# PSY395: Research Design & Measurement in Psychological Research

Fall 2025**Syllabus**

**Dr. Gwendolyn Seidman**

Department of Psychology

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## Part 1: Course Information

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Meeting: Wilson C102, Tuesday/Thursday 4:10 – 5:00 PM

Lab Meetings: Brody 143, Section times vary, see below

### Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Gwendolyn Seidman

Office: Psychology Building Room 252B

Office Hours: Monday 3:00 – 4:00 PM, Wednesday 2:00 – 3:00 PM

Appointments Outside Office Hours: Please email me to make an appointment

**Drop in during my office hours to talk about research or graduate school in psychology!**

Office Telephone: **517-353-3621**

E-mail: [seidman9@msu.edu](mailto:seidman9@msu.edu)

Email is the best way to reach me: Put PSY395 in the subject line to make sure I see your email.

Website: <https://psychology.msu.edu/directory/gwendolyn-seidman.html>

### Graduate Teaching Assistants/Lab Instructors

* See the table on the next page for contact information and office hours.
* If you have **questions about your lab or material covered in lab,** email **your TA**.
* **If you miss lab, it is extremely important that you meet with your TA** to find out what you missed because labs are where you learn about and work on your assignments.
  + You should attend your TA’s office hours if you are available them. If you cannot attend your TA’s office hours, email them.

### Undergraduate Assistant

Name: **Marin Richards**

Email: [rich1271@msu.edu](mailto:rich1271@msu.edu)

Office hours: **Wednesday 9:00 – 10:00 AM, Thursday 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM on zoom at:** <https://msu.zoom.us/j/6252737377> (passcode: 933200)

**The Undergraduate TA is a former 395 student. If you have a question about material taught in lecture, she is the person to meet with.**

**When emailing your instructor or any of the course assistants, write PSY 395 in the subject line to make sure we see your email, and that it doesn’t end up going to a junk folder!**

### D2L and E-mail

* Many course materials will be posted on D2L and all assignments will be submitted via D2L.
* Course materials, including lab materials will be posted on the main lecture D2L site. The lab D2L site may be used by your TA for announcements or other material specific to your section.
* Check D2L for course announcements and reminders regularly.
* Use your MSU email to communicate with your instructor/TA and make sure to check your MSU email account regularly.

### Lab Information and Graduate TA Contact Information

***Labs begin meeting during Week 3 (9/8 to 9/12)***

* There are **no in-person labs on Weeks 1, 2, 9, and 14 (Thanksgiving)**. In **weeks 2 and 9** you will be assigned **activities to complete on your own**. Further information will be given in class.
* You must attend the lab section for which you are officially registered.

| **Section** | **Day** | **Time/Location** | **TA Info** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 001 | Monday | 10:20a-12:10p  Brody 143 | **Name:** Kenya Mulwa  **Email:**  [mulwaken@msu.edu](mailto:mulwaken@msu.edu)  **Drop-in Hour:** Mondays 12:30 – 1:30 PM  **Location**: Psychology Building Room 244B |
| 002 | Monday | 4:10p-6:00p  Brody 143 | **Name:** Jordan McDonald  **Email:** [mcdon709@msu.edu](mailto:mcdon709@msu.edu)  **Drop-in Hour:** Tuesdays 1:00 – 2:00 PM  **Location**: Psychology Building Room 213 |
| 003 | Wednesday | 12:40p-2:30p  Brody 143 | **Name:** Luciano Voutour  **Email:** [voutourl@msu.edu](mailto:voutourl@msu.edu)  **Drop-in Hour:** Mondays 3:00 – 4:00 PM  **Location**: zoom <https://msu.zoom.us/j/3890665705> |
| 004 | Tuesday | 10:20a-12:10p  Brody 143 | **Name:** Kenya Mulwa  **Email:**  [mulwaken@msu.edu](mailto:mulwaken@msu.edu)  **Drop-in Hour:** Mondays 12:30 – 1:30 PM  **Location**: Psychology Building Room 244B |
| 005 | Thursday | 10:20a-12:10p  Brody 143 | **Name:** Joie Magalona  **Email:** [magalona@msu.edu](mailto:magalona@msu.edu)  **Drop-in Hour:** Tuesdays 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM  **Location**: Psychology Building Room 302 |
| 006 | Thursday | 12:40a-2:30p  Brody 143 | **Name:** Joie Magalona  **Email:** [magalona@msu.edu](mailto:magalona@msu.edu)  **Drop-in Hour:** Tuesdays 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM  **Location**: Psychology Building Room 302 |
| 007 | Wednesday | 10:20p-12:10p  Brody 143 | **Name:** Melody Broski-Laing  **Email:** [zakari16@msu.edu](mailto:zakari16@msu.edu)  **Drop-in Hour:** Mondays 12:30 – 1:30 PM  **Location**: Giltner Hall, Room 347 |
| 008 | Wednesday | 4:10p-6:00p  Brody 143 | **Name:**  Jordan McDonald  **Email:** [mcdon709@msu.edu](mailto:mcdon709@msu.edu)  **Drop-in Hour:**  Tuesdays 1:00 – 2:00 PM  **Location**: Psychology Building Room 213 |
| 009 | Friday | 10:20a-12:10p  Brody 143 | **Name:** Melody Broski-Laing  **Email:** [zakari16@msu.edu](mailto:zakari16@msu.edu)  **Drop-in Hour:** Mondays 12:30 – 1:30 PM  **Location**: Giltner Hall, Room 347 |
| 010 | Friday | 12:40a-2:30p  Brody 143 | **N Name:** Luciano Voutour  **Email:** [voutourl@msu.edu](mailto:voutourl@msu.edu)  **Drop-in Hour:** Mondays 3:00 – 4:00 PM  **Location**: zoom <https://msu.zoom.us/j/3890665705> |

