

**EXTRA CREDIT FOR PSYCHOLOGY 202**  
**Spring 2009**  
**Psychology 202 Research Coordinator: Dr. Valerie Ahl**  
**email: veahl@wisc.edu**

This document describes the mechanisms and procedures for earning extra credit in Introductory Psychology.

**Psychology 202 Research Coordinator: Dr. Valerie Ahl**

From time to time you will have questions about these procedures. In such instances you can contact Dr. Valerie Ahl, the Psychology 202 Research Coordinator, for clarification and information. See below for her contact information and office hours.

- **Email: veahl@wisc.edu (email is the best & fastest way to get a reply)**
- **Phone: 698-7924 (Please send an email to confirm receipt of your phone message)**
- **Office: Room 330 Psychology**
- **Office Hours: Mondays 5-6 p.m. (and by appointment).**

You can also leave messages in Dr. Ahl's mailbox on the second floor of the Psychology building.

**Ways to Earn Extra Credit**

You may earn up to **15 extra credit points** which will be applied to your Psychology 202 grade, after the final course curve has been calculated (see your course syllabus for details on course grades). Earning extra credit points is voluntary. There are two ways to earn extra credit points:

- (1) Participate in Psychology Research.**
- (2) Complete additional readings and multiple choice quizzes.**

Your 15 points may be earned using any combination of options (1) and (2), however, option (1) offers you a unique opportunity to get hands-on experience with Psychology. The last day to participate in research studies is May 8. The last day to take make-up quizzes is May 4. All questions about extra credit should be directed to the Psychology 202 Research Coordinator, Dr. Valerie Ahl.

## **OPPORTUNITY 1: RESEARCH PARTICIPATION**

Students in Psychology 202 have the opportunity to earn extra credit by participating directly in research studies conducted by faculty members in this Department. Participating in research gives you a first-hand chance to see how experiments in Psychology are conducted. It also gives our faculty members a chance to improve understanding of human behavior.

**You may earn one extra credit point for every 30 minutes of experimental participation.**

Our on-line sign-up and point tracking system is located at: <http://uwmadison.sona-systems.com>

### **Extra Credit Account**

**To earn extra credit through research, you will need to login to Sona Systems and create an extra credit account:**

- (1) You will receive an email with your username and password for Sona-Systems. If you do not receive this email, please contact Dr. Ahl at [veahl@wisc.edu](mailto:veahl@wisc.edu).
- (2) Once you login, choose “opt in”.
- (3) Choose whether to “opt in” or “opt out” for being contacted via email and/or phone for potential experiments. (Some labs contact students directly). However, if you “opt out” from being contacted, you can still sign-up to participate in other experiments offered through Sona-systems.

### **Introductory Survey**

When you login to Sona-Systems you will be offered an opportunity to participate in an Introductory survey made up of a variety of questionnaires from different researchers within the Psychology Department.

Choose whether to “opt in” or “opt out” from taking the survey online.

Participation in the Introductory Survey is **voluntary**. However, you will have the greatest chance to easily earn the full extra credit points if you complete this survey. By completing the Introductory Survey you may become eligible for a greater number of studies. The pathway to research participation is easier if you complete the Introductory Survey.

## How to Sign-up for Participation in Research Studies

- (1) You may login to Sona and browse through the studies online.
- (2) Choose an open time slot that fits your schedule. Click on the time slot to sign up for the study.
- (3) Please make note of the date, time, and location of the study.
- (4) You will receive a reminder email 24 hours before the experiment confirming the date, time, location, point value, and any restrictions or descriptions of the study. Please check your email frequently.
- (5) To verify that your points have been awarded correctly, you can login after each experiment. Entering points may take up to 72 hours for some experiments. However, if you have not been awarded credit for an experiment after 72 hours, please contact the experimenters. Any disputes regarding points should be taken to Dr.Ahl ([veahl@wisc.edu](mailto:veahl@wisc.edu)).

### Additional notes regarding research participation:

- (1) If you must cancel, please be courteous

The cancellation deadline is listed for each experiment. It is generally 24 hours before an experiment. If you do not cancel before the deadline, you will receive a No-Show Penalty (explained below). In case of emergency you can cancel an appointment by emailing or calling the experimenter.

- (2) No-Show Penalties

If you fail to keep an appointment without notifying the experimenter, one point will be subtracted from your extra credit account. To avoid these consequences, remember, once you sign-up for an experiment you have made a commitment to show-up!

- (3) Signing-up by Phone/Email

You may be contacted by telephone/email to schedule an appointment for an experiment. Make sure you record the following information:

- (b) the experimenter's name.
- (c) the experimenter's phone number.
- (d) Date, time, and location of appointment.

If you are suspicious that a call/email is not from a Psychology Department researcher, please email Dr. Valerie Ahl for confirmation ([veahl@wisc.edu](mailto:veahl@wisc.edu)).

