PSY 42, Emotion Laboratory – 1 credit
Fall, 2012

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Office Hours: Mon, 1:00 - 3:00 PM, or by appt

Class Meeting Time/Place: Wed, 9:00-11:30am, Psychology Bldg, rm 301

Course Description. This is a laboratory course in which students design, conduct, analyze, interpret, and present original experimental research on the nature of human emotion and its regulation. Students obtain hands-on experience using different methods of measuring emotional responses, including subjective ratings, expressive behavior, and autonomic physiology (e.g., heart rate, skin conductance, respiration). Course assignments typically include reading and thinking critically about classic and contemporary research in emotion; developing hypotheses; practical tasks related to carrying out research projects; writing manuscripts in APA format; and oral presentations. This course fulfills the advanced lab requirement for psychology majors.

Course Objectives. Inspired by the Department of Psychology’s learning objectives for psychology majors (see http://ase.tufts.edu/faculty-committees/assessment/psychology.htm), specific course objectives are as follows:

1. Critically examine theories and empirical findings in the domain of emotion.
2. Initiate, design, implement, control, and/or analyze original empirical research on emotion.
3. Develop writing, graphic, and verbal skills to communicate empirical results in APA format.

Required Textbook. The required textbook is as follows:


Be sure to obtain the 6th edition; no earlier editions may be substituted. Purchase this book online at the American Psychological Association (APA) website or elsewhere (e.g., at the time of this writing, Amazon.com was selling it for less money than the APA website). In case you prefer not to purchase this book, it will be placed on reserve for short-term check-out at Tisch Library.

Prerequisites: PSY 32 and any 10- or 20-level PSY course.

Assignments.

Papers. Your success in this course will in large part be determined by your ability to write clearly and logically using APA format. You will write two APA-style (6th edition) papers over the course of the semester. Although you may be asked to combine efforts with other students in the class to collect and/or analyze the data that serves as the basis for the
papers, each of you will write your own, completely independent papers. More details, including the criteria by which each paper will be evaluated, will be provided at a later date.

**Peer Review of Paper 1.** You will provide one review of a paper written by another student. This peer review will be completed in lab on **Wed, Oct 24. If you are not in lab on this date, you will not earn those points toward your final grade unless you have a note of support from your physician or Dean.**

**Study 2 Presentation.** You will deliver a 10-15-minute presentation to this group. In this presentation, you will present the rationale for, hypothesis, results, and conclusions of Study 2. More details, including the criteria by which each presentation will be evaluated, will be provided at a later date. This presentation will be delivered in lab on **Wed, Dec 5. If you are not in lab to make your presentation on this date, you will not earn those points toward your final grade unless you have a note of support from your physician or Dean.**

**Lab Conduct.** As part of your grade for the course, you will be assessed on the following attributes:
- **Attention to detail:** Carries out responsibilities with great attention to detail; Checked work is error-free.
- **Reliability:** Punctual; Responds promptly to emails and requests for information or materials.
- **Time management:** Completes tasks and assignments in a timely manner.
- **Professionalism:** Interacts with participants and fellow students in a professional manner; Dresses appropriately when conducting study sessions; Uses computers and lab time only for lab-related purposes.
- **Dedication:** Takes initiative in terms of noticing problems and/or generating solutions; Strives to understand; Pulls own weight on research projects.

**Attendance and Participation.** You will be expected to attend when this lab class meets on Wednesdays from 9:00-11:30am. In addition, you will be expected to collect data as scheduled in the Emotion, Brain, & Behavior Laboratory outside of these regular class hours. Finally, you will be expected to participate actively (e.g., contributing to class discussions, asking questions, and just generally displaying investment in the research process). You may earn up to 25 points toward your final grade by showing up on time and as scheduled and by participating actively. If you miss lab for any reason, you will be able to make up for it only with a note of support from your physician or Dean.

**Evaluation.** The assignments will be weighted as follows in terms of calculating your final grade for the course:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper 1</td>
<td>250 pts</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper 2</td>
<td>350 pts</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper 1 Peer Review</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study 2 Presentation</td>
<td>250 pts</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab Conduct</td>
<td>25 pts</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>25 pts</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1000 pts</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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*Final course grading scale: A+ 97-100%, A 93-96.9%, A- 90-92.9%, B+ 87-89.9%, B 83-86.9%, B- 80-82.9%, C+ 77-79.9%, C 73-76.9%, C- 70-72.9%, D+67-69.9%, D 63-66.9%, D- 60-62.9%, F 59.9% and below*
**Paper Grading.** You will have the option of revising Paper 1 once. If you choose to revise, your final point total for the paper will be the average of the first and revised versions. For example, if you originally received a total of 160 points for the first version of Paper 1 and then 170 points on the final version, you would receive 165 points as your final point total for Paper 1. If you do not revise, your final point total for the paper will be whatever you received on the first (and only) version. No more than one revision is allowed. Paper 2 may not be revised.

**Paper Feedback Policy.** Your TA will be happy to meet with you in person to discuss specific questions about the papers during office hours. Your TA will not provide detailed feedback on a draft of the paper before the deadline.

**Late Policy.** Papers should be handed in on time. Study data should be collected and processed on time. Any paper or study data turned in after its due date will be penalized by 5% for each day it is late. There will be no exceptions to this policy without correspondence from a Dean. Suggestions: Avoid procrastinating, back up the files you’re working on, keep records in a safe, waterproof place, save your work every 5 minutes as you go, and leave yourself enough time to print things out as needed.

