

## COURSE SYLLABUS

**Meeting time:** 11:30-12:20, Monday through Friday, Guthrie 51  
**\*Additional time outside of class required\***

**Instructor:** Dr. Renee Robinette Ha  
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**Peer Tutor:** Hilary Mau  
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**Course Website:** <http://faculty.washington.edu/robinet/rlr332.htm>

**Extra help/office hours:** My office hours are on Mondays from 12:30-1:20 PM and by appointment in **Guthrie 330**. If you feel that you need extra help, please let me know so that I can help you. You can contact me before or after class or by e-mail.

### Supplies for class:

**Readings (Required)** Powell, R.A., Symbaluk, D.G, Honey, P.L. 2009. Introduction to Learning & Behavior (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). This book is available at the University Bookstore.

**Readings (Optional)** American Psychological Association. (2001). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). This book is available at the University Bookstore.

### Supplies

Group poster print-out (share costs with group at the end of the quarter \$5-\$10 each).

**Course goals:** Psychology 332 is a course in non-invasive animal learning and experimentation. The goals of this course are:

1. To give you the opportunity to apply your knowledge of experimental design and statistics. By letting you actually use what you know in designing, conducting, and reporting on a fairly major project, we hope that you will:
  - a. gain an appreciation for what you have learned about psychology,
  - b. get experience with, and gain an understanding of what it takes to carry through on a research project from beginning to end,
  - c. get a better understanding of data interpretation and summarization, and
  - d. have fun.
2. To give you a basic understanding of learning theory. An understanding of learning theory will benefit you in many areas of psychology.
3. To give you practice writing. You will be asked to write an APA formatted paper. You will interpret your data in relation to your hypothesis and summarize it so others can understand it.

Being able to make others understand your ideas is one of the most important goals in science, and in almost every job. You will also give an oral presentation: it is important to be able to express yourself orally as well as in writing.

**Course format:** Psychology 332 is scheduled as a five day per week course. For the first few weeks of the quarter, there will be lectures or other planned activities. For the rest of the quarter, there will be occasional lectures, but most of your time will be spent working on group projects or doing outside research.

**Assignments:**

1. All work should be a Xerox copy or a computer printout. This ensures that you have a replacement copy if either you or I misplace the assignment.
2. All work should be **typed or word-processed and double-spaced**, and the type should be clear and easy to read.
3. Assignments are due on the dates indicated on the homework portion of the syllabus. **Assignments are to be handed in during class time unless I indicate otherwise.**
4. **Late assignments:** Because so many assignments build on previous assignments, it is very important that everything is handed in on time. Late assignments will have 5% of their points taken away for each day they are late.

**You will be responsible for passing the animal care exam prior to handling live animals, three homework assignments, one quiz, regular attendance and participation, a lab notebook with your rat's weight and health noted on specified lab days, an APA term paper, a group project proposal, an in-class exam, a individual paper on your group experiment results and discussion, a written "poster" presentation, an oral presentation of your group experiment, and one in-class assignment.**

**Extra credit:** There are no extra credit opportunities in this class.

**Note on writing:**

1. There will be a lot of writing in this class. Your assignments will be handed back with comments. Do not be shocked if there is a lot of red ink on them, I tend to write comments on good as well as bad papers.
2. There are a couple of resources you can use to help with the assignments
  - a. Come to office hours to discuss your paper and the assignment.
  - b. The Psychology Writing Center is a wonderful resource for improving your writing. The writing center will help you with organizing and clearly explaining your ideas. For some of the bigger assignments, you may wish to visit the writing center twice before turning in your assignments. They now have on-line scheduling for appointments, and their e-mail is [psywc@u.washington.edu](mailto:psywc@u.washington.edu).

**Grades:** Your grades will be based on class participation and attendance, quizzes, one in-class exam and assignments. Each class assignment grade will be based on three parts.

- 1 Content.
- 2 How well it is written.
- 3 How well it is integrated with previous assignments.

**Grading Scale:** There is no extra credit in this course. Your final grade will be calculated from the total points on homework, one quiz, participation, lab notebooks, exam, papers and your poster and oral presentation (see information on specific assignments and student responsibilities provided in the syllabus). Your grade will be calculated as follows:

- 1) Score = (Points / 390) \* 100
- 2) Decimal score = (Score – 55) / 10 (a score of less than 62 receives a 0.0)

For example, a course-end total of 335 points would produce a score of:

$$(335 / 390) * 100 = 85.897$$

Therefore, your decimal score, reported to the registrar, would be:

$$(85.90 - 55) / 10 = 3.09 \text{ or } 3.1.$$

You can calculate your grade point average on a per-assignment basis by dividing your score by the possible number of points in step one. The other steps are identical to calculating your final grade.

**Bases For Grading:** I view this lab course as a way for the students to integrate what they have learned in previous classes, (Statistics and Research Methods) into a coherent project. The sequence of assignments is designed to facilitate this process, and how well students do on each assignment will affect the end project.

**Keys:** Each group will need a room key and a building key. There is a refundable deposit of \$5.00 for the room key and \$20.00 for the building key. Keys are available in the main office of Guthrie Hall. If you want your own personal key, they are also available in the main office. Please be aware that the class door can be difficult to open. Make sure your key works! Make sure you return your keys at the end of the quarter. I have been forced to withhold grades so that the department gets keys returned each quarter.

**Plagiarism:** I hate to mention this but there have been problems in the past. Because this class involves group work, and you will be writing about group projects, it is expected that your papers will be **similar** to each other. However, if your assignment, or a part of your assignment is identical (or very similar) to another student's, it will appear that you are guilty of plagiarism. "Very similar" means that the papers are alike, but a few words are changed, or the sentences are alike, but in a different order, etc. This applies not only to papers in this class this quarter, but also to papers from previous quarters and to written materials published in the scientific literature or on the web, or any other source. Your work **MUST** be your own! If you use an idea from a published work, then you must CITE the author and year of the publication so that you give them credit for the idea. Ask if you have any questions about this.

**Disabled Students:** To request academic accommodations due to a disability, contact Disabled Student Services (543-8924: V/TDD). If you have a letter from DSS indicating that you have a disability that requires accommodation, please present the letter to your instructors promptly.

**Borrowing Laptops Etc. (Student Equipment Loan Program):** The Office of Undergraduate Education and Classroom Support Services, in conjunction with the Student Technology Fee Committee and the Services and Activities Fee Committee, provide Dell and Apple laptops, LCD projectors, digital cameras, miniDV camcorders, audio systems, portable projection screens and flatbed scanners for loan to Seattle campus students. For more information, go to

Psychology 332 Laboratory Animal Learning  
**<http://www.css.washington.edu/STFEquipment>**.

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