

**NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY**  
**Psychology Department**

**PSY U 614: Laboratory in Social Psychology**

**Fall 2007**

**Dr. Judith A. Hall**

**Tuesday & Friday, 11:45-1:25**

The goals of this course are:

- to help you learn to think about research in an analytical and critical manner
- to teach you how to read primary research publications
- to acquaint you with how research on human social behavior is done
- to convey the principles of experimental design
- to give you an opportunity to design, conduct, and analyze experimental studies
- to teach you how to write a clear and accurate lab report in APA style.

Since the goal is to learn about doing research, there is no substitute for experience. Therefore, about half the classes will be devoted to lecture and about half to group discussion, exercises, conferences, and presentations concerning your research projects. You are urged to visit the TAs and/or professor regularly for review and special advice on your research projects and lab reports. Consultation is especially important while you are planning and analyzing your research projects.

There is no textbook. There will be a packet of readings at Gnomon Copy on Huntington Avenue, plus class handouts.

Prerequisites are PSY U 402 and PSY U 320 (Social Psychology and Statistics).

Course requirements are: 3 lab reports, 1 midterm exam, 2 presentations (with team members concerning your research), and participation (see below).

Grading will be as follows:

1. 3 lab reports (5-7 pp.), each worth 20% of final grade (60%)
2. Midterm exam, worth 10% of final grade
3. 5 2-page article summaries, each worth 4% of final grade (20%)
4. Participation (in-class contributions, attendance, citizenship on research teams, quality of presentations, data collected properly, data/lab reports turned in on time) (10%)

Academic Honesty

You will receive a course grade of F if you plagiarize or cheat on any assignments. If you have any confusion about the "line" that separates cheating from honest conduct, you should ask the instructor. **You must observe the instructor's rules about when collaboration with another student is allowed and when it is not. There will be penalties if team members' papers show evidence of impermissible collaboration or copying.**

Contact Information and Office Hours

Dr. Hall's office is 225 NI, 373-3790, [j.hall@neu.edu](mailto:j.hall@neu.edu). Her office hour is Friday, 10-11, or by appointment. The teaching assistants are Sue Andrzejewski ([andrzejewski.s@neu.edu](mailto:andrzejewski.s@neu.edu)) and Jeremy Jamieson ([jamieson.j@neu.edu](mailto:jamieson.j@neu.edu)). Their office hours will be announced, and also an appointment can be made with them.

Class Date	Reading	Research Schedule/Class Activity/Lecture Topic
Fri 9/7		Introduction; the nature of research in social psychology
Tues 9/11	Jordan	The logic of experimentation
Fri 9/14		The logic of experimentation
Tues 9/18	Kierstead; Basow	Discuss both articles; plan Study 1
Fri 9/21		Bring Study 1 data to class; plan analysis
Tues 9/25		The logic of experimentation; how to write a lab report
Fri 9/28		<b>Study 1 paper due</b> ; reliability and validity
Tues 10/2		<b>Bring Study 2 ideas to class (DON'T FORGET!)</b> ; plan Study 2
Fri 10/5		Continue planning Study 2
Tues 10/9		Review for midterm
Fri 10/12		<b>MIDTERM</b>
Tues 10/16		Bring Study 2 data to class; plan analysis
Fri 10/19	Isen	Discuss article
Tues 10/23	Baumeister	Discuss article
Fri 10/26	Saenz	<b>Study 2 paper due</b> ; discuss article
Tues 10/30		Start planning Study 3 in teams (with consultation)
Fri 11/2		Continue planning Study 3
Tues 11/6	Han	Discuss article
Fri 11/9		<b>Teams make informal presentations on Study 3 ideas</b>
Tues 11/13		<b>Teams make informal presentations on Study 3 ideas</b>
Fri 11/16		<b>Teams make informal presentations on Study 3 ideas</b>
Tues 11/20	Beauregard	Discuss article
Fri 11/23		No class-Thanksgiving
Tues 11/27		<b>Teams make final presentations on Study 3 results</b>
Fri 11/30		<b>Teams make final presentations on Study 3 results</b>
Tues 12/4	(last class)	<b>Teams make final presentations on Study 3 results</b>
Fri 12/7		<b>Study 3 paper due</b> by 4:30 pm (in Dr. Hall's office, TA's office, or Psychology office at 125 NI).

#### Team Presentations

For Study 3, each team (consisting of 2 people) will make TWO presentations. The first is an informal one in which you present to the class and to the instructors your ideas for your study before you do it; this is a working presentation so that you can get advice and feedback on your ideas. The second presentation is the formal, final presentation of Study 3. This should be well prepared and rehearsed and should fit in the time allotment that Dr. Hall will announce. Team members may decide between themselves how to divide up their participation in the presentations, but it is required that all members participate.

#### Midterm Examination

The midterm exam will cover the classroom lectures and handouts.

#### Article Summaries

For each of the 5 research articles assigned after the midterm, you will turn in a 2-page summary following the format to be explained by Dr. Hall. **These are due in class on the day that the article is discussed.** Late papers will be penalized. If you have to miss class that day, arrange with Dr. Hall on getting your summary in; unless there is an emergency, the summary is still due that same day.