### Course Description

This course covers the basic principles of research design and measurement in psychology, including the formulation, testing, and evaluation of empirical questions. You will learn the tools you need to produce your own research, and how to be a better consumer of research. You will get hands on experience with the research process and you will apply the statistical techniques you learned in PSY 295. The course will cover experimental designs as well as non-experimental methods, such as surveys and observational research. You will learn how to search the research literature, to collect and analyze data and to write APA empirical research reports. Computers are used extensively; you will use word processing for APA writing and a statistical software package to analyze data.

### Course Overview

There are two components to instruction:

**1. Lectures with Dr. Seidman:**

I will be giving **two 50-minute lectures each week**. These lectures are in-person, with no remote or hybrid option. I will generally follow the textbook, but there are some topics I will cover in lecture which are not covered in the textbook.   
  
I will not be taking attendance. But, if you do not show up for class, you will likely struggle with the exams because exams are based on lecture material. I will post **PowerPoint slides** on D2L before class, but these slides **contain primarily definitions and an outline of the material, and do not represent full notes**. **You must take notes during class**. I recommend either printing the notes as “handouts” 3-slides-per-page and taking notes on the printouts or typing notes directly into the PowerPoint notes field.

**2. Labs with your TA:**

Your TAs will conduct weekly 2-hour lab sessions with you, starting in week 3. **There are no labs weeks 1, 2, 9, or 14 (Thanksgiving). In weeks 2 and 9** you will be assigned **activities to complete on your own**. Labs are in-person and you must attend your section’s lab at the time you are registered. These lab sections are designed to help you get hands-on practice with the concepts we learn in lecture.

**Lab attendance is mandatory and is extremely important for several reasons:**

1. Lab is where you will be introduced to your graded assignments. You will also be able to work on these assignments – and sometimes completely finish them – in lab.
2. You will complete two research papers based on activities that are completed in lab. You will not understand the assignments if you miss lab.
3. There are three longer-term research projects (two of which will be the subject of your research papers) that will span more than one lab.

**Lab Attendance Policy:**

You are allowed to miss two labs during the semester.   
However, **if you miss lab**, you should:

1. First, **review all lab materials posted on D2L.**
2. After reviewing that material, meet with your TA during office hours to make sure you understand the assignment (email your TA if you are unavailable during their office hours). **This is especially important if you miss Weeks 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, or 13.**

### Prerequisites

PSY 295: Data Analysis in Psychological Research is a prerequisite for this course. Because PSY 395 is a research methods class, it will involve applying concepts that you learned in PSY 295 (correlations, significance testing, t-tests, etc.). We will review each of these concepts again in this class as they are re-introduced. You will not need to use any formulas for this course, and instead will run statistical tests using computer software.

