

Week 5 (June 15 – June 19)
- **Monday**: New Research Topics
- **Tuesday**: Individual Research Ideas
- **Wednesday**: Library Day
- **Thursday**: Stats Review: Day 5 (regression)
- **Friday**: Individual Research Proposals

Week 6 (June 22 – June 26)
- **Monday**: Stats Review: Day 6 (factorial designs)
- **Tuesday**: Data entry and descriptive statistics
- **Wednesday**: Stats Review: Day 7 (chi-square)
- **Thursday**: Data Analysis Plan/SPSS analysis
- **Friday**: SPSS analysis day

Week 7 (June 29 – July 3)
- **Monday**: SPSS analysis day
- **Tuesday**: Writing: Introduction
- **Wednesday**: Writing: Methods/Results
- **Thursday**: Writing: Discussion
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>DAY OFF: FOURTH OF JULY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8 (July 6 – July 10)</td>
<td>Writing Day: Left over from Week 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Writing Day: Left over from Week 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Writing Day: Left over from Week 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Class Presentations: Day 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Class Presentations: Day 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Class Presentations: Day 3</td>
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Homework 1: stats review 1 (due Thursday of week 1)
Homework 2: stats review 2 (due Wednesday of week 2)
Homework 3: stats review 3 (due Monday of week 3)
Homework 4: stats review 4 (due Tuesday of week 3)
Homework 5: write the introduction to group (due Thursday of week 3)
Homework 6: write method and results to group (due Tuesday of week 4)
Homework 7: stats review 5 (due Friday of week 5)
Homework 8: stats review 6 (due Tuesday of week 6)
Homework 9: stats review 7 (due Monday of week 7)
Homework 10: writing introduction and method for individual (due Friday week 7)

In class sheets to complete (not for grade)

Get journal articles that are appropriate for projects: Tuesday week 2
Research Questions and output from analysis: Friday week 3
Data Analysis Exercise: Tuesday week 3
Effect size and confidence intervals exercises: Friday week 4
Get journal articles that are appropriate for projects: Wednesday week 5
Research Proposal (individual): Tuesday week 5