

PSY 236, Personality Psychology, Fall 2021

Mondays and Wednesdays, from 12:40 – 2:00, Psychology room 118

Contact information

Instructor: Emily Durbin (she/her/hers)

Psychology 224

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Professor/student check in hours: Tuesdays 2:00 - 2:50; Thursdays 10:00 - 11:00; and by appointment

UAs: Ryan Mann

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Office hours: Mondays 4:00 - 5:00; Wednesdays 11:00 - 12:00; and by appointment via Zoom

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/96950607809>

Password: Fall21

Jazmyn Roper

Email: roperjaz@msu.edu

Office hours: Tuesdays 11:00 - 12:00; and by appointment via Zoom

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/95458013561>

Required Materials

This course will use Tophat, including the custom textbook, *Personality*, I wrote for this course. The *Personality* text is available via Tophat and is included in the Tophat course (called “Personality Text”). See the Tophat section below ([Top Hat Pro and Textbook](#)) for information about how to access the course text and site.

You must also read one of the biographies listed at the end of this syllabus. Many are available at the MSU library, and all are available for purchase in paper and digital versions (and some in audio versions) through online retailers.

Other readings will be provided to you via D2L in the folder called “Content\readings”. Their due dates are listed on the course calendar below.

Top Hat will be used in this course for the course textbook, as well as attendance, quizzes, and in-class activities. Exams will be hosted on D2L.

Course Overview

This course covers major aspects of human personality, with a particular emphasis on the structure of personality and how personality develops across the lifespan from early life through old age.

Course Goals

At the end of this course, I hope you will have gained an appreciation of (1) both the lawful nature and the complexity of patterns of human personality; (2) why individual differences in personality exist; (3) what the different levels of personality are; (4) how the different levels of personality develop over the lifespan; and (5) how personality science helps us to understand an individual human life.

Course Calendar

Date	Topic	Reading <i>*Chapters refer to chapters in the TopHat textbook, Personality</i>	Assignment
9/1/21	Introduction		
9/8/21	What is personality and why does it exist?	Chapter 1	
9/13/21	Where does personality come from?	Chapter 3	Syllabus quiz due
9/15/21	Scientific study of personality	Chapter 3	Homework # 1 due (Big 5 personality test)

9/20/21	Traits	Chapter 4 Funder, D. C. (1991). Global traits: A neo-Allportian approach to personality. <i>Psychological Science</i> , 2, 31-39.	<u>Psychobiography assignment # 1 due</u>
9/22/21	Traits	Chapter 5	
9/27/21	The emotional core of personality	Chapter 5	
9/29/21	The emotional core of personality	Chapter 6	
10/4/21	Conscientiousness	Chapter 6	
10/6/21	The Big Five	Chapter 7	<u>Homework # 2: Big 5 items</u>
10/11/21	The Big Five	Chapter 7	
10/13/21	Exam 1		<u>Exam 1 (hosted on D2L)</u>
10/18/21	Why personality matters	Soto, C. J. (2019). How replicable are links between personality traits and consequential life outcomes? The Life Outcomes of Personality Replication Project. <i>Psychological Science</i> , 30(5), 711-727. Chapter 8	<u>Psychobiography assignment # 2 due</u>

10/20/21	Person-situation debate	Chapter 8	Homework # 3
10/27/21	Stability and how personality develops	Chapter 9; In class review of PB#3 form with an example	
11/1/21	Motivations	Chapter 10 Vergauwe, J., Wille, B., Hofmans, J., Kaiser, R. B., & De Fruyt, F. (2018). The double-edged sword of leader charisma: Understanding the curvilinear relationship between charismatic personality and leader effectiveness. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i> , 114(1), 110-130.	Psychobiography assignment #3 due
11/3/21	Motivations and life tasks		
11/8/21	Values		
11/10/21	Interests + discussion of psychobiography assignment # 3		Homework # 4
11/15/21	The life story	Chapter 11	
11/17/21	Generativity		
11/22/21	Exam 2	Exam 2	Exam 2 (hosted on D2L)

11/24/21	End of life issues		<u>Psychobiography assignment #4 due</u>
11/29/21	Personality processes	Caspi, A., & Moffitt, T. E. (1993). When do individual differences matter? A paradoxical theory of personality coherence. <i>Psychological Inquiry</i> , 4(4), 247-271.	
12/1/21	Personality processes		
12/6/21	Culture	Chapter 12 Ramírez-Esparza, N., Gosling, S. D., Benet-Martínez, V., Potter, J. P., & Pennebaker, J. W. (2006). Do bilinguals have two personalities? A special case of cultural frame switching. <i>Journal of Research in Personality</i> , 40(2), 99-120.	
12/8/21	Personality myths		
			<u>LAST day to complete research through SONA</u>
12/13/21	NO CLASS		<u>Psychobiography assignment # 5 due</u>
12/14/21 12:45-2:45	EXAM 3		<u>Exam 3 (hosted on D2L)</u>

Course requirements

Attendance and attention.

You should attend all class meetings for which it is possible for you to do so, and importantly, you should strive to minimize distractions to your learning and maximize your attention to the course. Do your best to refrain from engaging in other activities during class (i.e., checking your phone/the internet) and getting yourself into a mindset conducive to learning by listening actively, using smart note-taking practices, and asking questions and making comments in class.

If you are not feeling well, do not attend class in person. Lectures will be recorded and made available for you to review via D2L. These can be reviewed at any time if you missed a class or as you review material to complete assignments or prepare for exams. Note that these recordings are not to be shared except with other students enrolled in this course.

Study guides that review the main learning points from each lecture will be available to you in D2L. Consider having these on hand during class to assist you with deciding about how much note taking you need to do. It is likely that the most important points are written in the study guides and you can be more selective about the notes you take. I use the study guides to construct exam items, so these contain all the information on which you will be tested.

Attendance will be taken using Top Hat. You can record your attendance on a laptop or phone via text message. Because of the unusual circumstances of Fall 2021, attendance points will be curved considerably, and students can record their attendance whether they are in-person or viewing recordings later or via TopHat remote classroom. Attending lectures live or viewing remotely will be important for learning the material, but you will not be penalized attendance points for viewing remotely.

Completion of assigned readings.

