

**Laboratory in the Psychology of Time**  
**Psychology 320**  
**Haverford College**  
**Spring 2015**

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**Office Hours: T, Th: 10:30 – 11:30 am. and by appt.**

**Course Description:**

An overview of the different methodologies used in the psychological study of time. During laboratory sessions, students will explore some different temporal phenomena through the use of the empirical method and both the collection and analysis of statistical data. Pre-requisites: Psychology 100 and 200, and prior enrollment in Psychology 220.

**Activities and Grading:**

The purpose of this course is to not only familiarize you with some different methodological techniques used in the study of time but more generally, the various phases involved in conducting a psychological research project. Accordingly, each of you will first be asked to develop an idea for a laboratory study that involves some aspect of temporal behavior which you will orally present to the rest of us. You should describe your research design in a 1-3 page paper (due **Feb. 4**) that briefly outlines the rationale of the study as well as how one might do the experiment. There are three constraints on the research idea you develop: first, your research idea must rely on the experimental method (vs. surveys, questionnaires, correlation, or multiple regression) that represents a factorial design (i.e., more than one independent variable); second, it must be a project that can actually be done at Haverford given our equipment and subject population; and third, to the best of your knowledge, your proposed study has not previously been conducted within the past literature. From these, the class will select 4 projects that we will actually do together, in small groups, over the course of the semester. In addition to data collection and statistical analyses of the results, you will be required to write a final research paper that describes all aspects of the study. This includes an: Abstract, Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, and Reference sections as well as any accompanying tables or figures. This paper should be written in a format that conforms to APA style and is due on **April 29**.

The second main activity is one that will not require any actual data collection or statistical analyses. Instead, you will be asked to develop an original research project that addresses some aspect of temporal behavior. The topic can be anything you desire and, again, the proposal is subject to same constraints as your first one (i.e., a study relying on the experimental method that has not yet been reported in the previous literature). In addition, it should address a topic that is different from the one you proposed at the beginning of the course. This final paper should contain the following sections: an Introduction that reviews the relevant literature and the particular question(s) you are posing; a Methods section (along with its appropriate sub-sections) that describes *how* you would do the study; a section relating the predicted pattern of results; and, of course, a Reference section. Your proposal is due **April 1**.

The evaluation of these different activities will be weighted as follows:

Proposal for Lab Experiment	10%
Write-up of Lab Experiment	40%
Research Proposal	40%
Lab Participation	10%

**LAB SCHEDULE**  
**Psychology 320 – Laboratory in the Psychology of Time**  
**Spring 2015**

- Wed. – Jan. 21 – Overview of the methodologies used in the study of time
- Wed. – Jan. 28 – Presentation of student research ideas
- Wed. – Feb. 4 - Presentation of student research ideas – **Experiment description due**
- Wed. – Feb. 11 – Selection of studies and refinements
- Wed. – Feb. 18 – Setup of studies
- Wed. – Feb. 25 – Setup of studies/data collection
- Wed. – March 4 – Data collection
- Wed. – March 11 – Spring Break
- Wed. – March 18 – Data collection – Review of APA style – see posting on Blackboard
- Wed. – March 25 – Data collection
- Wed. – April 1 – Data collection - **Lab proposal paper due**
- Wed. – April 8 – Data collection
- Wed. – April 15 – Data analysis
- Wed. – April 22 – Data analysis
- Wed. – April 29 – Data analysis - **Write-up of lab project due**