### Textbook & Course Materials: Everything is FREE!

* Cuttler, C., Jhangiani, R. S., & Leighton, D. C. (2019). *Research Methods in Psychology, 4th American Ed.* Kwantlen Polytechnic University. [https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/75](https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/75 )
  + This is an open education resource and is **free to access online** as a pdf or ebook from the link above.
  + If you wish to purchase a hardcopy, you can order it from Amazon for $14, by clicking on the [Hardcopy link](https://www.amazon.com/dp/1085976920?ref_=pe_3052080_397514860) at the website above.
* Additional Readings will be posted on D2L.
* J**amovi Statistics Software:**
* Jamovi is installed on campus computers in Brody 143.
* You can **download jamovi software for Windows, Mac, or Chromebook for free**. For Windows or Mac, select the link for the “**solid**” version: <https://www.jamovi.org/download.html> (See D2Lin the jamovi information module for more details.)
* **Jamovi user manual**: <https://www.jamovi.org/user-manual.html>
* **Free e-book - Learning stats with jamovi:** <https://www.learnstatswithjamovi.com/>

### Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD)

* To make an appointment with a specialist, contact: (517) 353-9642

Or TTY: (517) 355-1293

* [Web site for RCPD](http://MYProfile.rcpd.msu.edu): MYProfile.rcpd.msu.edu

### Technical Assistance

If you need technical assistance at any time during the course or to report a problem, you can:

* Visit the [D2L Help Site](https://help.d2l.msu.edu/) or call the Help Line (517) 432-6200 or (844) 678-6200
* Visit the [MSU Tech Support Site](https://tech.msu.edu/support/help/) or call (517) 432-6200 or toll free (844) 678-6200
* Visit the [Reference and Discovery Services Site](https://www.lib.msu.edu/rds) (lib.msu.edu/rds)
* You can also call the References and Discovery Services at 517-353-8700 or contact them via this form: <https://lib.msu.edu/rds/askus>.

## Part 2: Instructional Objectives

The primary learning objectives for this course are:

* Describe and employ research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis and interpretation, and the formulation, testing, and evaluation of empirical questions.
* Evaluate psychological research, using the rules of evidence and knowledge building used by psychologists, including taking a skeptical approach and tolerating ambiguity in the interpretation of results.
* Critically evaluate psychological research, using the rules of evidence and knowledge building used by psychologists.
* Successfully perform literature searches of psychological databases
* Demonstrate technological and information literacy, including utilizing statistical software for the behavioral sciences and MS Word.
* Demonstrate scientific writing skills, in accordance with APA style.

You will meet the objectives listed above through a combination of the following activities in this course:

* Attend lectures.
* Participate in laboratory activities.
* Perform literature searches.
* Collect data outside of class.
* Analyze data, using jamovi software.
* Write papers in APA style.
* Complete in-class exams and online exercises.

## Part 3: Course Outline/Schedule\*

**Several labs are “can’t miss.” You should make every effort to attend Weeks 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, and 13.**

| **Week** | **Date** | **Lecture/Lab Topic** | **Reading** | **Assignment Due** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week 1 | T 8/26 | Syllabus and Course Introduction |  |  |
|  | Th 8/28 | The Science of Psychology | Ch. 1 |  |
|  | Lab | **NO LAB** |  |  |
| Week 2 | T 9/2 | Scientific Method | Ch 2 |  |
|  | Th 9/4 | Scientific Method continued |  |  |
|  | No Lab | **NO IN-PERSON LAB - Labor Day** |  | Assignment 1: Class Survey due Fri 9/5 |
| Week 3 | T 9/9 | Scientific Method continued |  |  |
|  | Th 9/11 | How to Read a Journal Article | Jordan & Zanna (1999) |  |
|  | Lab | Searching the Research Literature |  |  |
| Week 4 | T 9/16 | Statistics Review | Ch. 12 and 13 | Assignment 2: Dissecting a Research Article due T 9/16 |
|  | Th 9/18 | **EXAM 1** |  | **Last Day to Drop with Refund 9/18** |
|  | Lab | Introduction to jamovi software |  | **Fri 9/20: Last day to sign up for Honors Option** |
| Week 5 | T 9/23 | APA Style | Ch. 11 |  |
|  | Th 9/25 | Experiments | Ch. 5 |  |
|  | Lab | t-tests and 1-way ANOVA in jamovi |  |  |
| Week 6 | T 9/30 | Experiments continued |  | Assignment 3: t-tests and ANOVA in jamovi due T 9/30 |
|  | Th 10/2 | Nonexperimental Research | Ch. 6 |  |
|  | Lab | Project 1 Data Collection and Introduction |  |  |
| Week 7 | T 10/7 | Observational Research |  |  |
|  | Th 10/9 | **EXAM 2** |  |  |
|  | Lab | Project 1 Data analysis and writing |  | **Last Day to Drop with No Grade Reported: 10/13** |
| Week 8 | T 10/14 | Measurement | Ch. 4 |  |
|  | Th 10/16 | Measurement continued |  | Assignment 4: Project 1 due Th 10/16 |
|  | Lab | Observational Research Study design |  |  |
| Week 9 | T 10/21 | **NO CLASS - Fall Break** |  |  |
|  | Th 10/23 | Surveys | Ch. 7 |  |
|  | Lab | NO LAB: Complete data collection for observational study |  |  |
| Week 10 | T 10/28 | Surveys continued | Ch. 7 |  |
|  | Th 10/30 | Surveys and correlational analyses | Readings on D2L |  |
|  | Lab | Observational Research Analysis |  |  |
| Week 11 | T 11/4 | Writing an Introduction Section |  | Assignment 5: Observational Study (Group Assignment) due Tues 11/4 |
|  | Th 11/6 | **EXAM 3** |  |  |
|  | Lab | Project 2 Introduction and Design | Attachment Style Reading on D2L | **Assignment 6: Project 2 survey questions due in lab or by F 11/7 5:00 PM** |
| Week 12 | T 11/11 | Factorial Design | Ch. 9 |  |
|  | Th 11/13 | Factorial Design continued |  | **Assignment 7: Complete Project 2 survey**  **due W 11/12** |
|  | Lab | Correlational Analysis |  |  |
| Week 13 | T 11/18 | Research Ethics | Ch. 3 | Assignment 8: Correlational Analysis due T 11/18 |
|  | Th 11/20 | Research Ethics continued |  |  |
|  | Lab | Project 2 Data Analysis |  |  |
| Week 14 | T 11/25 | QRPs | Ch. 13, section 60, Readings on D2L | Assignment 9: Project 2 Intro /Method due T 11/25 |
|  | Th 11/27 | NO CLASS - Thanksgiving |  |  |
|  | Lab | NO LAB |  |  |
| Week 15 | T 12/2 | **EXAM 4** |  |  |
|  | Th 12/4 | Writing a Discussion; Final Exam Review |  |  |
|  | Lab | Project 2 Writing |  |  |
| Finals week | W 12/10 | **FINAL EXAM:**  **Wed 12/10 8:00 PM – 12:00 PM** |  | Assignment 10: Project 2 full paper due T 12/8 |

