

EXP4005 (U01 – Monday Lecture) & EXP4005L (U01 – Wednesday Lab)
Advanced Experimental Psychology with Lab – FIU – Department of Psychology

PREREQUISITES and COREQUISITE

You **must** have already taken Research Methods (PSY3213) and Statistics (STA3123).
You **must** be co-registered for the lecture (EXP4005) and the lab (EXP4005L) with **Dr. Nelson**.

You will receive ONE grade (worth 5 credits). You may not take just the lecture or just the lab

CLASS MEETINGS – LECTURE

U01: Monday 12:00 – 1:50 pm (GL 100A)

CLASS MEETINGS – LAB

U01: Wednesday 2:00 – 4:50 pm (CBC 254)

INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Eliza Nelson
Office Hours: Wed 10:30 am – 12:30 pm
or by appointment (DM 276)
Email: elnelson@fiu.edu

GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT

Sandy Gonzalez
Office Hours: T 2:00 – 3:00 pm/R 11:00 – 12:00 pm
or by appointment (DM 248)
Email: sgonz219@fiu.edu

NOTE: For a timely reply, email us directly. Do not send a message via Blackboard.

COURSE GOALS

In this course, we will learn and apply principles of experimental design to measure behavior. Topics include research ethics, basic and advanced experimental techniques, and field methods for animal studies. We will cover all aspects of the research process from the literature search, to data collection and analysis, to manuscript writing and undergoing peer review and revision.

By the end of the course, you will be able to:

- Describe and apply basic principles of experimental design
- Critically read and analyze empirical research
- Conduct research experiments and interpret original data
- Disseminate research findings for scientific and non-scientific audiences

Note: You will be required to attend a field trip to Monkey Jungle to collect data. The field trip will occur during lab time and admission to the park is included. All materials will be provided. Carpool groups will be arranged for students who do not have transportation.

REQUIRED READING

- *Experimental Psychology: A Case Approach*, MacLin & Solso (2007; 8th edition)
- *Primate Behavior: An Exercise Workbook*, Paterson (2001; 2nd edition with CD)
- Other assigned readings will be posted on Blackboard

GRADING

Lecture Midterm	20%	March 3 rd
Lecture Homework	15%	See calendar for due dates
Lecture Leader	5%	Individual due dates to be assigned
Lab Field Trip	5%	March 5 th
Lab Reports	20%	See calendar for due dates
Lab Publication	35%	See calendar for due dates

Final folder due at 2 pm on the last day of lab

There is no final exam or extra credit offered in this class

LETTER GRADE CONVERSION

A: 94-100%	A-: 90-93%	B+: 87-89%	B: 83-86%	B-: 80-82%	
C+: 77-79%	C: 73-76%	C-: 70-72%	D+: 67-69%	D: 60-66	F: 59 & below

To calculate your grade, divide your total by 500. You must earn a 'C' or better for the major.

CLASSROOM POLICIES

Please be respectful of class time and of your peers. Kindly refrain from talking, texting, or using technology for non-class related activities. If you are disruptive, we reserve the right to ask you to leave. Arriving late and leaving early is distracting for everyone; please don't do it.

Note: Additional policies apply to the field trip. If you are not in compliance with Monkey Jungle rules, you will be asked to leave immediately and you will forfeit all points for the assignment. Conducting animal research is a privilege. You may not touch any animal, no matter the reason. The rules are in place for your protection and safety should be everyone's priority.

MAKE-UP POLICY: Make-up work is only permitted for excused absences with documentation. This includes, but is not limited to, doctor's excuses (for yourself or immediate relatives), athletic events, FIU-related scholarly events (e.g., conference), a death in the family, religious observances, or auto accident. Work-related excuses will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Approved work-related excuses are one-time absences, not regular occurrences. **Please do not take this class if it conflicts with your work schedule.** Also, keep in mind that documentation must be dated for the material or exam that you missed. As soon as you are able, contact Dr. Nelson directly by email to discuss your situation. We will do our best to accommodate you.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Any instance of academic misconduct (e.g., plagiarism, cheating, collusion, dishonesty) will be reported to the University and Department of Psychology for further action. Please refer to your student handbook, or ask me if you are unsure about what constitutes misconduct. Details can also be found at this website: https://ugrad.fiu.edu/academic_misconduct/

Note: This class uses Turnitin to check for plagiarism. Papers are uploaded via Blackboard links.

