



PSYCHOLOGY 324: LAB IN SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Course Syllabus—Fall 2014

Course information:

When: Fridays 1:00-2:30pm

Where: Hilles 204 Computer Lab

Instructor: Benjamin Le, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Psychology

Office: Sharpless 411B

Office hours: W 4:15-5pm, F 10-11am, and by appointment

e-mail: ble@haverford.edu

Web Page & Course Schedule: <http://www.benjaminle.com/324>

Course description and objectives:

Students will become familiar with the methodological and measurement practices that are commonly employed in social psychological research, as well as data analytic techniques appropriate to test social psychological hypotheses. Both experimental and survey methods will be explored, with students completing activities and projects to gain relevant research experience.

Grading Information:

Grades will be determined based on the following factors:

% of Total Grade

1. Project 1 lab report	40%
2. Project 2 lab report	40%
3. Project 1 poster	10%
4. Project 2 presentation	10%

TOTAL

100%

1 & 2. Lab Reports: For both projects, each student will write an APA style research report describing the rationale of the study, the method, the results (i.e., report on the analyses conducted), and implications of the findings. Further details will be discussed as the projects progress.

3. Project 1 Poster Session: Each lab group will prepare a poster describing their study. We will have a mini-conference, where all the posters will be displayed, and students can ask each other questions about their projects.

4. Project 2 Presentation: Lab groups will present their projects in ~15 minute oral presentations (i.e., a “conference style” presentation, with PowerPoint). Each member of the lab group is expected to contribute to the presentation.

Other Points of Importance:

Grading Scale: Grades will be assigned adhering to the following scale:

94.00% and above	=	A / 4.0	73.00% - 76.99%	=	C / 2.0
90.00% - 93.99%	=	A- / 3.7	70.00% - 72.99%	=	C- / 1.7
87.00% - 89.99%	=	B+ / 3.3	67.00% - 69.99%	=	D+ / 1.3
83.00% - 86.99%	=	B / 3.0	60.00% - 66.99%	=	D / 1.0
80.00% - 82.99%	=	B- / 2.7	59.99% and below	=	F / 0.0
77.00% - 79.99%	=	C+ / 2.3			

Extra Credit: Extra credit will not be offered.

Attendance, Participation, and Absence Policy: Class attendance and participation is expected. Students are responsible for all announcements made in class, whether they are present or not. If you must miss a class, please let me know (via e-mail). Course grades for students missing an unacceptable number of class meetings may be adjusted at my discretion.

You are expected to complete assignments (e.g., homework, final paper) in a timely manner, and to meet the deadlines outlined in the course schedule or announced in class. If you cannot complete assignments on time because of an unforeseen occurrence (e.g., illness, family emergency etc.), or because of a school-related conflict (e.g., conflict with other course assignments or activities), please contact me immediately. Acceptance of late work will be at my discretion, and is considered on a case-by-case basis. Typically, I am flexible in working with students who discuss absences/conflicts with me **in advance**, however I understand this isn’t always possible (e.g., illness, family emergency etc.).

Grade Changes / Regrade Procedure: All grade disputes are to be made in writing (please type). We will not discuss or argue regrades in person. All requests for regrades must be made within two weeks after the exam or assignment is returned to the class (or within 2 weeks of the start of the following term for the final paper or exam).

When disputing a grade, you should state the dispute and the number of points you feel you should have received for the assignment or exam, and the reason you feel your work or answer is correct (including support from the readings or lecture notes). Please note that when you ask for an exam or assignment to be regraded it may be regraded in its entirety, and there is a possibility of losing points. All requests for regrades should be submitted to me along with the original assignment.

Accommodating student needs/disabilities: Students who think they may need accommodations in this course because of the impact of a disability are encouraged to meet with me privately early in the semester. Students should also the Office of Disabilities Services (<https://www.haverford.edu/ods/>) to verify their eligibility for reasonable accommodations as soon as possible. Early contact will help to avoid unnecessary inconvenience and delays.

Understanding appropriate sources for citations: For all assignments and exams, the following are considered appropriate and valid sources for citations and references:

- Published journal articles, both in online and paper formats.
- Professional handbook chapters and reviews (i.e., edited volumes with chapters written by psychological researchers).
- Academic books (i.e., books written by psychological researchers).

The following are **not to be used** as citations in your work:

- Information found on the internet, unless it is the on-line version of a scientific journal (e.g., accessing an electronic version of a journal on-line is fine). **This includes Wikipedia and/or any other webpages.**
- Any undergraduate-level textbook.

In short, you should always be working with the primary literature written by psychological researchers. If you have questions about a particular source, please ask.

A few of other important points:

- *Buy a stapler...*Unstapled papers will not be accepted (or will have their grades adjusted). This includes paper clips, folded corners, etc. Make sure your papers are permanently secured with a staple or other such binding. And if your stapler won't handle the number of pages you're trying to staple, use a bigger stapler.
- *Silence your cell phones,* and put them away during class. Please do not text or otherwise fiddle with your electronic devices in class.
- *I will not be posting my lectures on-line* for a couple of reasons. First, I would like you to come to class. Second, active learning enhances retention. The act of writing down lecture material in your own words will help you remember it better.
- *Audio/video recording of class is not permitted* without my consent. Please ask if you need to record the class. Unauthorized recording is a violation of Haverford's Honor Code.
- *Do not submit papers or assignments electronically* (i.e., don't e-mail me with your papers attached) unless I explicitly invite you to do so. Spam filters and other such technological goof-ups make e-mailing papers problematic.

A few words about plagiarism and academic dishonesty: I tend to have a relaxed and laid back teaching style, but do not mistake this for a lack of rigor. I take plagiarism and academic integrity very seriously, and it will not be tolerated. Plagiarism involves your use of another person's work, words, or ideas without properly crediting them. This includes copying the work from another student's paper or exam, as well as using direct quotes from a source, such as your textbook or a journal article, without citing the author. Simply rewording a sentence or passage from another source without giving credit is also inappropriate. Furthermore, using another person's ideas without a proper citation is considered plagiarism as well. The best way to assure that your work does not plagiarize from another source is to liberally use citations within your work (e.g., be very thorough with your references—we will discuss APA style of references in class if necessary) and to ask if you are ever in doubt. Do your own work and follow Haverford's Honor Code.