\*Dates are subject to change. See D2L for announcements and updates.

## Part 4: Grading Policy

### Graded Course Activities

| ***Points*** | ***Percent*** | ***Description\**** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 280 | 56 | Exams (Best 4 out of 5 Exam Scores); 70 points each |
| 10 | 2 | Assignment 1: Complete class survey |
| 10 | 2 | Assignment 2: Reading a research article |
| 10 | 2 | Assignment 3: t-tests and ANOVA in jamovi |
| 40 | 8 | Assignment 4: Project 1 Methods and Results |
| 10 | 2 | Assignment 5: Observational research project write-up (group grade) |
| 10 | 2 | Assignment 6: Create hypothesis and items for Project 2 |
| 10 | 2 | Assignment 7: Complete Project 2 survey |
| 10 | 2 | Assignment 8: Correlational analysis in jamovi |
| 40 | 8 | Assignment 9: Project 2 Intro and Method |
| 40 | 8 | Assignment 10: Project 2 Final paper |
| 30 | 6 | Attendance and participation in lab |
| **500** | 100 | **Total Points Possible** |

***\*The longer assignments (Assignments 4, 9, & 10) are worth a total of 120 points = 24% of your grade.***

### Lab Attendance and Participation

**Grading:** Your TAs will conduct weekly 2-hour lab sessions with you, starting in week 3. These lab sections are designed to help you get hands-on practice with the concepts we learn in lecture. There are 11 lab meetings, but you are **allowed to miss 2 without penalty to your grade**. Therefore, your grade is based on attendance in 9 labs. **Attendance and participation are worth 30 points, 27 points for attending lab** (3 points for each of 9 labs) and an additional **3 points for class participation during lab**.

**Lab attendance is mandatory and is extremely important for several reasons:**

1. Lab is where you will be introduced to your graded assignments. You will also be able to work on these assignments – and sometimes completely finish them – in lab.
2. You will complete two research papers based on activities that are completed in lab. You will not fully understand the assignments if you miss lab.
3. There are three longer-term research projects (two of which will be the subject of your research papers) that will span more than one lab.

**While all labs are important, several are “can’t miss” and you should make every effort to attend them:** **Weeks 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, and 13.**

**There are no labs weeks 1, 2, 9, or 14 (Thanksgiving). In weeks 2 and 9** you will be assigned **activities to complete on your own**.