The assigned readings are the primary material for stimulating class discussion and will also serve (along with lecture material) as the basis for exam questions. You are responsible for completing the material listed for each course meeting. These are primarily the chapters in the *Personality* text on TopHat, but also include a few pdfs of journal articles as well (available on D2L). You can find the textbook at the very top of the course material in the TopHat course site. There is a separate folder for each chapter. There are 3-6 study questions at the end of each chapter; complete these for credit towards [Quizzes and in-class activities](#).

Exams.

There will be 3 exams. Exams are NOT cumulative (although the last exam is given during our assigned final exam period, it is **not** cumulative). Each exam covers material presented after the prior exam. I will give you a list of the slide decks and chapters to be included on each exam and will conduct a brief review session in the class meeting prior to each exam.

Exams will be administered in the course D2L site, using the “quiz” function. All exams are “open book”, which means you can use any materials in your possession to answer questions, including your own notes, any material on the D2L course site, any material on TopHat. You may **NOT** collaborate or coordinate with other students on any exam. Exams will open at the beginning of the class time on the date for which they are scheduled and close 2 hours thereafter. Exams will be completed remotely, so there is no need for you to attend in person on those days. Because D2L is used for exams, you must have access to high-speed internet (such as that available on campus) to complete the exams.

Procedures and policies for proctoring of exams will be at the discretion of the instructor. These arrangements are subject to change in the event of unanticipated circumstances that necessitate a change to how exams are administered and/or proctored. If you have a need for an alternate day/time for any exam, please inform the instructor at least **one week prior** so specialized access can be set for you in D2L.

Quizzes and in-class activities.

I will periodically administer brief (1-3 item) quizzes in class, using the TopHat question function. These questions are basic “attention checks” that you are aware of the main points being discussed in class. You do not need to review the book to be prepared for these questions. Quizzes provide an opportunity for you to solidify your knowledge of the material. There is consistent evidence that repeated testing of material results in greater learning. Therefore, a subset of quiz items will also appear on your exams. Taking the quizzes gives you advance knowledge of some exam items. Quizzes will be administered using Top Hat; 50% of each quiz grade will be for participation (completing all items) and 50% for correct answers. Therefore, you will get partial credit just for answering the questions. There are also 3-5 questions at the end of each Tophat textbook chapter; complete these as well for credit in this grade component. Your final “Tophat grade” is a combination of % attendance and the scores for completion and accuracy of quiz items; I curve this final score so that students do not need to have perfect attendance and completion of quiz items to receive a perfect score for this TopHat grade item.

Syllabus quiz

I will administer a take-home quiz regarding the syllabus. The purpose of this quiz is to ensure that you are knowledgeable about the course requirements and have had the opportunity to think about them and plan for the workload ahead. The syllabus is long! This will help you key in on some important points on the syllabus early in the semester. This is to be submitted via the D2L quiz labeled “Syllabus quiz”. You should be able to get 100% on this assignment.

Homework and psychobiography assignments.

You will have several opportunities to use the information you learn in this course to demonstrate how personality science helps us to understand ourselves, others, and how people shape their worlds.

First, I will assign a handful of brief homework assignments during the semester. These are to be turned in via D2L on the due date(s) in the course calendar, submitted by 5 PM Eastern Standard Time. **Please follow all requirements regarding formatting and submission to the correct area on D2L. Under the content section on D2L, you will find information about each assignment that tells you how to do it and exactly where to submit it in D2L (either in an assignment dropbox, a quiz, or a survey on D2L).**

Second, you will apply the information you learn in this course to demonstrate how personality science can help us to understand the psychology of an individual person. To do so, you will read one of the biographies listed at the end of this syllabus and complete several short exercises applying personality theory and evidence to the biographical material. By “read”, I include all modalities of consuming the written work, including audible/audiobook versions; select whatever works best for you! The work will be distributed across the semester, and you will be given a grade for each element that you turn in. You will be provided with a rubric for each of these written assignments prior to their due date. These are available on D2L in the folder ‘psychobiography assignment rubrics’. Please read and follow these carefully to make sure you are responding to the aim of the assignment. I recommend that you begin reading your selected book early in the semester, as the more of the book you have read, the more prepared you will be to perform well on the assignments.

The **main goal** of these assignments is to **use the information you gained from the book, other course readings, and lecture materials** to inform your reading of the biography or autobiography you chose. You should clearly connect your analysis of the book to material from class and class readings and demonstrate your understanding both of the course material and how it applies to the subject of your biography/autobiography. That means you should refer to the personality concepts discussed in class and use these to organize your assignments. Your personal reaction to or analysis of the subject will be less useful in demonstrating your knowledge of personality science than your critical analysis, based on the material you learned in class.

A brief description of each assignment is below. **A full description of the requirements for each assignment is available on D2L – please review those carefully so that you understand what is required for each assignment.** Note that you can use a variety of formats to complete these assignments, including traditional writing/essay format, but also memes, videos, simulated podcast interviews, etc. You can use different formats for different assignments, selecting whichever suits you best for showing your knowledge in that assignment. Regardless of which format you choose, the key is to use that format to clearly present your ideas about the personality of your subject **in a way that makes obvious your understanding of the course material.** For any assignment, choose the format that allows you to connect most clearly and creatively with the content.

Psychobiography Assignment # 1: Selecting your biography

For this assignment, please report on which of the biographies listed at the end of the syllabus you have selected for your psychobiography project. One sentence will suffice, if you are submitting in a written format (see the psychobiography # 1 rubric on the content section of D2L). This will be submitted via D2L/Assessments/Quizzes/Psychobiography # 1.

Psychobiography Assignment # 2: Given an initial impression of your biographical subject

Describe your initial impressions of your biographical subject, based on what you have read to date. Any of the following are appropriate topics: personality-relevant behaviors, important life events, life circumstances that seem important to understanding his/her personality, and important change over their lifespan. Maximum length for written format = $\frac{3}{4}$ page, double-spaced. This is to be submitted to D2L/Assessments/Assignments/Psychobiography assignments 2 dropbox. A rubric for this assignment is available at D2L/content/Psychobiography assignment rubrics/psychobiography assignment #2_rubric.

Psychobiography Assignment # 3: Describe the basic personality trait structure of your subject

Please submit a description of your biographical subject's profile on the 5 traits that make up the Big Five/Five Factor model of personality (e.g., average, low, high). Provide a rationale/evidence from the biography for your estimate of their standing on each trait. There is a form to use to complete this assignment (available on D2L under 'psychobiography assignment rubrics'; you must use this format for the assignment, even if you are reporting the information in a non-written format). Maximum length for written format= 1.5 pages, double-spaced. There is a rubric and a **required form for submission** for this assignment, both available under D2L/Content/Psychobiography assignment rubrics. Submit your work for this assignment at D2L/Assessments/Assignments/Psychobiography assignments 3.

