Research Methods in Applied Psychology (Psych 302)
Summer 2010
MTWRF 1:20pm – 2:40pm
Location: 115 Science II

Instructor: Deah Quinlivan, M.A.
Office: Science I Room 477
Email: dslawson@iastate.edu
Phone: 256-612-7647
Office Hours: 2:30-3:20 or by appointment

Instructor: Edward (Ted) Swing, M.S.
Office: Science I, room 484
Email: eswing@iastate.edu
Phone: 294-2335 (leave a message)
Office Hours: M,W,U 2:40-3:40 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: Psychology 301

Textbooks:
Publication Manual of the APA, 6th Edition (recommended, but nor required)
Writing with APA Style, Lenore Szuchnman
Ready, Set, Go! A Student Guide to SPSS 14, Pavkov & Pierce (optional)

We ordered the earlier copies and used copies so that the books would be cheaper for you. You may purchase these in the ISU bookstore.

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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>237-259</td>
<td>79-82</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>225-236</td>
<td>75-78</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<td>213-224</td>
<td>71-74</td>
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<td>201-212</td>
<td>67-70</td>
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<td>189-200</td>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<tr>
<td>177-188</td>
<td>59-62</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>165-176</td>
<td>55-58</td>
<td>D-</td>
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<td>&lt; 164</td>
<td>Below 55</td>
<td>F</td>
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*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

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes:</td>
<td>8 quizzes X 10 points = 80 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework:</td>
<td>10 assignments X 10 points = 100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Paper:</td>
<td>25 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Paper:</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Presentation:</td>
<td>45 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Points Possible:</td>
<td>300 points</td>
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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 miss 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. Please turn off all cellular phones before class begins.

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 a disability and require accommodations, please contact the instructor early in the semester so that your learning needs may be appropriately met. You will need to provide documentation of your disability to the Student Disability Resources (SDR) office, located on the main floor of the Student Services Building, Room 1076, 515-294-7220.

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 17 - May 21)
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 24 - May 28)
Monday  Stats Review: Day 2 (t-tests)
Tuesday Finding Articles
Wednesday Writing APA format: Day 1 (methods/ref)
Thursday Stats Review: Day 3 (correlations)
Friday  Stats Review: Day 4 (one-way ANOVAs)

Week 3 (May 31 - June 4)
Monday  UNIVERSITY HOLIDAY
Tuesday Stats for type of research question
Wednesday Group Data Analysis
Thursday Group Data Analysis
Friday  SPSS output interpretation

Week 4 (June 7 – June 11)
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 14 – June 18)
Monday  New Research Topics
Tuesday Individual Research Ideas
Wednesday Library Day
Thursday Stats Review: Day 5 (regression)
Friday  Individual Research Proposals

Week 6 (June 21 – June 25)
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 28 – July 2)
Monday  SPSS analysis/day
Tuesday Writing: Introduction
Wednesday Writing: Methods/Results
Thursday Writing: Discussion
Friday Writing Day: Left over from Week 7

Week 8 (July 5 – July 9)
Monday UNIVERSITY HOLIDAY
Tuesday Peer Review
Wednesday Class Presentations: Day 1
Thursday Class Presentations: Day 2
Friday Class Presentations: Day 3

Homework 1: stats review 1 (due Friday of week 1)
Homework 2: stats review 2 (due Wednesday of week 2)
Homework 3: stats review 3 (due Tuesday of week 3)
Homework 4: stats review 4 (due Wednesday 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 Monday of week 6)
Homework 8: stats review 6 (due Wednesday of week 6)
Homework 9: stats review 7 (due Friday of week 6)
Homework 10: writing introduction and method for individual (due Friday week 7)

In class sheets to complete

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): Friday week 5