**If you miss lab**, you should:

1. First, **review all lab materials posted on D2L.**
2. After reviewing that material, meet with your TA during office hours to make sure you understand the assignment (email your TA if you are unavailable during their office hours). **This is especially important if you miss Weeks 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, or 13.**

### Lab Assignments

There are 10 assignments in this course based on work completed in lab. Most of these assignments will be started in lab, and some will be completed entirely during lab. Most assignments are worth 10 points, but **there will be three longer paper assignments worth 40 points each (so the longer assignments are worth a total of 24% of your grade).** Each assignment is described below. More details will be described in class/lab and posted on D2L.

**Written work must be your own work. You may not submit work that was created by generative artificial intelligence (AI; See** [**course policy on AI use**](#_Policy_on_the) **for details). Papers will be run through plagiarism detection (Turnitin software: Student submissions will be retained only in the MSU repository hosted by Turnitin) and AI detection.**

**Policy on Missed or Late Lab Assignments:**

* Late work will only be accepted for major assignments (Assignments 4 and 9) with a 10% per day penalty. Late work will not be accepted more than 1 week late.
* Late work for other assignments may be accepted (or late penalties for major assignments waives) if the student has a **legitimate reason for missing the lab where the assignment was introduced** (documented illness, serious event such as a death in the family).

**Assignment 1: Class Survey**

* **Points:** 10
* **Associated lab(s):** Week 2 (complete on your own – labs do not meet in Week 2)
* **Due Date:** Friday 9/5
* **Description:** Students will complete an online survey containing personality measures and demographic questions. Anonymized results of this survey will be used in lab and class demonstrations and assignments.
* **Submission Format:** A link to the survey will be posted on D2L. At the end of the survey, students will receive a completion code to enter into a separate website where they will indicate their name and completion code.

**Assignment 2: Dissecting a Research Article**

* **Points:** 10
* **Associated lab(s):** Week 3
* **Due Date:** Tuesday 9/16
* **Description:** Students will find an academic journal article reporting the results of a psychology experiment on a topic of their choice. The assignment involves answering a series of questions about the article.
* **Submission Format:** Upload Word document to D2L.

**Assignment 3: t-tests and ANOVA in jamovi**

* **Points:** 10
* **Associated lab(s):** Week 5
* **Due Date:** Tuesday 9/30
* **Description:** Students will analyze data during lab and answer questions about the results.
* **Submission Format:** Upload Word document to D2L.

**Assignment 4: Research Project 1 Methods and Results**

* **Points:** 40
* **Associated lab(s):** Weeks 6 and 7
* **Due Date:** Thursday 10/16
* **Description:** Students will participate in a study in lab during Week 6, discuss the study methods with their TA, and begin writing a Methods section. In week 7, students will analyze data from the experiment and begin writing a Results section. The graded assignment is an APA style paper describing the Methods and Results of the experiment.
* **Submission Format:** Upload Word document to D2L.

**Assignment 5: Group Observational Research Project**

* **Points:** 10
* **Associated lab(s):** Weeks 8, 9 (In week 9 students will collect data outside of lab), and 10
* **Due Date:** Tuesday 11/4
* **Description:** In Week 8, students will form groups with 3 or 4 other students to design an observational study. In Week 9, lab sections will not meet; instead student groups will meet to collect observational data. In Week 10, student groups will meet in lab to review their data and write up answers to a set of assignment questions about their study and its results.
* **Submission Format:** Upload Word document to D2L. Each group will upload only one document and all group members will earn the same grade.

**Assignment 6: Project 2 Survey Questions**

* **Points:** 10
* **Associated lab(s):** Week 11
* **Due Date:** Friday 11/7 by 5:00 PM
* **Description:** In lab, students will be introduced to Project 2. For this project, each student will create survey questions for the study, which will be added to the survey along with the questions created by the other students in their TA’s labs. **It is expected that students will write these questions during the lab. If you are absent in Week 11, you must turn in your questions by Friday. If you do not write any questions, you will be unable to complete Project 2.**
* **Submission Format:** Students will enter questions into a shared Word document linked on D2L.

**Assignment 7: Project 2 Participation**

* **Points:** 10
* **Associated lab(s):** Complete on your own outside of class
* **Due Date:** Wednesday 11/12
* **Description:** Students will complete an online survey containing the Project 2 questions from their TA’s labs. Anonymized results of this survey will be distributed to the class for analysis.
* **Submission Format:** A link to the survey for your TAs’ labs will be posted on D2L. At the end of the survey, students will receive a completion code to enter into a separate website where they will indicate their name and code.

**Assignment 8: Correlational Analysis in jamovi**

* **Points:** 10
* **Associated lab(s):** Week 12
* **Due Date:** Tuesday 11/18
* **Description:** Students will analyze data during lab and answer questions about the results.
* **Submission Format:** Upload Word document to D2L.