Psychobiography Assignment # 4: Describe the important motives, life tasks, and values of your subject

Please submit a description of your biographical subject's central motivations and values that are relevant to understanding his/her personality. There is a format to use for completing and submitting this assignment (available on D2L under 'psychobiography assignment rubrics'). Maximum length for written format = 1 page, double-spaced. There is a rubric and a **required form for submission** for this assignment available at D2L/Content/Psychobiography assignment rubric. Submit your form for this assignment at D2L/Assessments/Assignments/Psychobiography assignments 4.

Psychobiography Assignment # 5: A complete (all levels) description of the personality of your subject

Describe your analysis of your biographical subject's personality, including each 'level' of personality (traits, motivations/values, and narrative identity). Provide evidence from the book to defend your analysis. Describe how the subject 'operates' as a function of these personality levels, how their levels combine together to explain important parts of their life, and how their personality can help to understand how their life unfolded. For written format: minimum length = 3 double-spaced pages, maximum length = 5 double-spaced pages. A rubric is available at D2L/Content/Psychobiography assignment rubrics/Psychobiography # 5 rubric. Submit your work at: D2L/Assessments/Assignments/Psychobiography assignments 5.

Tips for success on the psychobiography assignments

Here are some common **errors** made by previous students that resulted in **lower grades** on this final psychobiography assignment. Do your best to avoid them. They include: (1) describing the person in ways not relevant to personality/including irrelevant information about the person that is not telling with respect to their personality or personality development; (2) relying on minor examples to characterize personality traits, rather than drawing on multiple examples across the person's behavior, choices, or life trajectory; (3) giving an "armchair psychoanalysis" of the subject (especially trying to explain why the person behaved the way they did as a function of their early home environment or how their parent(s) treated them), rather than the point of the assignment, which is to do a personality analysis using the concepts you learn in this class (4) only including an analysis of traits, and leaving out information about the other layers of personality (e.g., motives and narratives).

Participation in psychological research.

To provide you with firsthand experience with how psychological research is conducted, you will be required to participate in research being conducted in the Department of Psychology through the Human Subjects Participant Pool. Much of the literature on personality traits and processes is based on data collected using just these methods. Seeing "the other side" of research will give you a different perspective as you learn about the findings of research and how to critique its methods.

This assignment is worth 3% of your final grade. To receive full credit, you must complete 3 hours (i.e., 3 credits) of experiments through the SONA system. Sign up for these experiments early in the semester; the last day you can participate is **Friday, Dec 10, 2021**.

It is your responsibility to sign up, participate in the experiments, and to allocate your research credits to PSY236 using the SONA system. For any issues with HPR/SONA, please contact Audra Jeffrey at jeffre22@msu.edu.

Alternative to research participation: If you do not wish to participate in psychology experiments, you may obtain credit by writing a one-page paper for each point (i.e., 3 one-page papers for full credit). If you wish to pursue this option, you can find the prompts for these papers on D2L under the folder

‘alternatives to SONA’.

Honors option

For students in the Honors College, you may complete an honors option for this course. That entails writing a more detailed version of the final psychobiography assignment (for a written submission, minimum length = 9 double-spaced pages; maximum length = 15 double-spaced pages) that will be graded for achievement of honors by your ability to use the course material critically and the sophistication and clarity of the ideas presented. You can find more information at D2L/Content/Honors option.

To do the honors option, you must initiate an Honors Option Agreement Form, located on the Registrar’s website by selecting “Student-Instructor Forms”. I will approve the agreement and at the end of the semester, if you have satisfied the requirements for Honors, I will complete the approval. Please note that it takes some time for the final approval of honors options to route through the various MSU offices, so our completion of the honors option will not appear immediately after the semester end.

Grading

Exams: Total = 30%

Exam 1: 8%

Exam 2: 10%

Exam 3: 12%

Syllabus quiz: Total = 5%

Syllabus quiz = 5%

Attendance, in-class assignments & quizzes: Total = 7%

Homework assignments: Total = 17%

Participation in psychological research: Total = 3%

Psychobiography assignments: Total = 38%

1 = 2%

2 = 3%

3 = 6%

4 = 9%

5 = 18%

Grading Scale

90-100	4.0
85-89	3.5
80-84	3.0
75-79	2.5
70-74	2.0
65-69	1.5
60-64	1.0
<60	Fail

Disclaimer

Elements of this syllabus are subject to change per the discretion of the instructor. Any changes to this syllabus will be provided to the students by updating it here in the google document so that all changes are available to you in real time. You will be notified in class and via D2L if there are any changes so that you can visit this document to check them.

Professor-Student Check in Hours

Please do join me at check in hours for any needs you have related to class, including questions/elaborations, study issues, grading, other concerns. I look forward to seeing you and

helping you to make the most of your experience in the class. You can join during the scheduled times, or if these don't work for you, simply email me to set up a separate time. Not a frequent user of these check-in times? Watch this [video](#) for some encouragement!

How to join zoom office hours

Tuesday office hours - every week from 2:00 - 3:00

Link:

Catherine E Durbin is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: PSY 236 Tuesday office hours, 2:00 - 3:00

Time: Aug 16, 2021 02:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/94650352921>

Meeting ID: 946 5035 2921

Passcode: psy236

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,94650352921#,,,,*547453# US (New York)

+13017158592,,94650352921#,,,,*547453# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 946 5035 2921

Passcode: 547453

Find your local number: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/94650352921>

Thursday office hours - every week from 10:00 - 11:00

Link here:

Catherine E Durbin is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: PSY 236 Thurs office hours

Time: Sep 2, 2021 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Thu, until Dec 16, 2021, 16 occurrence(s)

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly:

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/94650352921>

KuCurjMjHt2TtxqBRowAAoqgXeJxmCFajadovRTsBAoBbC67Du9PHpdlPPTTh

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/96089496736>

Meeting ID: 960 8949 6736

Passcode: psy236

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,96089496736#,,,,*829563# US (New York)

+13017158592,,96089496736#,,,,*829563# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 960 8949 6736

Passcode: 829563

Find your local number: <https://msu.zoom.us/u/almKfKyZN>

Joining zoom meetings for class

Join PSY via Zoom for Wed classes:

