



personally designed experiment. Secondly, you will present your findings to the class and peers in multiple oral-presentation formats.

**Written Reports:** An important element of research is communicating your results to other people. You will produce two written reports as drafts and final reports. All written reports must conform to APA style. Although collecting and analyzing data will be a group effort, writing reports will be an individual effort. **YOU ARE TO WRITE YOUR REPORTS ON YOUR OWN AND IN YOUR OWN WORDS.**

**Assignments:**

1. **Weekly Homework Assignments** (e.g. critiquing a research article, describing your research interests, etc.). Late weekly homework assignments will be penalized 10% for every day that they are late. Homework assignments will not be accepted more than three days late.
2. **Research Paper 1.** This will be a research proposal on a topic of your choosing. You will complete a literature review and propose a method of exploring the topic using an experimental approach.
3. **Research Paper 2.** This will be a complete research report based on the experiment completed for your group research project. The report will include a literature review, methodology description, analysis of the data, and discussion of your findings.
4. **Project Oral Presentation.** At the end of the semester you will present the findings of your research project to the class. These will be short presentations (less than 10 minutes), and you will complete them as a group.
5. **Project Poster Presentation.** In addition to the oral presentations, you will present your research in a mini-conference meant to resemble a professional psychological research conference. You will have the opportunity to see what other research has been done in lab classes as well as present your experiment to psychology faculty and graduate students.
6. **Participation and Attendance.** Attendance is mandatory for this class, and your participation is expected. This is especially important given the group project portion of the class.

**Late Paper Policy:** Paper assignments will be penalized 5% total, or 2% per day late (including weekend days), whichever penalty is greater. For example, if you submit your paper 1 or 2 days late, you will be penalized 5%. If you submit your paper 3 days late, you will be penalized 6%. Paper assignments will not be accepted more than one week late.

**Grading:** Grades in the course will be based on the assignments listed above. A traditional points breakdown will be used to determine your grade (90%+ = A, 80-89% = B, 70-79% = C, 60-69% = D, less than 60% = F). There will not be a “curve” used in this course.

**Expected Points Breakdown: (Subject to change)**

Assignment	Percentage
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Short Homework Assignments	15%
First Paper Assignment	22.5%
Second Paper Assignment	37.5%
Oral Presentation	7.5%
Poster Presentation	7.5%
Participation & Attendance	10%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Other Information

- 1. Participation and attendance** are very important for your success in this course. During the week we will perform a number of in-class activities and experiments that will encourage you to lend your voice to discussion. Attendance is essential in this class as missing an in-class experiment will require you to come in at another time to complete it. Your attendance is important for the success of your group experiment as well, so make sure to communicate any issues of attendance with your groupmates well ahead of time.
- 2. Late assignments and makeups.** Assignments are expected to be turned in on the day noted on the schedule. Late assignments will be penalized based on the rules described above. In the case of an emergency situation, an assignment can be made-up, provided you bring in proof of the emergency (e.g. a doctor's note).
- 3. Religious holidays.** To my knowledge this class does not have any exams scheduled during any major religious holidays. Please contact me within the first two weeks of class if you need to miss class or an exam due to a religious holiday.
- 4. Cheating and plagiarism:** No form of academic dishonesty will be tolerated. Students who break the university's code of academic integrity could be given a failing grade for the assignment or course and be the subject of formal judicial charges (see UIC Student Disciplinary Handbook for details). For example, if any amount of plagiarism is discovered in a written assignment, you could be given a grade of 0 (zero) for the assignment and possibly a failing grade for the course. I will also notify the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs and file an academic dishonesty charge that will be added to your academic file. Copying from your group partners is plagiarism. More information about UIC's academic integrity policies is available online at [http://www.uic.edu/academic\\_integrity](#)
- 5. Disabilities:** UIC is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that individuals with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at UIC. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for full access and participation in UIC programs must be registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC). Please contact DRC at (312) 413-2183.
- 6. My role:** For this course I see myself as both instructor and mentor. If at any point in time you have any problems or concerns with the course, feel free to contact me. I was an undergraduate at one time as well, and fully understand the pressures involved with college life. Please find me in my office or set up an appointment through email anytime you would like to meet with me.

### Course Schedule

	Date	Topic
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Week 1	1/10	Introduction. Who am I? Who are you? What is research?
	1/12	In-class Experiment 1. Background on Experiment 1. <b>Assignment 1 due</b>
Week 2	1/17	Further data analysis if necessary. Overview of data interpretation for Experiment 1.
	1/19	Review of Main Effects and Interactions. Data analysis for Experiment 1.
Week 3	1/24	Review of Experimental and Correlational Designs. <b>Assignment 2 due</b>
	1/26	In-class Experiment 2. Background on Experiment 2.
Week 4	1/31	How to do a literature search and review. How to write the introduction and method sections of an experimental report. <b>Assignment 3 due</b>
	2/2	Data analysis for Experiment 2.
Week 5	2/7	In-class Experiment 3. Background on Experiment 3. <b>Assignment 4 due</b>
	2/9	Individual help with Paper 1. <b>Bring in a draft</b>
Week 6	2/14	Data analysis for Experiment 3.
	2/16	How to write a results section of an experimental report. Review of writing Research Paper 1.
Week 7	2/21	Topics of cognitive psychology overview. Use PEAK to explore methodology options. <b>Paper 1 due</b>
	2/23	Review methodology options for experiment. Generate topics and designs as a class. <b>Assignment 5 due Sunday</b>
Week 8	2/28	Determine groups for research project. Begin work on group research projects.
	3/2	Work on group research project.
Week 9	3/7	Work on group research project.
	3/9	Work on group research project.
Week 10	3/14	Run subjects and work on group research project.
	3/16	Run subjects and work on group research project.

Week 11	3/28	Run subjects and work on group research project.
	3/30	Run subjects and work on group research project.
Week 12	4/4	Run subjects and begin data analysis.
	4/6	Continue data analysis and running subjects
Week 13	4/11	Complete data analysis
	4/13	Sample presentations from instructor and TA. Overview of how to present research.
Week 14	4/18	Work on oral and poster presentations.
	4/20	Work on oral and poster presentations.
Week 15	4/25	Review complete group project oral presentations (bring complete draft to class).
	4/27	Group project oral presentations.
Finals Week	TBA	Group project poster presentations. Meeting time will be determined.