**Assignment 9: Project 2 Introduction and Method Sections**

* **Points:** 40
* **Associated lab(s):** Week 11, but most work completed on your own
* **Due Date:** Tuesday 11/25
* **Description:** Students will use information from Week 11 to help write an APA style Introduction and Method section for Project 2. Materials specific to the study and general APA style resources are posted on D2L. The graded assignment is a partial APA style paper including a title page, introduction, methods, and references section.
* **Submission Format:** Upload Word document to D2L.

**Assignment 10: Project 2 Full Paper**

* **Points:** 40
* **Associated lab(s):** Weeks 13 and 15
* **Due Date:** Tuesday 12/8
* **Description:** Students will analyze Project 2 data and begin writing a Results section in lab during Week 13. During Week 15, students will have an opportunity to work on their Discussion section and revise the rest of their paper. The graded assignment is a full APA style paper (title page, introduction, method, results, discussion, and references). Part of the grade is based on revisions to the first part (Assignment 9).
* **Submission Format:** Upload Word document to D2L.

### Exams

* There will be five exams. Four of these exams will cover material learned since the prior exam. The fifth exam is a cumulative final that will cover material from the entire course.
* Only your best four exams will count toward your grade. Your lowest grade (or missed exam) will be dropped.
* All exams are multiple choice and will be administered in class on the dates indicated on the syllabus schedule.
* Exam review sheets on D2L provide more detailed information about exam content.

### Missed Exam and Makeup Exam Policy

* If something unexpected happens that prevents you from completing an exam by end time of the exam, please notify Dr. Seidman with documentation within 24 hours of the exam. Failure to notify Dr. Seidman within 24 hours of the end exam time will result in you not being allowed to make up the exam.
* If you cannot take an exam due to a religious holiday, required participation in a university-sanctioned event (e.g., a commitment for a sports team), or another acceptable foreseeable event, you must notify Dr. Seidman at least 2 weeks in advance.

### Other Exam Policies

* Exams will begin at the start of the class period.
* The Final Exam date and time is set by MSU and is the only time the Final Exam is offered. No early Final Exams will be given unless a student has RCPD Exam Accommodations, a religious holiday, or a required university-sanctioned event.
* You may arrive late, but no exams will be handed out after the first student completes the exam
* During exams, you may only have pencils and erasers at your desk.
  + Leave refreshments or other materials zipped up in your bag or do not bring them.
  + Turn off anything that makes noise, take off headphones, take out ear buds, do not wear hats with a forward-facing bill, and take off smart watches.
* Once the exam has begun, there will be no talking or disruptions.
* Leaving the room is reserved for emergencies.
* You need to show your MSU ID in order to turn in your exams.
* For those of you with extended time via your **RCPD accommodations,** please **email Dr. Seidman a week before each exam** to arrange the appropriate accommodations.

### Honors Option

The honors option for this course involves completing a more complicated version of Project 2. Please read over the Project 2 documentation on D2L in order to help you determine if you would like to take this option. **You must email Dr. Seidman by 9/20 if you wish to complete the honors option.**

The honors option involves:

* Reading all Project 2 materials ahead of time, so that you can start the project earlier than your classmates.
* Adding additional items or scales to the survey, beyond the two questions that your classmates will each write.
* Including 10 references in your Introduction (rather than the 4 references required for the rest of the class).
* Conducting data analyses that are more complicated than what is required for your classmates. This will involve a 2-way ANOVA or multiple regression analysis.
* Students who select this option will meet with Dr. Seidman to discuss study design and analysis.

### Extra Credit

**Extra Credit - Perfect Lab Attendance:** There are 11 lab sections scheduled throughout the semester, and you are only required to attend 9 of them. However, if you attend additional lab sections beyond these 9, each one will be counted as 3 extra points towards your grade for a total of 6 extra credit points. This allows you to functionally earn 1.2% extra credit.

**Extra Credit – Research Experience:**

* You can participate in psychology research studies for extra credit, **using the SONA system**. You can complete **up to 3 hours of studies, with each hour worth 2 points** (for a total of 6 possible points – an additional 1.2% of your grade).
* Make sure you are on the Psychology SONA site and signed up for PSY 395. If you sign up in the wrong SONA system - The Department of Communication Arts and Sciences also has a SONA site – or section we will not have access to this data and cannot grant participation credit for studies done under the other site.
  + All SONA questions, inaccuracies, or problems should be directed to Audra Jeffrey (jeffre22@msu.edu), the SONA Student Coordinator. Your instructor and course assistants are unable to help you with SONA and do not have access to the system.
  + It is your responsibility to sign up, participate in the experiments, and track your participation history. Neither the instructor nor the TAs have a record of your research participation until the end of the course.
  + If you would like to complete an alternative assignment for extra credit, rather than participate in studies, you can do an additional empirical research paper. Contact Dr. Seidman by the end of the second week of class (Friday 9/5) if you wish to do this alternative project.

