Dear Winter-Quarter Psychology 317 students:

Welcome to the class! This note is meant to provide you with some important information.

To begin with, you should bookmark the class website,

http://faculty.washington.edu/gloftus/P317-318/%20P317\_318\_2014.WebSite/P317.htm

and check it fairly frequently, as it’s updated fairly frequently. In particular, the currently posted version provides the first reading assignment and the first homework assignment, along with a good deal of other important stuff.

You will need the class syllabus and the handout packet (downloadable from the web site) for the first lecture. You may or may not choose to print these documents out -- some people prefer to maintain them only electronically -- but one way or another you'll need to have access to them during class lectures.

Please read over the syllabus very carefully before coming to the first class, as the schedule and class mechanics described by it are somewhat complex and I don’t want to spend a lot of class time on them. For the moment, it’s critical to realize that the first homework assignment is due on Thursday, January 9, and the first hour exam is on Wednesday, January 16. Both Homework 1 and Exam 1 will cover only material that’s covered in class on the January 6 and January 8 lectures.

Finally, please take seriously the website section about Excel. The main message is: this class is very Excel-oriented and the better you know Excel, the easier your time in the class will be (for example, homework assignments, homework answer sheets, and exam answer sheets are all posted as Excel workbooks). Being fluent in Excel for a statistics class is about as useful as being fluent in a word-processing program in a writing class -- in other words, *very*!

I look forward to seeing you next Monday, January 6, at 8:30 AM in Gowen 201.

regards, Geoff Loftus