

**Psychology 321-01 and -02:  
Laboratory in Psychological Research**

**Spring 2014**

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Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1:30pm or by appointment

Teaching Assistants:

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Readings and Materials

Journal articles and reference materials will be assigned and posted on Blackboard. You are only required to purchase a blank **Lab Notebook** for the course.

Course Goals

- To gain experience using different methodologies for research in psychology
- To design and implement experiments using specialized software for presenting stimuli and recording participant responses
- To collect, analyze, and interpret data
- To summarize results for public presentation

Course Web Page

Important information, including changes to the syllabus, additional readings, upcoming events, and links to other resources, will be posted on **Blackboard**.

## The Lab

The lab is equipped for research using a variety of methods such as transcranial direct current stimulation (including HD-tDCS), eye tracking, and skin conductance (including wireless biosensors). Generally, we use E-prime for experimental stimulus presentation and data recording.

## Participation, Attendance, and Evaluation

This class involves hands-on learning. By taking this course you have agreed to become a member of the lab and follow its rules. You are required to attend every scheduled meeting and use this time effectively. Readings will be assigned throughout the semester.

Early in the course, you will join a particular project-related group. Throughout the semester I will assign project-related tasks with specific deadlines. You will be required to maintain a lab notebook to keep track of your work. About half way through the course, I will schedule an individual meeting with each of you to talk about your goals and progress. Meetings will take place on **March 10<sup>th</sup>** and **March 12<sup>th</sup>**.

Finally, your project team will collectively produce a **poster** summarizing the work you completed. This poster will be presented by your group at the *Undergraduate Research & Scholarship Symposium* at Duquesne University:

<http://www.duq.edu/research/student-research/urss>

The deadline for abstract submission is **March 11<sup>th</sup>**. The conference will be held in the Power Center Ballroom on **April 9<sup>th</sup>**. (So your group's poster must be printed before then! Poster-printing can require several days advance notice.) On **April 15<sup>th</sup>** you will each lead a short informal discussion about your favorite poster or research talk from the Symposium.

If there is interest, work can be continued over the summer and presented at student conferences. This is a very good option for students interested in pursuing entry into graduate programs.

Extra Credit: Research Participant Pool: Students can earn extra credit by volunteering to be a participant in behavioral research projects (i.e., experiment and/or survey):  
<https://duquesnerpp.sona-systems.com/>