## **OPPORTUNITY 2: ADDITIONAL READINGS AND QUIZZES**

Three separate readings and quizzes are given in the Psychology building (see below for quiz dates, quiz readings are listed on page 6 of this hand-out). For each quiz you can choose between two sets of readings (A or B). You may take a 10 question quiz on **either** reading set A or reading set B. Quizzes are offered on a drop-in basis, meaning you can come to room 105 anytime between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. on the scheduled dates to take the quiz. Each correct quiz answer is worth 1/2 extra credit point. Thus, for each quiz you may earn a maximum of 5 points. Your ID is used to add points to the Sona-Systems extra credit database. Readings will be on your Learn@UW account under Psych 202/281 beginning the second week of classes. You can also download the readings from the UW library electronic reserve for Psych 202. Make-up quizzes are offered during Dr. Ahl's Monday evening office hours, or by appointment with Dr. Ahl or Mr. Malchow ([gmalchow@wisc.edu](mailto:gmalchow@wisc.edu)). The last day to take a make-up quiz is May 4.

### **How to find out your Quiz Score:**

You can login to Sona-Systems after each quiz to see your score. This may take up to 1 week after the date of the quiz. If you have not been awarded credit after 2 weeks, please contact Dr. Ahl ([veahl@wisc.edu](mailto:veahl@wisc.edu)).

### **Quiz Dates & Locations**

#### Quiz 1:

Thursday February 19, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., room 105 Psychology

#### Quiz 2:

Thursday March 26, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., room 105 Psychology

#### Quiz 3:

Thursday April 23, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., room 105 Psychology

## READING CHOICES FOR EXTRA CREDIT QUIZZES

### **Readings for Quiz 1: Choose Set (A) OR (B)**

#### **Set (A) Read Both:**

Ekman, P., Davidson, R.J., Ricard, M, and Wallace, A. (2005). Buddhist and Psychological Perspectives on Emotions and Well-Being. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 14, 2, pp.59-63.

AND

Mikulincer, M. and Shaver, P. (2005). Attachment Security, Compassion and Altruism. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 14, 1, pp. 34-38.

OR

#### **Set (B) Read Both:**

Frensch, P., & Runger, D. (2004). Implicit learning. *Current Directions in Psychological Science* (2003), reprinted in *Annual Editions, Psychology 04/05*.

AND

Straus, M. (2004). New evidence for the benefits of not spanking. *Society* (2001), reprinted in *Annual Editions, Psychology 04/05*.

### **Readings for Quiz 2: Choose Set (A) OR (B)**

#### **Set (A)**

Molavi, Afshin (2006). Young and Restless. *Smithsonian*, pp. 168-171.

AND

Duffy, K. (Ed.) (2008). Unit 10: Psychological Disorders. 2007-08 Annual Editions: Psychology, pp. 172-183.

OR

#### **Set (B) Read Both:**

Carnagey, N.L., & Anderson, C. (2005). The effects of reward and punishment in violent video games on aggressive affect, cognition and behavior. *Psychological Science*, 16, 11, pp. 882-889.

AND

Drysdale, M., & Rye, B.J. Eds. (2007). *Taking Sides: Clashing views on adolescence*. Issue 14, Do cyber-friendships hinder healthy adolescent development? Pp. 282-306.

### **Readings for Quiz 3: Choose Set (A) OR (B)**

#### **Set (A)**

Barnett, R., & Hyde, J.S. (2001). Women, Men, Work and Family. *American Psychologist*, Vol. 56, No. 10, 781-796.

OR

#### **Set (B) Read Both**

Duckworth, A. and Seligman, M. (2005). Self-Discipline outdoes IQ in predicting academic performance of adolescents. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 16, 12, pp. 939-944.

AND

Salovey, P. and Grewal, D. (2005). The science of emotional intelligence. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 14, 6, pp. 281- 285.



## **Additional Information**

### 1. Your participation is voluntary.

Ethical guidelines are used to determine the appropriateness of experimental procedures, but if at any point you feel that an experiment is making an unfair, noxious, or unreasonable demand on your physical or psychological well-being, you have the right to leave the experiment immediately without forfeiting the experimental points earned up to that time.

### 2. Fill out a consent form prior to participating in any study.

Prior to participating in the study, you will be asked to read a Consent Form. The purposes of this form are to (1) provide you with a general description of what participation in the study involves and (2) obtain your consent to participate. Your signature on the form indicates consent. Do not participate in any study without having first read and signed the consent form.

### 3. What to do if an experimenter does not show-up.

If you believe that an experimenter did not meet you for a scheduled appointment, contact Dr. Valerie Ahl by email (veahl@wisc.edu) and she will investigate the misunderstanding with the experimenter. If the experimenter did not keep the arranged appointment within 10 minutes of the scheduled time, you are entitled to one extra credit point for your time spent waiting.

### 4. Learn what the study was about: Debriefing.

Participation in research studies is meant to be a learning experience for you. Therefore, you should expect that at the end of the study the experimenter will describe the study and its purpose to you. This is referred to as debriefing by psychologists. If you are not properly debriefed, feel free to ask the experimenter questions and feel free to insist that your questions be answered. You may also contact Dr. Valerie Ahl (veahl@wisc.edu) with questions about experimental participation.

### 5. Psychology 202 Research Coordinator

If you have any other questions or comments about the extra credit system, please contact the Psychology 202 Research Coordinator, Dr. Valerie Ahl at veahl@wisc.edu.