### Viewing Grades

* All grades will be posted on D2L.
* Most assignments will be graded within two weeks of submission
* Feedback on written assignments will be posted on D2L
  + For some assignments, your TA will make comments in Microsoft Word using the commenting feature. You must make sure to download the marked file and open it in Word to ensure that you are seeing the comments.
* Exam grades will be posted online as soon as they are available from the scoring office and Dr. Seidman has had a chance to correct any potential scoring errors.
  + Questions for exams will not be posted after, but you may view your exams with Dr. Seidman during office hours.
* Lab attendance and participation grades will be posted at the end of the semester.
* Extra credit grades will be posted at the end of the semester.

### Grade Assignment (Grading Scale)

| ***To get this grade:*** | ***You need this percentage:*** | ***Which is this many points:*** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 4.0 | 89.5-100% | 448-500 |
| 3.5 | 84.5-89.4% | 423-447 |
| 3 .0 | 79.5-84.4% | 398-447 |
| 2.5 | 74.5-79.4% | 373-397 |
| 2.5 | 69.5-74.4% | 348-372 |
| 1.5 | 64.5-69.4% | 323-347 |
| 1.0 | 59.5-64.4% | 298-322 |
| 0 | < 59.4% | < 298 |

## Part 5: Course Policies

Students are expected to adhere to the policies of Michigan State University whether noted in this syllabus or not. Instructors have the right to add or adjust policies within limits for the specifics of their courses. While the below may appear at first glance to be common policy boilerplate there may be nuances or course specifics within it that the student must be aware of and adhere to.

### Applicable policies, syllabus statements, and resources for students:

* [Spartan Code of Honor](http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/spartan-code-of-honor-academic-pledge)
* [Mental Health](https://caps.msu.edu/faculty-staff/Syllabus-Language.html)
* [Religious Observance Policy](https://reg.msu.edu/ROInfo/Notices/ReligiousPolicy.aspx)
* [Student Athletes](https://ombud.msu.edu/classroom-policies/#absence-athletics)
* [Pronoun preference](https://lbgtrc.msu.edu/home/resources-for-staff-and-faculty/)

### Commit to Integrity: Academic Honesty

Article 2.III.B.2 of the [Academic Rights and Responsibilities](http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/student-rights-and-responsibilities-at-michigan-state-university/article-2-academic-rights-and-responsibilities) states that "The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards." In addition, the Psychology Department adheres to the policies on academic honesty as specified in [General Student Regulations](http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/regulations/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](https://ombud.msu.edu/academic-integrity/). See [Spartan Life Online](http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/) (splife.studentlife.msu.edu) and/or the [MSU Web site](http://www.msu.edu/) (msu.edu) for more.

Unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, lab work, 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. The use of others’ work or the use of intelligent agents, chat bots, or AI engines to create your work is a violation of this policy and will be addressed as per MSU codes of conduct. Students who violate MSU academic integrity rules may receive a penalty grade, including a failing grade on the assignment or in the course. Contact your instructor if you are unsure about the appropriateness of your course work. (See [Academic Integrity webpage](https://ombud.msu.edu/academic-integrity/).)

### Policy on the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

***You may not submit work written by AI.***Submitting work written by AI constitutes academic dishonesty and will be dealt with as detailed in MSU’s academic integrity policy, described above.

#### Acceptable Uses of AI:

There are acceptable ways to use AI, like, in this class. These include:

* Help with reading:
  + AI can help you understand difficult readings assigned in class or sources you are using for your papers. For example, if you are having trouble understanding part of a reading, you could copy a selection of article text into AI and ask it to explain it in simpler language.
  + ***You may not paste assignment questions into AI and ask for answers.***
* Help with studying:
  + You may use AI to help generate examples of concepts to help you study (note these may not be 100% accurate).
  + You may use AI to generate initial draft answers of questions on the review sheet to help you study. Use extreme caution in doing this and cross-check all answers with your notes and the textbook. **Your notes and text should be the first place to look**.
* Help with paper research:
  + You may ask AI for help brainstorming a paper topic idea.
  + You may ask AI to help you further narrow or expand a paper topic.
  + You may ask AI to suggest search terms for PsycInfo searches on your topic.
  + ***Do not*** ask AI to find sources for you without carefully vetting them. AI sometimes makes things up, including [fake citations](https://blogs.library.duke.edu/blog/2023/03/09/chatgpt-and-fake-citations/)!
* Help with writing:
  + You may ask AI to format a reference in APA style. However, you should always check that it has not introduced any errors (e.g., capitalizing or italicizing incorrectly) because you are responsible for accuracy.
  + You may ask AI to rewrite some of your text for clarity and style. However, you should only take these rewrites as inspiration. *You may not use the exact words in your paper.*
  + You may ask AI to suggest a topic sentence or transition sentence for a paragraph *(but do not use the exact sentence word for word).*