Catherine E Durbin is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: PSY 236 on Wednesdays

Time: Sep 1, 2021 12:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Wed, until Dec 8, 2021, 15 occurrence(s)

Sep 1, 2021 12:30 PM

Sep 8, 2021 12:30 PM

Sep 15, 2021 12:30 PM

Sep 22, 2021 12:30 PM

Sep 29, 2021 12:30 PM

Oct 6, 2021 12:30 PM

Oct 13, 2021 12:30 PM

Oct 20, 2021 12:30 PM

Oct 27, 2021 12:30 PM

Nov 3, 2021 12:30 PM

Nov 10, 2021 12:30 PM

Nov 17, 2021 12:30 PM

Nov 24, 2021 12:30 PM

Dec 1, 2021 12:30 PM

Dec 8, 2021 12:30 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly:

<https://msu.zoom.us/meeting/tJwufu2grDgtEtwvgZLexRZPNVxxiB3X59jZ/ics?icsToken=98tyKuCgrTIuEtaWtxGPRow-A4r4LPzzpnZaj7dKihjfLyVLUDnGGNRaKrtDQ-CF>

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/98394823788>

Meeting ID: 983 9482 3788

Passcode: psy236

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,98394823788#,,,,*581844# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,98394823788#,,,,*581844# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 983 9482 3788

Passcode: 581844

Find your local number: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/98394823788>

Join PSY 236 on Mondays via Zoom

Time: Sep 6, 2021 12:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Mon, until Dec 6, 2021, 14 occurrence(s)

Sep 6, 2021 12:30 PM

Sep 13, 2021 12:30 PM

Sep 20, 2021 12:30 PM

Sep 27, 2021 12:30 PM

Oct 4, 2021 12:30 PM

Oct 11, 2021 12:30 PM

Oct 18, 2021 12:30 PM

Oct 25, 2021 12:30 PM

Nov 1, 2021 12:30 PM

Nov 8, 2021 12:30 PM

Nov 15, 2021 12:30 PM

Nov 22, 2021 12:30 PM

Nov 29, 2021 12:30 PM

Dec 6, 2021 12:30 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly:

https://msu.zoom.us/meeting/tJMsfuigrjIqE9L5zzFZPOhrto8zADGiezaa/ics?icsToken=98tyKuCvrzIrEtScsBCBRowEBYr4d_zziFhfj_pxyQX_JRpjTQvkIrIaKJNbN9HV

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/97191809096>

Meeting ID: 971 9180 9096

Passcode: psy236

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,97191809096#,,,,*206751# US (Chicago)

+16468769923,,97191809096#,,,,*206751# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 971 9180 9096

Passcode: 206751

Find your local number: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/ab3RtMkM2g>

Top Hat

The deadline for signing up for Top Hat is **9/8/21**. On that date, we will begin to use Top Hat for formal evaluation of attendance and for in-class activities and quizzes. If you do not have Top Hat by that date, you will receive grades of 0 for these activities and quizzes and will not have your attendance registered. Please note that the course textbook is also offered only via Top Hat (through Top Hat textbook). See below for all technical details on accessing and signing up for Top Hat.

Top Hat Pro and Textbook

*We will be using **Top Hat Pro** (www.tophat.com) for class participation. You will be able to submit answers to in-class questions using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops, or through text message. We will be using Top Hat Pro (www.tophat.com) to access the digital interactive textbook, **Personality**, that we will be using in this class.*

Subscriptions to purchase: Top Hat Pro

For instructions on how to create a Top Hat account and enroll in our Top Hat Pro course, please refer to one of the following resources:

- *1) The invitation sent to your school email address OR*
- *2) Consult Top Hat's Getting Started Guide OR*
- *3) Get started with this 2 minute video walkthrough*

If you already have a Top Hat account, go to your account to be taken directly to our course. If you are new to Top Hat, follow the link in the email invitation you received or

- *Go to <https://app.tophat.com/register/student>*
- *Click "Search by school" and input the name of our school*
- *Search for our course with the following join code: **461867***

If a paid subscription is required, it will be listed at checkout when you enroll in our Top Hat Pro course.

*The cost of the textbook will be applied at checkout when enrolling in our Top Hat course. Bear in mind that textbook material will be made available in our course throughout the semester once your professor assigns it to the class, **so do not panic if you do not see any content in the course upon entry.***

*Should you require assistance with Top Hat at any time please contact their Support Team directly by way of email (support@tophat.com), the in-app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491. *Specific user information may be required by their technical support team when troubleshooting issues.**

Policies

Policies regarding attendance

*It will be difficult to do well in this course if you do not regularly attend class or *review the uploaded course lecture recordings.**

Policies regarding missed or late quizzes, exams, and assignments

Granting of make-up exams is solely at the discretion of the instructor. Please reach out ASAP if you have issues so that alternative plans can be explored. **Late assignments pose challenges for grading, and falling behind on assignments can make it difficult to do well in the course. Every assignment submitted via D2L is due on 5 PM of the due date. Please upload early in case you have difficulty with D2L so that you have time to resolve the problem or to inform me of any technology issues you are having that delay your submission. If you need an extension on an assignment, please reach out ASAP to discuss options.** I will not assess any late fees for assignments, so there is no penalty for late submissions. However, late assignments will be graded when I am able to do so and may have a longer turnaround time for grading.

Policies regarding grading

If you believe there is an error or issue with your grade on any assignment in this course, you must raise this issue with the instructor **within 7 days of the date on which you received the grade** (defined as the date on which the grade is posted on D2L). After that point, I will not consider any requests for grade changes.

Policies regarding recording or dissemination of course material

As members of a learning community, students are expected to respect the intellectual property of course instructors. All course materials (slides, lectures, homework assignments, rubrics, quizzes, and lectures) presented to students are the copyrighted property of the course instructor and are subject to the following conditions of use:

1. *Course meetings will be recorded.* Students may use the recordings only for their own course-related purposes.
2. Students may share their recordings with other students enrolled in the class, provided that they also use the recordings only for their own course-related purposes.
3. Students may **not** post the recordings or any other course materials online or distribute them via any emails to anyone not enrolled in the class without the advance written permission of the course instructor, and if applicable, any students whose voice or image is included in the recordings.
4. Any student violating the conditions described above may face academic disciplinary sanctions, including receiving a penalty grade in the course.

