

# COURSE SYLLABUS: Power, Women & Relationships Lab

Spring 2017

PSY 4916 (Independent Research) and PSY 4941 (Independent Field Experience)

## 1. Basic Information

---

Instructor: Asia A. Eaton, Ph.D.  
Office: DM 208  
Email: [aeaton@fiu.edu](mailto:aeaton@fiu.edu)  
Office phone: 305-348-0229

---

Class: Lab Meetings every other Thursday, 11:00-12:30 in DM 258  
See online schedule for details: <http://pwrlab.fiu.edu/schedules>  
Research Assistant hours scheduled individually

---

## 2. Lab Description

Our psychology lab at FIU is called the PWR lab (for "Power, Women, and Relationships"). This lab studies and is concerned with the psychology of gender and sex roles, the psychology of social power and leadership, and LGBT and heterosexual romantic relationships and friendships. Dr. Asia Eaton is the supervising faculty members of this lab. You can learn more about the PWR Lab here: <http://pwrlab.fiu.edu/>

Dr. Eaton conducts research on the topics of gender, social power, and attitudes and persuasion. She is particularly interested in how gender-based inequities in social power and leadership underlie gender stereotypes and affect men and women's behavior. Her dissertation examined how stereotypes about and differences in men and women's persuadability are rooted in the sex-segregated division of labor. She is also interested in how the possession of power affects an individual's information processing and behavior. You can learn more about Dr. Eaton here: <http://faculty.fiu.edu/~aeaton/>

Dr. Eaton is currently conducting research on the behavior of men and women leaders and entrepreneurs, the relationship between gender, social power, and persuasion, and power dynamics in dating relationships

## 3. Research Assistant Position Description

The primary qualifications required to obtain a Research Assistant (RA) position in the PWR lab, during which you will conduct independent research, include motivation, commitment, and consistency.

Your main responsibility is to assist Dr. Eaton in all phases of data collection.

The 3-credit version of this class requires an 8-hour commitment per week (with 5 hours served in-person at the lab and 3 hours outside the lab) towards any or all of the following responsibilities:

- Running pretests and survey studies at MMC and BBC (primarily at MMC)
- Data Coding and Entry
- Copying materials
- Handling participant sign-up and compensation
- Creating materials for the lab community

- Creating and reviewing study materials
- Conducting literature reviews and searches
- Consistent attendance at the bi-weekly PWR Lab meeting
- Reading articles for the PWR Lab meeting

The benefits of being an RA in the PWR Lab include:

- Course credit or a zero-credit option through PSY 4941 or PSY 4916, depending on your needs
- Learning about how psychological findings are generated and how psychological research is conducted
- Learning about whether grad school in psychology is right for you
- Skill and knowledge acquisition, including improved communication skills, learning basic inferential statistics, gaining expertise in psychology software, learning about psychological theory, findings, and concepts, learning about the ethical treatment of human subjects, etc.
- Potential for letters of recommendation
- Potential to do a senior honor's thesis with the lab

#### **4. Course Materials**

Readings: Journal articles, book chapters, syllabi, and handouts are all posted in the PWR Lab Dropbox account which can be accessed using the PWR Lab Gmail account information (ID: [pwrlabfiu@gmail.com](mailto:pwrlabfiu@gmail.com) and password: **pwrlabfiu2016**)

#### **5. Research Assistant Assignments and Grade**

##### 1) Lab Meeting Attendance

As an RA for the PWR Lab, you are required to attend all PWR Lab meetings and to actively participate in meetings by asking questions and making suggestions related to the research being presented in lab.

##### 2) Lab Meeting Readings

You are required to read all articles and chapters assigned for each lab meeting *in advance* of the meeting. The purpose of these materials is to enable you to better comprehend the research being discussed and conducted in the PWR lab and facilitate your active participation in meetings.

##### 3) Lab Meeting Facilitation

Once per semester, at the end of the semester, each Research Assistant is required to lead one lab meeting by presenting and facilitating group discussion on a single scientific article relevant to the lab's research interests. The lab supervisor will assist RAs in choosing the article.

##### 4) Weekly Lab Work

As a Research Assistant taking the 3-credit course, you are required to participate in lab operations, tasks, and responsibilities for 8 hours every week. Of these 8 hours, 5 hours **MUST** be spent performing lab duties on campus each week. The remaining 3 hours may be spent reading articles and preparing for lab meetings outside of the lab. Lab duties may include data entry, running pretests, running studies, creating and reviewing study materials, data coding, copying materials, retrieving books from the library, etc.

If you are taking PSY 4916 or PSY 4941 for credit you will receive a pass/fail grade.

## 6. Course Outline

Lab Meeting Date	Topic	Reading
Meeting 1 Thursday, Jan 12th,	Welcome, Introductions, and Assignments	None
Meeting 2 Thursday, Jan 26th	Sexual objectification	Szymanski, D. M., Moffitt, L. B., & Carr, E. R. (2011). Sexual objectification of women: Advances to theory and research. <i>The Counseling Psychologist</i> , 39(1), 6-38.
Meeting 3 Thursday, Feb 9th	Sex and gender 1	Gervais, S. J., Vescio, T. K., Förster, J., Maass, A., & Suitner, C. (2012). Seeing women as objects: The sexual body part recognition bias. <i>European Journal of Social Psychology</i> , 42(6), 743-753.
Meeting 4 Thursday, Feb 23rd	Sex and gender 2	Hundhammer, T., & Mussweiler, T. (2012). How sex puts you in gendered shoes: Sexuality-priming leads to gender-based self-perception and behavior. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i> , 103(1), 176-193.
Meeting 5 Thursday, March 9th	IPV among sexual minorities 1	Little, B., & Terrance, C. (2010). Perceptions of domestic violence in lesbian relationships: Stereotypes and gender role expectations. <i>Journal of Homosexuality</i> , 57(3), 429-440
Meeting 6 Thursday, March 23rd	IPV among sexual minorities 2	Eaton, A. A., & Matamala, A. (2014). The relationship between heteronormative beliefs and verbal sexual coercion in college students. <i>Archives of Sexual Behavior</i> , 43(7), 1443-1457.
Meeting 7 Thursday, April 6th	Student presentations!	<b>Readings selected by students</b>
Meeting 8 Thursday, April 20th	Student presentations!	<b>Readings selected by students</b>