#### Documenting Use of AI:

* Save any interactions you have with AI in writing an assignment. You can either copy and paste into a new document or take a screenshot (Screenshot on Windows by pressing fn and prt sc keys simultaneously). **AI use without documentation constitutes a violation of this policy.**
* When you use AI to help with an aspect of the writing process, include a comment bubble (in Word) explaining how you used AI for that aspect of the assignment.

#### Additional AI Policy Issues:

* If you are not sure if a particular use of AI is acceptable, please consult with your instructor prior to using it to make sure you are not running afoul of the academic integrity policy.
* All policies described here apply ***only to*** ***this class***. Do not assume that these AI uses are acceptable in other courses without consulting your instructors.

### Limits to Confidentiality

Materials submitted for this class are generally considered confidential pursuant to the University's student record policies. However, students should be aware that University employees, including instructors, may not be able to maintain confidentiality when it conflicts with their responsibility to report certain issues to protect the health and safety of MSU community members and others. As the instructor, I must report the following information to other University offices (including the Department of Police and Public Safety) if you share it with me:

* Suspected child abuse/neglect, even if this maltreatment happened when you were a child,
* Allegations of sexual assault or sexual harassment when they involve MSU students, faculty, or staff, and
* Credible threats of harm to oneself or to others.

These reports may trigger contact from a campus official who will want to talk with you about the incident that you have shared. In almost all cases, it will be your decision whether you wish to speak with that individual. If you would like to talk about these events in a more confidential setting you are encouraged to make an appointment with the MSU Counseling Center.

### Attendance

[University Attendance Policy](https://ombud.msu.edu/classroom-policies/) (in part): Students whose names do not appear on the official class list for this course may not attend this class. Students who fail to attend the first four class sessions or class by the fifth day of the semester, whichever occurs first, may be dropped from the course.

### Drops and Adds

**The last day to add this course is the end of the first week of classes. The last day to drop this course with a 100% refund and no grade reported is** 9/18/25. The last day to drop this course with no refund and no grade reported is 10/13/25. You should immediately make a copy of your amended schedule to verify you have added or dropped this course.

### Inform Your Instructor of Any Accommodations Needed

[From the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities](https://www.rcpd.msu.edu/get-started/faculty-departmental-resources/model-statements-disability-inclusion) (RCPD): 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 [rcpd.msu.edu](https://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 this form to Dr. Seidman at the start of the term and/or one week prior to the accommodation date (test, project, etc.). For accommodations for a specific exam, contact Dr. Seidman at least one week before the exam date.** Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.

### Notetaking and Recordings

As members of a learning community, students are expected to respect the intellectual property of course instructors. All course materials presented to students are the copyrighted

property of the course instructor and are subject to the following conditions of use:

* Students may not post recordings or other course materials online or distribute them 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.
* Commercialization of lecture notes and university-provided course materials is not permitted in this course.
* Any student violating the conditions described above may face academic disciplinary sanctions, including receiving a penalty grade in the course.

### Build Rapport

If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let your instructor or TA know as early as possible. As you will find, building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an effective professional. Make sure that you are proactive in informing your instructor when difficulties arise, so that we can help you find a solution.

### Disruptive Behavior

Article 2.III.B.4 of [Student Rights and Responsibilities](http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/student-rights-and-responsibilities-at-michigan-state-university/article-2-academic-rights-and-responsibilities) for students at Michigan State University states: "The student's behavior in the classroom shall be conducive to the teaching and learning process for all concerned." Article 2.III.B.10 states that "The student and the faculty share the responsibility for maintaining professional relationships based on mutual trust and civility." [General Student Regulation 5.02](http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/regulations/general-student-regulations) states: "No student shall . . . obstruct, disrupt, or interfere with the functions, services, or directives of the University, its offices, or its employees (e.g., classes, social, cultural, and athletic events, computing services, registration, housing and food services, governance meetings, and hearings).” Students whose conduct adversely affects the learning environment may be subject to disciplinary action through the Student Judicial Affairs office.