

PSYC58S

Experimental Psychology Microcomputer Laboratory

Winter 2001

Instructor: Dr. Douglas A. Bors
Office: S638
Office Hours: Tuesday 10:00 - 12:00 pm
Thursday 3:30 - 5:00 pm
Telephone: 416-287-7468
Textbook: *Learn Basic Now* by M. Halvorson and D. Rygmyr

This course has several purposes. First, it will introduce you to the microcomputer as a research tool. You will learn the fundamentals of the operation of the machine, you will learn a computer language via which the machine can be made to perform specific tasks related to data collection, and you will be introduced to statistical software packages used for analyzing data. Much of the time will be spent learning QuickBasic (a common programming language).

Grading: Your final grade in this course will be based on three assignments (worth 10% each), a final project (worth 60%), and a project oral (worth 10%). The assignments will be practical applications of the programming language as we covered in the lectures. The assignments, which are considered individual work and should be treated as such, will be due one week from the day they are assigned. Ten percent will be subtracted from the mark for each day an assignment is late. For you final project, you will design an experiment, write a computer programme to run the experiment, collect data, analyze the data, and a write a research paper based on your experiment. Topics must be cleared with the instructor, prior to beginning work on your project. The research paper, which is due the last day of class, should be in APA format. Project orals will be scheduled for the last week of classes.

Tentative Course Outline

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
1	Review of Experimental Designs	
2	Introduction to QuickBasic	1 & 2
3	Input & Output	3 & 4
	Math Operations	
4	Flowcharting	5
	Decision Making (IF statements)	
5	Looping	6
	Random Numbers	
6	Subroutines	7
7	Arrays, Reading data	8
8	String functions	9
9	Data files	10
10	Debugging	
11	Data Analysis	
12	Project Orals	