

PSYC 4220 Developmental Psychology Lab

Lab Time and Location: 12:30 – 1:45 in Journalism room 506

Lab Instructor: Jessi Crast

Email: crastj@uga.edu

Office: Psychology 612

Office Hours: by appointment

Overview

In this lab, you will develop and carry out an ethological study of children at the McPhaul Center daycare facility on campus. You will gain experience planning a research project, collecting and analyzing observational data, writing up your study as a scientific paper, and presenting your study in the form of a poster at the end of the semester.

Grading and Assignments

This laboratory section of the course will make up 40% of your total grade, thus you can earn up to 40 points comprising:

1. Study preparation = 10 points comprising:
 - a. Data collection practice at McPhaul = 2 points
 - b. Initial observations – list of relevant behaviors = 2 points
 - c. Research design paragraph = 2 points
 - d. Ethogram = 2 points
 - e. Data sheet and analysis plan paragraph = 2 points
2. Poster presentation = 10 points
3. Final Paper = 20 points

Assignment Turn-in Policy

Assignments will not be graded if not turned in by the due date (see schedule). Email submissions will be accepted except for the poster presentation, which will be graded in lab on the day of your presentation.

Attendance will not be taken, but is recommended for you to successfully work alone when collecting data at the McPhaul Center and writing up the paper.

Academic Honesty & University Policy

Any form of academic dishonesty, be it plagiarism or cheating, will not be tolerated. It is your responsibility to abide by the Academic Honesty guidelines outlined in the UGA handbook and University Honor Code. The minimum penalty for academic dishonesty is failure of this lab. All academic work must meet the standards contained in “A Culture of Honesty.” Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.

Schedule (on back side) *schedule is subject to change throughout semester

GRAY DATES = NO LAB – we will not meet for lab, but you are responsible for spending the lab time at the McPhaul Center on your own time (I will be checking sign-in sheets at McPhaul).

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Date	Activity	Assignment	Due
Jan 10	McPhaul project, ethograms and observation techniques overview, reliability and validity (lecture)	Read handouts	By January 17 th
Jan 17	Interrater reliability Plan McPhaul orientation Pair up for reliability practice at McPhaul	Film practice in lab, develop ethogram in lab; read handouts	By January 24 th
Jan 24	Interrater reliability – NO LAB – Practice at McPhaul using the ethogram developed in lab to collect data on children at McPhaul. One hour of data collection required and reliability results.	McPhaul Orientation 11:00 am Assignment 1A: Turn in data sheet (showing 1 hour of data collection) and reliability results. Due: Beginning of lab January 31 st	
Jan 31	Research design – choosing a topic, making hypotheses, and creating your own ethogram (lecture)		Assignment 1A due today
Feb 7	Initial observations – NO LAB – Go to McPhaul and make Ad Lib observations of children for 1 hour; make notes and list behaviors relevant to your chosen topic	Assignment 1B: Turn in a list of behaviors relevant to your chosen topic; read handouts. Due: Beginning of lab February 14 th	
Feb 14	Plan your own research design and ethogram; finalize ethogram in lab → TYPE UP TO TURN IN	Assignment 1C: Turn in Research Design (typed paragraph), Assignment 1D: Turn in typed Ethogram Due: Beginning of lab February 21 st Read handouts	Assignment 1B due today
Feb 21	Data collection techniques and Data analysis; correlation and causation (lecture)	Assignment 1E: Turn in 1) Data sheet to use at McPhaul (typed), 2) Analysis plan (typed paragraph) Due: Beginning of lab February 28 th	Assignments 1C and D due today
Feb 28	Writing the paper – APA Style Introduction and Methods (lecture)	Write Introduction and Methods from prepared materials	Assignment 1E due today
Mar 6	Data Collection – NO LAB	SIX hours <u>minimum</u> of data collection over these four weeks; can email Intro and Methods for feedback during this time).	Must complete data collection by lab time April 3 rd
Mar 13	Data Collection (off for Spring break)		
Mar 20	Data Collection – NO LAB		
Mar 27	Data Collection – NO LAB		
Apr 3	Double Lab – Data analysis, results interpretation, how to make a poster	Personal appointments	
Apr 10	Writing the paper – APA Style Results and Discussion (lecture)	Personal appointments, or email Results and Discussion for feedback.	
Apr 17	Poster presentations	Posters – half of the class presents	
Apr 24	Poster presentations, Final paper due	Posters – half of the class presents; Final Paper – LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE GRADED!!!! Email submission is acceptable.	Paper Due today April 24 th by 5pm