

**Psychological Research Laboratory
COURSE OUTLINE
PSYB01F, 1998**

Professor G. B. Biederman, Instructor (Rm. S-560A, Tel: 287-7433)
V. A. Davey, Tutorial Leader (Rm. S-560, Tel: 287-7434)
J. LeBoutillier, Course Assistant (Rm. S-150A, Tel: 287-7449)

Office Hours (Biederman) (PSYB01 only: Wed 2-7pm) S560A

Office Hours (Davey) (PSYB01 only: Wed 5-7pm) S560

Lecture hours: Wednesdays 7-9 p.m.

Tutorial hours: Wednesdays 9-10 p.m. **Dates TBA**

Laboratory hours: TBA, Room S-316 (see Rules for Use of the Computer lab)

Texts: All texts are on reserve in the Bladen Library in reasonably good quantities. It is **not** a requirement that texts be purchased (but copies of all are available in the bookstore or can be ordered.)

1. Leibert R.M. & Leibert, L.L. (1995). An introduction to methods of psychological research, fourth edition. Englewood Cliffs NJ: Prentice Hall.
2. Biederman, G.B. (Ed.) (1991). Methods and strategies in psychological research. Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press.
3. Biederman, G.B. (Ed.) (1995). Experimental design in psychological research: Issues and advances in method and measurement. Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press. Assignment pages in this text below are text pages, **not** article pages.

Lecture Schedule:

- SEPT 16 Introduction. 1: Ch1, 2, pp.1-36; Ch3, pp.37-41; 3: pp.1-7.
- 23 Experimentation in psychological research. 3: pp.7-11; 1: Ch7, pp.120-140. The logic and method of scientific report writing. 1: Ch11, pp. 207-234.
- 30 Non-experimental research designs. 1: Ch9, pp.165-191; 2: Ch2, pp.55-59. Conducting field research. 2: Ch3, pp.61-86. 1: Ch10, pp.192-206.
- OCT 7 Measurement and analytical issues: Sampling, reliability, validity, 1: Ch3, pp.41-119. Meta analysis, 1: Ch10, pp. 215-217. DISCUSSION OF LAB 1.
- 14 Psychophysics. 3: Ch3, pp.35-44, pp.49-69.
- 21 REVIEW
- 28 **Exam 1(40%) Covering material from 9/10 to 10/15.**
- NOV 4 Methods on operant and classical conditioning (continued). 2: Ch5, pp.183-261. DISCUSSION OF LAB 2.
- 11 Current topics: REINFORCING EFFECTS OF INFORMATION. 3: pp.73-89.
- 18 Current topics: METHODS IN OBSERVATIONAL LEARNING. 3: pp.91-113
- 25 Current topics: OBSERVATIONAL LEARNING, cont., 3: pp.115-121.
- DEC 1 Current topics: CONDITIONED ANTISICKNESS. 3: pp.123-135.
- 8 REVIEW

TBA Final Exam (40%) Covering topics from 11/4 to 12/1, and major methods issues from overall course material.

COURSE OUTLINE PSYB01F 1998. PAGE 2.

Course Purpose: The purpose of this course is to present principles of scientific method as they apply to research in experimental psychology. The core of this goal lies in the logic of the design of experiments. Topics will include generating research problems, experimental control, subject sampling, scaling and measurement, interpretation and evaluation of results, theory construction, and the communication of scientific knowledge through research report writing. The social nature of experimental work and ethical issues in research will be discussed throughout the spectrum of research that constitutes experimental psychology. Examinations will be of the multiple choice and/or short answer variety. Examination questions will be directly drawn from Lectures and Tutorials and from Text 1 only.

Laboratory Schedule:

I. REACTION TIME:

Due date: November 4 (10%)

II. CLASS ORIGINAL:

Due date: December 8 (10%)

The laboratory in PSYB01 uses computers, in a "user friendly" setting, and permits you to work at your own pace as much as possible. The laboratory assignments, procedures and requirements will be fully discussed in tutorial and lecture. "Write-ups" of laboratory work will be required increasing in complexity and length, but we will give you very direct instruction and assistance. Because of the size of the course deadlines are taken seriously. Penalty for lateness is 20% of value of the report per day. No report will be accepted after the graded assignment is returned to the class.

Laboratory Rules for PSYB01 Students:

The Division of Life Sciences has instituted the following rules for the use of the computer lab:

Room S-316, will be open to registered students in PSYB01 for four hours before class 3pm-7pm each day. Additional hours may be made available after class. The Division expects you to work independently and responsibly and to immediately report any violations of the rules to your instructor or to your teaching assistant for your own safety and security. Your anonymity will be respected. The following is a list of rules which we expect all users of S-316 to follow at all times. Individuals who disregard any of these rules will be immediately denied the privilege of using the facility. Note that there will be no "warning;" the first time a rule is broken, suspension of privileges will occur. If everyone cooperates and follows these very reasonable rules, there should be no problems at all,

1. At no time is there to be any drinking, eating or smoking in this room. All of these substances can seriously damage computers and associated hardware.
2. Please leave the area where you worked completely clean. This means that you should dispose of paper, etc. when you leave.
3. Under no conditions should students not registered in PSYB01, PSYB02, PSYC34, or PSYC58 be admitted to this room. This is not a general study room; it is a laboratory working area for students in these courses.
4. Keys may be picked up at the front desk (for which you must surrender your student card), and must be returned there when you are through working in the room. The door is never to be left unlocked. Never leave the door open or unlocked when you leave the room, even if you are coming back right away. Please do not hoard the keys; return them and you can pick them up again later. Students working in S-316 may admit only other students who they recognize to be in one of the four designated courses. If you are not sure, please do not admit the person.
5. Never attempt to repair or otherwise tamper with the computer equipment. Leave a note on the machine if you think there is a problem and we will fix it for you as soon as possible.
6. You must never tamper with the programs stored on the hard disk (C drive) in these computers. No information is to be stored on the hard disk by students for any reason whatsoever. Of course, it is against copyright law to copy the system software from the C drive.
7. When you are leaving, please be sure to leave the computer in perfect condition for the next user. This means turning off three power switches -- computer, monitor and printer. Always do this unless someone is waiting in the room to take over that computer when you leave.