DISABILITY ACCOMODATIONS:

Disability students must submit DRC paperwork in the first week of class for accommodations:
drc.fiu.edu/students

LECTURE SCHEDULE {MONDAYS}

Subject to change. All readings are due on the date indicated. Slides will be posted before class.
 DL = Discussion Leaders.

LECTURE HOMEWORK

Homework questions appear at the end of each assigned chapter in the MacLin & Solso text. In general, responses should be 1-3 sentences per question. Use your best judgment to ensure you have answered each question completely to receive full credit. **All homework must be typed and submitted in hard copy in class on the date indicated. No emails will be accepted.** Be sure to include your PID. Late homework without documentation will be penalized.

LECTURE LEADER

You will be responsible for helping to lead class discussion once during the semester. Prior to spring break, you will be assigned to one chapter from the MacLin & Solso text. These chapters will correspond to the homework assignments. **As a lecture leader, you are responsible for preparing 1-2 questions or topics for your assigned chapter (in addition to the homework).** You will be graded on your presence in front of the class and the quality of your contribution. Each class after spring break will have approximately 3 lecture leaders (1 per chapter).

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading Due</u>
1	Jan. 6	Welcome
2	Jan. 13	Ethics of experimental research
3	Jan. 20	NO CLASS – MLK DAY
4	Jan. 27	Introduction to research
5	Feb. 3	Basic experimental design
6	Feb. 10	Advanced design techniques
7	Feb. 17	Experimental design and control
8	Feb. 24	Control of subject variables
9	Mar. 3	MIDTERM EXAM
10	Mar. 10	NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK
11	Mar. 17	HW #1 due / DL Group #1
12	Mar. 24	HW #2 due / DL Group #2
13	Mar. 31	HW #3 due / DL Group #3
14	Apr. 7	HW #4 due / DL Group #4
15	Apr. 14	HW #5 due / DL Group #5

LAB SCHEDULE {WEDNESDAYS }

Lab reports must be typed and submitted in hard copy in class on the date indicated.

Be sure to include your PID. Late lab reports without documentation will be penalized.

LAB PUBLICATION FOLDER

A separate handout will be distributed with details for the lab publication. The folder includes: (1) cover letter to Dr. Nelson describing edits made as a result of peer review, (2) rough draft, and (3) final paper. Both the rough draft and the final paper are uploaded to Turnitin. You will also be asked to grade your own paper using Dr. Nelson's rubric before turning in your folder.

<u>Week</u>	<u>Lab</u>	<u>What's Due</u>
1	Jan. 8	Lab #1: "Research Compliance"
2	Jan. 15	Lab #2: "Literature Search"
3	Jan. 22	Lab #3: "Reading Articles"
4	Jan. 29	Lab #4: "Animal Identification"
5	Feb. 5	Lab #5: "The Ethogram"
6	Feb. 12	Lab #6: "Sampling Part 1"
7	Feb. 19	Lab #7: "Sampling Part 2"
8	Feb. 26	Lab #8: "Data Sheets"
9	Mar. 5	FIELD TRIP – Meet at Monkey Jungle
		Wear hat + sunscreen
10	Mar. 12	NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK
		NA
11	Mar. 19	Lab #9: "Analyzing Data"
12	Mar. 26	Lab #10: "Results Graphics"
13	Apr. 2	Professional Workshop: Letters and CVs
		Lab#10
14	Apr. 9	PEER REVIEW – Upload paper to Turnitin by midnight <u>before class</u>
15	Apr. 16	PUBLICATION FOLDER DUE – At the start of class (2 pm), or it's late. Late folders will be penalized for every day late past the due date.

Additional policy concerning Midterm corrections

You may submit corrections for any questions you got incorrect, or partial credit on the exam. All corrections must be typed. You may use any resource (text, slides) to correct your mistakes. You must submit the original exam for comparison. Corrections are due on **Wednesday 3/19**. If you cannot attend lab, you must ask a staff person to date and initial your assignment before you put it in Dr. Nelson's mailbox in the Psychology Office. The office closes around 5:00 pm.

You can earn back 50% of the points you missed by submitting corrected answers.