

Psy 756, Ethics, Professional Issues, and Diversity in Experimental Psychology

Catalog Description: Examination of ethical, professional, and diversity issues related to the practice of experimental psychology. Topics include publishing, grant funding, the professoriate, scientific misconduct, protection of human and nonhuman subjects, and diversity in experimental psychology. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Tentative Syllabus

<u>Date</u>	<u>Major Topics</u>
Jan 20	Overview
Jan 27	APA Ethics
Feb 3	APA Ethics, RCR 1-General Ethical Responsibilities Due: C.V.
Feb 10	APA Ethics, IRB and IACUC
Feb 17	Writing, RCR 2-Acquisition, Management, sharing, ownership of data Due: IRB/ IACUC application
Feb 24	Writing, RCR 3-Collaborative Research
Mar 3	No class
Mar 10	Grants, RCR 4-Mentor/Trainee Responsibilities Due: Preliminary Grant Letter
Mar 17	Grants, RCR 5-Publication practices/ Responsible Authorship
Mar 24	Teaching, RCR 6-Conflicts of Interest Due: Grant budget
Mar 31	Spring Break
Apr 7	Replication, RCR 7-Research Misconduct
Apr 14	Replication, RCR 8-Peer Review
Apr 21	Job Search, Professoriate
Apr 28	Professoriate, Diversity
May 5	Presentations
May 12	Presentations, Due: Grant Proposal

Textbook: Darley, J. M., Zanna, M. P., Roediger, H. L. III (Eds.), *The Compleat Academic: A Career Guide* (2/e). Washington, D. C.: APA.

Other readings are posted on Web Campus and/or to be distributed via email.

RCRintro.pdf

In the Ethics folder in WebCampus there's a document called rcrintro, which stands for Responsible Conduct of Research Introduction. It's from the federal Office of Research Integrity website, and is an introductory piece on the several topics considered vital on the topic of responsible conduct of research: research misconduct, protection of human subjects, welfare of lab animals, conflict of interest, data management, mentor and trainee responsibilities, collaborative research, authorship and publication, and peer review. It's very long (160 pgs), so don't print it. We'll be reading it section by section as an introduction to the various RCR topics. By the end of the semester, we will have covered all the topics generally considered necessary in a certified course on Responsible Conduct of Research.

On Being a Scientist, also in WebCampus, is a "brochure" that discusses a variety of important issues involved in the scientific enterprise, and has some useful scenarios for discussion. We'll use the sections of this as introductory material for our RCR topics.

WebCampus

Short readings in WebCampus will be assigned as we go along. See the Excel sheet for dates and categories of readings. I reserve the right to add readings as they arise, if I think they'll add materially to our discussions and to the overall goals of the course.

APA Ethics Code (under Ethics in Web Campus).

We will cover the entire APA Ethics Code, not just the sections that pertain specifically to experimental psychology. This coverage, in addition to the Responsible Conduct of Research units, will constitute your formal classroom exposure to the topic of ethics in experimental psychology.

Classroom procedures and Grades.

The bulk of the classroom procedures will be based on in-class discussion, based on the readings and topics. You must come to class prepared – do the readings, and come with plenty of informed opinions. If you don't have an opinion on something, be prepared to say why you don't.

You'll be writing four scenarios related to RCR topics, and at the end of the RCR unit we'll be putting these together into a collection, to be used for further training purposes (e.g., the next time I teach the class). Again, the purpose is to prompt you to think, and to hone your writing skills.

I'll have each of you take one of the Teaching or Replicability readings and make a presentation to the whole class (using PowerPoint), presenting the article for the rest of the class. You'll also be making a presentation at the end of the semester on your grant proposal. Details to be furnished in class.

The major project for the class will be a grant proposal. This will involve four separate assignments, (1) an IRB or IACUC application, (2) a preliminary grant letter, (3) a budget, and (4) and a full grant proposal. Since essentially all grant applications are now on-line, and not easily accessible unless you are a registered user, this makes realistic grant applications for classroom purposes difficult to accomplish. My work-around to this is to have you complete a set of grant application forms that I've devised, to be handed out via WebCampus and discussed in class. More on this later.

Grade:

- 50% grant (all components)
- 10% presentations
- 10% Scenarios
- 30% in-class participation

Course Goals:

1. Educate you about the code of ethics in psychology.
2. Explore issues of professional conduct and behavior in experimental psychology.
3. Cover important issues about the responsible conduct of research.
4. Introduce you to important grant-writing activities.
5. Improve your professional writing and presenting skills.
6. Cover important diversity issues in the profession.
7. Prepare you for careers in professional, research psychology.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV's function as an educational institution.

An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the *Student Academic Misconduct Policy* (approved December 9, 2005) located at: <https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct>.

COPYRIGHT

The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves **with** and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. **You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws.** Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at:

<http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright>

DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (DRC)

The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, <http://drc.unlv.edu/>, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic

Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

REGLIGIOUS HOLIDAYS POLICY

Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor **within the first 14 calendar days of the course for fall and spring courses (excepting modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for summer and modular courses**, of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit: <http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531>. **8**

TRANSPARENCY in LEARNING and TEACHING

The University encourages application of the transparency method of constructing assignments for student success. Please see these two links for further information:

<https://www.unlv.edu/provost/teachingandlearning>

<https://www.unlv.edu/provost/transparency>

INCOMPLETE GRADES

The grade of I – Incomplete – can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student's control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. The incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

TUTORING and Coaching

The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, visit <http://www.unlv.edu/asc> or call 702-895-3177. The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of the SSC (ASC Coaching Spot). Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library and College of Engineering TEB second floor.

UNLV WRITING CENTER

One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance.

Appointments may be made in person or by calling 702-895-3908. The student's Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at:

<http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/>

REBELMAIL

By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students' Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV's official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students' e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always @unlv.nevada.edu. Emailing within WebCampus is acceptable.

FINAL EXAMINATIONS

The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. See the schedule at:

<http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars>. **9**

LIBRARY STATEMENT

Students may consult with a librarian on research needs. For this class, the Subject Librarian is (https://www.library.unlv.edu/contact/librarians_by_subject). UNLV Libraries provides resources to support students' access to information. Discovery, access, and use of information are vital skills for academic work and for successful post-college life. Access library resources and ask questions at <https://www.library.unlv.edu/>