



## PSYC 2400

**Division:** Social and Behavioral Science

**Department:** Social Sciences

**Course:** PSYC 2400

**Title:** Experimental Analysis of Behavior

**Catalog Description:**

This course is concerned with psychological methodology and its application to the fields of learning, conformity, social interaction, attitudes, conflict, and self perception. A self development project is also pursued and analyzed. A field trip is required.

**General Education Requirements:** N/A

**Semesters Offered:** Spring

**Credit/Time Requirement:** Credit: 3; Lecture: 3; Lab: 0

**Clock/Hour Requirements:** 0

**Offered for Non-Credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PSYC 1010

**Corequisites:** N/A

**Justification:**

This course may be used to fulfill lower division credit requirements for psychology majors. It is transferable as lower division credit to all institutions in the state of Utah.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- know how to produce a formal report of scientific analysis of behavior
- learn of statistical procedures used in psychological research and will demonstrate the use of them in report writing
- become aware of the practical uses of statistics in everyday life
- duplicate some of the classic experiments in psychological history
- pursue a self development project and will analyze and report the results.

**Content:**

This course will include:

- How to Make Orderly Observations
- How to Do Experiments
- How to Get an Experiment Idea
- How to Be Fair with Participants
- How to Be Fair with Science

- How to Decide Which Variable to Manipulate and Measure
- How to Decide on a Between Subjects versus Within Subject Design
- How to Plan Single Variable, Multiple Variable, and Converging Series Experiments
- How to Design Research that is Not Experimental
- How to Tell when You Are Ready to Begin
- How to Interpret Experimental Results
- How to Report Experimental Results
- Against All Odds: Statistical Applications

### **General Education Outcomes:**

1) Read effectively, constructively, and critically.

Students read a required text and apply, compare, and evaluate the text content to experiments and reports related to the subject.

2) Write clearly, informatively, and persuasively.

Students write reports of experimental results in a standardized, prescribed manner. Each such formal report is critiqued carefully and returned to the students with the expectation of improvement on the next formal report. The final report is expected to be a polished expression of high standards.

6) Apply computational skills to a variety of contexts.

Students do various computational analyses of experimental results including sophisticated statistical procedures.

### **Key Performance Indicators:**

- textbook reading assessment: 7% of final grade
- classic experiments reports: 14% of final grade
- formal reports (2): 7% of final grade
- self development activities and field trip: 36% of final grade
- analysis of statistics videos: 7% of final grade
- exam and quizzes: 14% of final grade
- final report: 14% of final grade

### **Representative Text and/or Supplies:**

- David W. Martin, *Doing Psychological Experiments*, current edition, 10 Davis Drive, Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomas Learning.
- Videocassettes - The Annenberg/CPB Collection, *Against All Odds: Inside Statistics*, 1989, Intellimation (distributor), 26 programs (VHS) 30 minutes each on 13 videocassettes.

**Optimum Class Size:** 20

**Maximum Class Size:** 40

**Signatures:**

I hereby submit this course syllabus:

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I hereby find this course consistent with the goals and resources of the Social Sciences Department:

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Kerry Hansen, D.A., Professor, Chair

I hereby find this course consistent with the goals and resources of the Social and Behavioral Science Division:

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Sue Dalley, M.S., Associate Professor, Dean

I have discussed the need for library resources related to this class with the person submitting the syllabus:

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Lynn Anderson, MLIS, Technical Services Librarian (Main Campus)

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Michelle Olsen, MLS, Campus Librarian (Richfield Campus)