**Requests to Reconsider Grading.** Requests for reconsideration of grading may be made no earlier than 24 hours and no later than 1 week after receiving your grade. You must submit a written request (by email) to both me and your TA indicating your rationale for why more points should be awarded.

**Communication.** Students are responsible for the content posted on or relayed via Trunk (e.g., readings, assignments, announcements, and email messages). Check your Trunk email address to make sure it is correct. If you were not automatically added to the Trunk site for this class, please ask your TA to add you.

**Academic Integrity.** Academic fraud is unacceptable. In other words, don’t lie, cheat, or steal other people’s words and/or hard work. Students are responsible for knowing and abiding the academic integrity guidelines posted on the Dean of Students web site: [http://uss.tufts.edu/studentaffairs/publicationsandwebsites](http://uss.tufts.edu/studentaffairs/publicationsandwebsites). If I suspect that you have used plagiarized material from another source, I will use [http://Turnitin.com](http://Turnitin.com), a web-based database that compares submitted work to millions of existing sources, to check for plagiarized information. Submission of dishonest or plagiarized work, whether that work represents just a draft that you’re working on or the final version, will lead to a failing grade for the course and you will be reported to the Dean of Students as required by their policy. See me if you are unclear about what constitutes academic fraud in any situation.

**Students with disabilities.** Tufts University is committed to full inclusion of all students. Students who, by nature of a documented disability, require academic accommodations should contact me immediately. Students may also speak with the Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities x72000 to discuss the process for requesting accommodations. Information is also available on the web at [http://uss.tufts.edu/arc/disability](http://uss.tufts.edu/arc/disability).
**Tentative Schedule of Topics.** I reserve the right to modify the content and timing of scheduled topics, readings, and assignments as needed. Changes will be posted on Trunk. Readings will be available on Trunk unless noted otherwise.

**Wed Sep 5**  Introductions and course overview  
What is “emotion”?  
Assignments for next week:  
1. Readings  
   • Ch 1 and 2 of Fox’s *Emotion Science*  
2. CITI training completion certificate (http://www.citiprogram.org)

**Wed Sep 12**  Theories of emotion  
Discrete versus dimensional perspectives  
Assignment for next week:  
1. Readings  
   • Ch 4 and 5 of Fox’s *Emotion Science*  

**Wed Sep 19**  Study 1: The beginning  
How to: Welcome to the Emotion, Brain, & Behavior Laboratory  
Assignments for next week:  
1. Serve as participant in Study 1 protocol  
2. Reading  

**Wed Sep 26**  Process corrugator EMG data  
(Meet in Eaton 208)  
Assignments for next week:  
1. Reading  
2. Study 1 Title Page, Introduction, Method, and References

**Wed Oct 3**  Process heart rate data  
(Meet in Eaton 208)  
Assignments for next week:  
1. Reading  
2. Study 1 Title Page, Introduction, Method, and References (optional extension)

**Wed Oct 10**  Process skin conductance data  
(Meet in Eaton 208)  
Analyze data  
Assignments for next week:  
1. Finish analyzing Study 1 data  
2. Study 1 Results  
3. Study 2 data collection
**Wed Oct 17**  
Study 1: Putting it all together  
**Assignments for next week:**  
1. Study 1 Discussion and Abstract  
2. Bring all sections of Paper 1 to class next week.  
3. Study 2 data collection

**Wed Oct 24**  
Peer Review of Paper 1  
Study 2: The beginning  
**Assignments for next week:**  
1. Study 2 data collection  
2. Reading:  

**Wed Oct 31**  
Emotion regulation I  
**Assignments for next week:**  
1. Study 2 data collection  
2. Readings:  

**Wed Nov 7**  
Emotion regulation II  
**Assignment for next week:**  
1. Study 2 data collection (data from n >= 30 due Tues, Nov 27)

**Wed Nov 14**  
Process all Study 2 data *(Meet in Eaton 208)*  
**Assignment for next week (if Study 2 data not all processed):**  
1. Study 2 data collection and processing (all data must be collected and processed by Tues, Nov 27)

**Tues Nov 20**  
Revised Paper 1 due today (if applicable) (hand in to TA’s mailbox and email)

**Wed Nov 21**  
Thanksgiving - No Class

**Tues Nov 27**  
ALL DATA MUST BE COLLECTED AND PROCESSED BY TODAY

**Wed Nov 28**  
Analyze Study 2 data *(Meet in Eaton 208)*  
**Assignments for next 3 weeks:**  
1. Paper 2 (all sections) (to be handed in by Wed, Dec 19)  
2. Study 2 Presentation (to be delivered next week)

**Wed Dec 5**  
Study 2 Presentations (Last Class for the Semester)

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**Wed Dec 19**  
Paper 2 due
Acknowledgement of Receipt of Syllabus

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read the syllabus for PSY 42, Emotion Laboratory (Fall, 2012) and understand the policies outlined. Any items that were unclear to me have been clarified to my satisfaction. I shall adhere to the policies outlined in this document and accept the penalties described for failing to do so.

Name (please print): __________________________________________________________

Signature: __________________________________ Date: __________________________

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Student Information

1. Why are you taking this class?

2. Have you worked as a research assistant in someone’s lab? YES NO (circle one)

3. Describe your last emotional experience (one that you would be comfortable sharing with others in class).
   a. What was the situation that prompted it?
   b. What thoughts did you have before, during or after?
   c. What did it feel like in terms of your subjective experience, your behavior, and/or your bodily response?
   d. How long did it last?