Policies regarding academic integrity

Article 2.3.3 of the Academic Freedom Report states that “The student shares with the faculty

the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards”. In addition, the Department of Psychology adheres to the policies on academic honesty as specified in General Student Regulations 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades; the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations. (See Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide and/or the MSU website: www.msu.edu).

You are expected to adhere to the Spartan Code of Honor, which is as follows: ***“As a Spartan, I will strive to uphold values of the highest ethical standard. I will practice honesty in my work, foster honesty in my peers, and take pride in knowing that honor is worth more than grades. I will carry these values beyond my time as a student at MichiganState University, continuing the endeavor to build personal integrity in all that I do.”***

Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, assignments, quizzes, tests, and exams, without assistance from any source. You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. Also, you are not authorized to use the <http://www.allmsu.com> web site to complete any course work in PSY 236. Students who violate MSU rules may receive a penalty grade, including – but not limited to – a failing grade on the assignment or in the course. Contact your instructor if you are unsure about the appropriateness of your coursework. (See also <http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/honestylinks.html>).

Policies regarding extra credit

There is no extra credit option for this class.

Policies related to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at www.rcpd.msu.edu. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a verified individual services accommodation (“VISA”) form.

Please present your VISA form to the instructor at the start of the term and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date (test, project, etc.). Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible, but cannot be guaranteed.

If you require testing accommodations (additional time, less disruptive room, etc.) you must contact the instructor and present your VISA ***at least two weeks before the exam date*** to schedule an alternative exam.

Approved books for the psychobiography assignments (select one):

Artists

Becoming Richard Pryor. (2014). By Scott Saul. Harper Collins: NY.

- Page Length: 608
- Paperback: Amazon: \$2.48 - \$30 ; Walmart.com: \$7.09
- Ebook: Vitalsource.com: \$13.99
- Kindle App: Amazon: \$13.99

Johnny Cash: The Life. (2013). By Robert Hilburn. Little, Brown, and Company: NY.

- Page Length: 644
- MSU Library: Yes
- Paperback: Amazon: \$2.47 - \$35
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial
- Ebook: Barnes & Nobles: \$13.99
- Kindle App: Amazon: \$11.99

Dust Tracks on a Road: An Autobiography. (1942). By Zora Neale Hurston. Harper Collins: NY.

- Page Length: 348
- MSU Library: Yes
- Paperback: Walmart.com: \$7.09; Amazon: \$13.98 - \$28
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial
- Ebook: Barnes & Nobles: \$5.99
- Kindle App: Amazon: \$9.99

Life. (2010). By Keith Richards. Little, Brown, & Company: NY.

- Page Length: 564
- Paperback: Amazon: \$3.39 - \$29 ; Ebay: \$5.99
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial
- Ebook: Barnes & Nobles: \$11.99
- Kindle App: Amazon: \$2.99

The Kid Stays in the Picture: A Notorious Life. (1994). By Robert Evans. Hyperion: NY.

- Page Length: 412
- Paperback: Amazon: \$3.87 - 36 ; Ebay: \$9.99
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial
- Kindle App: Amazon: \$11.99

Naked at the Feast: A Biography of Josephine Baker. (1996). By Lynn Haney. Robson: NY.

- Page Length: 232
- MSU Library: Yes
- Paperback: Abebooks.com: \$7.09

The One: The Life and Music of James Brown. By R.J. Smith. Gotham: NY.

- Page Length: 455
- MSU Library: Yes
- Paperback: Amazon \$1.97 - \$61 ; Ebay \$4.49
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial
- Ebook: Google Play \$7.99
- Kindle App: \$7.00

Little Failure: A Memoir. (2014). By Gary Shteyngart.

- Page Length: 349
- MSU Library: Yes
- Paperback: Amazon: \$1.13 - \$24 ; Ebay: \$6.75
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial ; Google Play: \$4.87
- Ebook: Google Play: \$11.99
- Kindle App: Amazon \$11.99

Open Book. (2020). By Jessica Simpson, with Kevin Carr O'Leary. Dey St: NY.

- Page Length: 408
- MSU Library: Yes
- Hardcover: Amazon: \$1.99 - \$30 ; Poshmark \$9.00
- Paperback: Walmart.com: \$6.75 ; Thriftbooks.com: \$5.79
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial
- Ebook: Barnes & Nobles: \$3.99
- Kindle App: Amazon: \$11.99

Robin. (2018). By Dave Itzkoff. Holt & Co: New York.

- Page Length: 529
- MSU Library: Yes
- Hardcover: Amazon: \$1.88 - \$38
- Paperback: Ebay: \$3.99 ; Thriftbooks.com: \$6.09
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial
- Ebook: Barnes & Nobles: \$11.06
- Kindle App: Amazon: \$11.99

Born Standing Up: A Comic's Life. (2007). By Steve Martin. Simon & Schuster: NY.

- Page Length: 209
- MSU Library: Yes
- Hardcover: Amazon \$1.25 - \$32 ; Ebay: \$3.00
- Paperback: Walmart: \$4.04 ; Thriftbooks.com: \$4.49
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial

- **Ebook: Google Play: \$13.95**
- **Kindle App: Amazon: \$13.99**

Hold Still. (2016). By Sally Mann. Bayback: NY.

- **Page Length: 482**
- **MSU Library: Yes**
- **Paperback: Amazon: \$3.03 - \$29 ; Thriftbooks.com: \$5.89**
- **Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial**
- **Ebook: Barnes & Nobles: \$12.99**
- **Kindle App: Amazon: \$12.99**

The Chiffon Trenches: A Memoir. (2020). By Andre Leon Talley. Ballantine: NY.

- **Page Length: 304**
- **Hardcover: Abebooks.com: \$5.00 - \$20 ; Ebay: \$5.00**
- **Paperback: Amazon; \$8.99 - \$29**
- **Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial**
- **Ebook: Ebooks.com: \$12.99**
- **Kindle App: Amazon: \$12.99**

Be My Baby: How I Survived Mascara, Miniskirts, and Madness or My Life as a Fabulous Ronette. (1990). By Ronnie Spector, with Vince Waldron. Words in Edgewise Books: Los Angeles.

- **Page Length: 358**
- **Hardcover: Amazon: \$9.71 - \$97 ; Thriftbooks.com: \$12.69**
- **Paperback: Thriftbooks.com \$7.09 ;**
- **Ebook: Google Play; \$14.99**

True Believer: The Rise and Fall of Stan Lee. (2021). By Abraham Reisman. Crown: NY.

- **Page Length: 394**
- **MSU Library: Yes**
- **Hardcover: Amazon: \$10.49 - \$48 ; Abebooks.com: \$11.19**
- **Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial**
- **Ebook: Vitalsource.com: \$13.99**
- **Kindle App: Amazon: \$13.99**

How to American: An Immigrant's Guide to Disappointing Your Parents. (2020). By Jimmy O. Yang. De Capo Press.

- **Page Length: 240**
- **Hardcover: Amazon: \$1.65 - \$30 ; SecondSale.com: \$3.88**
- **Paperback: Abebooks.com: \$2.19**
- **Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial**
- **Ebook: Vitalsource.com: \$10.99**
- **Kindle App: Amazon: \$10.99**

Leaders & Innovators

Catherine the Great: Portrait of a Woman. (2012). By Robert K. Massie. Random House: NY.

- Page Length: 672
- MSU Library: Checked out
- Paperback: Amazon: \$1.55-9.60
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial
- Ebook: Kobo: [\\$9.99](#)
- Kindle App: Amazon: \$9.99

The Autobiography of Malcolm X: As Told to Alex Haley. (1964). By Malcolm X and Alex Haley. Ballantine: NY.

- Page Length: 460
- Paperback: Michigan State Official Bookstore: \$8.00; Amazon: 6.99; Thriftbooks: \$5.79
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial
- Ebook: Ebooks.com: \$6.99
- Kindle App: Amazon: \$6.99

The Motorcycle Diaries: Notes on a Latin American Journey. (2003). Ocean Press.

- Page Length: 192
- MSU Library: Checked out and on ebook
- Paperback: Thriftbooks: \$5.59; Amazon: \$12.01-15.95
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial
- Ebook: Ebooks.com: \$11.99
- Kindle App: Amazon: \$11.99

The Fish that Ate the Whale: The Life and Times of America's Banana King. (2013). By Rich Cohen. Picador: NY.

- Page Length: 288
- MSU Library: Yes
- Paperback: Amazon: \$8.99-15.87
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial
- Ebook: Ebooks.com: \$11.99
- Kindle App: Amazon: \$11.99

Phyllis Schlafly and Grassroots Conservatism: A Woman's Crusade. (2008). By Donald T. Critchlow. Princeton University Press: NJ.

- Page Length: 448
- MSU Library: Yes
- Paperback: Thriftbooks: \$7.59; Amazon: \$22.96-31.94
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial
- Ebook: Ebooks.com: \$34.13
- Kindle App: Amazon: \$28.49

Eisenhower in War and Peace. (2013). By Jean Edward Smith. Random House: NY.

On the Move. (2015). By Oliver Sacks. Knopf.

-Page Length: 950

-MSU Library: Checked Out

-Paperback: Amazon: \$4.00 - \$31 ; Ebay: \$7.00

- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial

- Ebook: Google Play: \$8.99

- Kindle App: Amazon: \$8.99

Barbara Jordan: American Hero. (1998). By Mary Beth Rogers. Bantam: NY.

-Page Length: 414

-MSU Library: Yes

-Paperback: Amazon: \$1.33 - \$21 ; Thriftbooks.com: \$3.99

- Ebook: Google Play: \$6.99

- Kindle App: Amazon: \$6.99

Grant. (2017). By Ron Chernow. Penguin: NY.

-Page Length: 1,104

-Hardcover: Amazon: \$2.21 - \$51 ; Ebay: \$5.57

- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial

- Ebook: Barnes & Nobles: \$16.99

- Kindle App: Amazon: \$16.99

Unbought and Unbossed: Expanded 40th Anniversary Edition. (2010). By Shirley Chisholm. Take Root Media: Boston.

-Page Length: 200

-Paperback: Amazon: \$6.83 - \$36 ; Abebooks.com: \$4.91 ; Albris.com: \$5.91

- Kindle App: Amazon: \$6.99

Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage. (1959). By Alfred Lansing. Basic: NY.

-Page Length: 282

-MSU Library: Yes

-Hardcover: Amazon: \$5.57 - \$69 ; Thriftbooks.com: \$4.19

- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial

- Kindle App: Amazon: \$13.99

Richard Nixon: The Life. (2017). By John Farrell. Doubleday: NY.

-Page Length: 737

-MSU Library: Yes

-Hardcover: Amazon: \$3.98 - \$28 ; Albris.com: \$3.97

-Paperback: Amazon: \$9.91 - \$31

- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial

- Ebook: Google Play: \$14.99

- Kindle App: Amazon: \$14.99

Tomorrow Will Be Different: Love, Loss, and the Fight for Trans Equality. (2018). By Sarah

McBride. Penguin: NY.

- Page Length:** 273
- MSU Library:** Yes
- Hardcover:** Ebay: \$2.02 ; Amazon: \$7.16 - \$62
- **Audiobook:** Free w/ Audible Trial
- **Ebook:** Google Play: \$14.95
- **Kindle App:** Amazon; \$13.99

The Mayor of Castro Street: The Life and Times of Harvey Milk. (1982). By Randy Shilts. St.Martins: NY.

- Page Length:** 388
- MSU Library:** Yes
- Hardcover:** Amazon: \$11.37 - \$21
- Paperback:** SecondSale.com: \$3.88 ; Thriftbooks.com: \$3.99
- **Audiobook:** Free w/ Audible Trial
- **Kindle App:** Amazon: \$12.99

Being Heumann: An Unrepentant Memoir of a Disability Rights Activist. (2020). By Judith Heumann. Beacon Press: NY.

- Page Length:** 218
- MSU Library:** Yes
- Paperback:** Amazon; \$11.55 - \$24 ; Ebay: \$12.00
- **Audiobook:** Free w/ Audible Trial
- **Ebook:** Google Play: \$12.99
- **Kindle App:** Amazon: \$12.99

W.E.B. DuBois: A Biography 1868-1963. (2009). By David Levering Lewis. Fenn & Company: NY.

- Page Length:** 912
- Paperback:** Amazon: \$8.74 - \$43 ; Bookoutlet.com: \$12.69
- **Ebook:** Google Play: \$24.99
- **Kindle App:** Amazon: \$24.99

The People's Tycoon: Henry Ford and the American Century. (2005). By Steven Watts. Random House: NY.

- Page Length:** 614
- MSU Library:** Yes
- Paperback:** Amazon: \$7.88 - \$30 ; SecondSale.com: \$5.58
- **Audiobook:** Free w/ Audible Trial
- **Ebook:** Google Play: \$12.99
- **Kindle App:** Amazon: \$12.99

Athletes

Clemente: The Passion and Grace of Baseball's Last Hero. (2007). By David Maraniss. Simon & Schuster: NY

- **Page Length:** 416
- **MSU Library:** Yes
- **Paperback:** SecondSale: [\\$4.87](#); Abebooks: [\\$6.48](#)
- **Audiobook:** Free w/ Audible Trial
- **Ebook:** VitalSource: \$14.99

Pistol: The Life of Pete Maravich. (2008). By Mark Kriegel. Free Press: NY.

- **Page Length:** 438
- **MSU Library:** Yes
- **Paperback:** SecondSale: [\\$4.87](#); Abebooks: [\\$5.44](#)
- **Audiobook:** Free w/ Audible Trial
- **Ebook:** VitalSource: \$13.99
- **Kindle App:** Amazon: \$13.99-18.99

Hurricane: The Miraculous Journey of Ruben Carter, Fighter. (2000). By James S. Hirsch. Fourth Estate: NY.

- **Page Length:** 638
- **Paperback:** Thiftbooks: \$4.69
- **Audiobook:** Free w/ Audible Trial
- **Ebook:** Kobo: [\\$9.99](#)
- **Kindle App:** Amazon: \$9.99

Wonder Girl: The Magnificent Sporting Life of Babe Didrikson Zaharias. (2011). By Don Van Natta, Jr. Little, Brown, and Company: NY.

- **Page Length:** 351
- **Paperback:** SecondSale: [\\$4.87](#); Abebooks: [\\$6.98-21.78](#); Amazon: \$4.50
- **Audiobook:** Free w/ Audible Trial
- **Ebook:** VitalSource: \$2.99
- **Kindle App:** Amazon: \$2.99

Have a Nice Day: A Tale of Blood and Sweatsocks. (2000). By Mick Foley. Harper: NY.

- **Page Length:** 768
- **Paperback:** SecondSale: [\\$10.05](#); Abebooks: [\\$9.15](#); Amazon: \$1.78-10.09
- **Audiobook:** Free w/ Audible Trial

Bruce Lee: A Life. (2018). By Matthew Polly. Simon & Schuster: NY.

- **Page Length:** 656
- **MSU Library:** Yes
- **Paperback:** Thriftbooks: \$12.89; Amazon: \$15.23-16
- **Audiobook:** Free w/ Audible Trial
- **Ebook:** VitalSource: \$12.99
- **Kindle App:** Amazon: \$12.99

The Big Fella: Babe Ruth and the World He Created. (2018). By Jane Leavy. Harper Collins: NY.

- Page Length: 656
- MSU Library: Checked out
- Paperback: SecondSale: \$3.88; Thriftbooks: \$4.59; Amazon: \$10
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial
- Kindle App: Amazon: \$12.99

One Tough Out: Fighting Off Life's Curveballs. By Rod Carew (with Jaime Aron). (2021). Triumph Books.

- Page Length: 352
- Paperback: Amazon: \$5.21-14.37
- Kindle App: Amazon: \$13.99

'Regular Folks'

H is for Hawk. (2015). By Helen Macdonald. Grove Press: NY.

- Page Length: 320
- Paperback: Walmart.com: \$3.48 ; Amazon: \$0.94 - \$20
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial
- Ebook: Barnes & Nobles: \$12.49
- Kindle App: Amazon: \$4.96

The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace: A Brilliant Young Man Who Left Newark for the Ivy League. (2014). By Jeff Hobbs. Scribner: NY.

- Page Length: 432
- MSU Library: Yes
- Hardcover: Amazon: \$1.29 - \$34 ; Thriftbooks.com \$4.19
- Paperback: Walmart.com: \$4.46 ; Poshmark.com: \$5.00
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial
- Ebook: Google Play: \$13.99
- Kindle App: Amazon: \$13.99

A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius. (2001). By Dave Eggers. Random House: NY.

- Page Length: 375
- MSU Library: Yes
- Paperback: Amazon: \$0.35 - \$29 ; Walmart.com: \$4.77
- Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial
- Ebook: Google Play: \$11.99
- Kindle App: \$11.99

American Sniper: The Autobiography of the Most Lethal Sniper in U.S. Military History. (2012). By Chris Kyle, with Scott McEwen and Jim DeFelice. Harper Collins: NY.

- Page Length: 464
- MSU Library: Checked Out
- Hardcover: Walmart.com: \$3.86

- Paperback:** Amazon: \$0.35 - \$20 ; Ebay: \$3.52
- **Audiobook:** Free w/ Audible Trial
- **Ebook:** Google Play: \$8.89
- **Kindle App:** Amazon: \$9.99

The Complete Persepolis. (2007). By Marjane Satrapi. Pantheon: NY.

- Page Length:** 341
- MSU Library:** Yes
- Paperback:** Amazon: \$3.41 - \$34 ; Ebay: \$7.57

In the Darkroom. (2016). By Susan Faludi. Metropolitan/Holt: NY.

- Page Length:** 417
- MSU Library:** Yes
- Hardcover:** Ebay: \$1.99 ; Amazon: \$1.40 - \$16.32
- Paperback:** Amazon: \$1.55 - \$29 ; Thriftbooks.com: \$3.99
- **Audiobook:** Free w/ Audible Trial
- **Ebook:** Google Play: \$12.99
- **Kindle App:** Amazon: \$12.99

Jarhead: A Marine's Chronicle of the Gulf War and Other Battles. (2003). By Anthony Swofford. Scribner: NY.

- Page Length:** 272
- MSU Library:** Checked Out
- Paperback:** Amazon: \$1.14 - \$24 ; Ebay: \$3.00 ; Thriftbooks.com: \$4.69
- **Audiobook:** Free w/ Audible Trial
- **Ebook:** Barnes & Nobles: \$12.99
- **Kindle App:** Amazon: \$12.99

Fierce Attachments. (1987). By Vivian Gornik. FSG:NY.

- Page Length:** 203
- MSU Library:** Checked Out
- Paperback:** Amazon: \$3.39 - \$27 ; Ebay: \$3.18
- **Ebook:** Google Play: \$9.99
- **Kindle App:** Amazon: \$9.99

The Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a girlhood among ghosts. (1975). By Maxine Hong Kingston. Vintage: NY.

- Page Length:** 209
- MSU Library:** Yes
- Paperback:** SecondSale.com: \$3.88 ; Ebay: \$5.99
- **Audiobook:** Free w/ Audible Trial
- **Ebook:** Google Play: \$11.99
- **Kindle App:** Amazon: \$11.99

A Tale of Love and Darkness. (2003). By Amos Oz. Harcourt: My.

- Page Length:** 517

- MSU Library: Yes**
- Paperback: Amazon: \$1.59 - \$28 ; Abebooks.com: \$3.80**
- **Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial**
- **Ebook: Google Play: \$9.99**
- **Kindle App: Amazon: \$9.99**

Conundrum. (1974). By Jan Morris. NY Review of Books: NY.

- Page Length: 174**
- MSU Library: Yes**
- **Hardcover: Ebay: \$9.99 ; Amazon: \$9.50**
- Paperback: Amazon: \$5.16 - \$24 ; Abebooks.com: \$3.04**
- **Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial**
- **Kindle App: Amazon: \$9.99**

Somebody's Daughter: A Memoir. (2021). By Ashley Ford. Flatiron: NY.

- Page Length: 212**
- MSU Library: Checked Out**
- Hardcover: Amazon: \$11.25 - \$35 ; SecondSale.com: \$14.79**
- **Audiobook: Free w/ Audible Trial**
- **Ebook: Google Play: \$14.99**
- **Kindle App: Amazon: \$14.99**

Participation in Psychological Research: Information for Students

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

As part of your psychology course, you are encouraged to participate in research projects conducted or supervised by the faculty of the department. The purpose of such participation is to give you some direct experience with real experiments and to give you a better idea of how the work of psychology is actually carried out. Participation is a course requirement for all sections of PSY 101.

SPECIAL NOTE: Students under 18 years of age may not participate in any HPR/SON experiments. Special options have been created for students under 18 to meet the 7 hours of participation requirement for PSY101 courses. Please contact Audra Jeffrey at jeffre22@msu.edu.

Steps in Research Participation: Registering as a Participating Student.

The purpose of this handout is to go over some of the things you will need to know before participating in psychological research. The first step is registering. This, like nearly all your scheduling activities, is handled through the Internet:

<https://msu-psychology.sona-systems.com> . **If you have used SONA in a previous psychology class you do not need to set up another account but you do need to make sure you have the correct class listed for the current semester.**

Among other things you will be asked to select the course and section number to which you wish to have your participation hours credited. It is **critical** that you select the correct course and section number. If you select an incorrect course or section, the participation hours that you earn will not be relayed to the proper instructor and will not be counted in calculating your course grade. **If you are enrolled in more than one participating class you will disperse the participation hours you earn between the classes. Hours cannot be shared between participating classes nor can they carry over to the following semester. For example: You earn 10 Participation hours. You need 7 hours for one course and 5 hours for your second course. You can distribute the earned hours between the two classes and then continue to participate in the HPR/SONA research until you meet your requirement or extra participation hours.**

Signing-up for research: You can sign up for experiments 24-hours a day on the Web site. For more information, please consult the document posted on D2L.

Canceling appointments: Experimenters have invested a great deal of time and money in preparing an experiment. This goes to waste if you fail to keep your appointment. In such cases, you can cancel your appointment 24 hours prior to the start time. If it is after the 24 hour deadline you need to e-mail the HPR student coordinator, Audra Jeffrey at jeffre22@msu.edu.

Reporting for a research appointment: Please give yourself enough time to get to the building location and to find the appropriate room for the experiment. **Arriving 10 minutes before the experiment is to begin is suggested.** If you are late, you could find the experiment in progress and the door locked. On rare occasions, an experimenter may not make his/her appointment with you because of unusual circumstances (e.g., a car breakdown, a personal emergency). If this happens contact Audra Jeffrey at jeffre22@msu.edu to report it.

Rights of Students Participating in Psychology Research

Participation must be voluntary/optional activities. First, it is Department, University, and Federal policy that no student be compelled in any way to participate in research. If you participate in research, it must be done voluntarily. Therefore, even in classes where research participation is required, students must be offered one or more alternative activities to meet their requirement. If you want to avail yourself of such an alternative activity, you may get information from your professor. Note that on rare occasions there are more people interested in participating in experiments than there are openings in the experiments. If this occurs this semester, additional alternative activities will be provided later in the semester.

Participation should be educational. Second, participating in research should be a learning experience for you. You have a right to obtain information about the experiments in which you serve as a participant. You are entitled to have your questions about the experiment

answered. Also, at least five minutes of every experimental session must be devoted to teaching you something about the experiment. You are entitled to receive a written summary of the experiment, including the name and phone number of the person in charge of the experiment, whom you may contact if you have additional questions.

The right to discontinue participation: Third, the Department of Psychology is highly concerned that no study be conducted that would in any way be harmful to you. Even so, it is possible that in rare cases you will feel uncomfortable about participating in a study for which you have volunteered. Just remember, you always have the right to leave any experiment. You don't have to explain or justify why you want to leave, and you can never be penalized for leaving.

The right to receive participation hours: Finally, if you complete a study, you have a right to receive the participation hours you've earned. For example: Even if an experimenter has an equipment breakdown, you're still entitled to receive credit for the **time** you've spent in the study. Participation hours are not automatically awarded and it may take researchers a few days to record attendance. The HPR does not penalize participants for missing studies but we do appreciate being notified if you cannot make your session.

Reporting problems: If you ever encounter some problem or feel that your rights have been violated, we want to know about it. Problems you have will be handled by Audra Jeffrey, the HPR student coordinator, email address jeffre22@msu.edu. They will be investigated and appropriate action will be taken. You will need to know the name of the experiment and the date/time you signed up for.

Conclusions: We want to emphasize that negative experiences are very rare; most students who serve as participants in research at Michigan State find their participation interesting and enjoyable. When you serve as a participant in psychological research you're benefiting personally by learning more about what the science of psychology is really about, but you're also benefiting many others. Others like the psychologists who are working to get a better understanding of interesting and important behavioral questions. Others like people who will benefit when that knowledge is ultimately applied to everyday human problems like loneliness, depression, divorce, and self-development. And others like future generations of students. Who knows? Perhaps the research you participate in this semester will be featured in future psychology textbooks, just as some of the experiments you'll study this semester had their data supplied by previous generations of MSU students. We hope and expect that you'll put as much in and get as much out of research participation as they did.