Psychology 3101: Research Methods and Data Analysis in Psychology    Fall, 2000

Charles M. Judd
Office: E318 Muenzinger
492-7492

Office Hours: Wednesday 12:30 - 2:30
email: charles.judd@colorado.edu

Teaching Assistants: Abby Ginsberg
Office: D148E
492-7777

Jeffrey Greenberg
Office: D260G
492-5394

Jim Van Overschelde
Office: E213D
735-3696

Office Hours: Mon. 11-12 and Thurs. 10-11
email: abby@psych.colorado.edu
Office Hours: Mon. 3-5
email: jeffreyg@psych.colorado.edu
Office Hours: Tues. and Thurs. 11-12
email: jimvano@psych.colorado.edu

Lectures: 12:30 – 1:45 Tues. and Thurs.    Muenzinger E0046

Labs:  
L110 1:00 - 2:50 Mon.  Muenzinger E0014  J. Greenberg
L111 10:00 - 11:50 Tues.  Muenzinger E0014  A. Ginsberg
L112 11:00 - 12:50 Wed.  Muenzinger E0014  J. Greenberg
L113 8:00 - 9:50 Thurs.  Muenzinger E0014  A. Ginsberg
L114 11:00 - 12:50 Fri.  Muenzinger E0014  J. Van Overschelde

General purposes of the course:
1) To facilitate critical evaluations of claims to truth made by psychologists or in everyday life.
2) To facilitate intellectual access to journals and books in psychology.
3) To provide an introduction to the conducting and reporting of psychological research.
4) To provide an introduction to computerized data analysis.

Course requirements:
1) Homework assignments and quizzes in the laboratory. Weekly homework assignments will be given. Quizzes will take place every two to three weeks. Grades on the assignments and quizzes will be combined to yield an overall laboratory grade.
2) Two hourly exams. The first one will be on Oct. 12; the second will be on Nov. 16.
3) Final exam on December 18, covering the entire semester.

Exam grading policy
Letter grades on exams will be computed using percentage scores calibrated to the average scores of the two individuals earning the most points in the class on any given exam. Anyone earning 90% of the points earned by those top two scorers will receive an A- or above; anyone earning 80% of the points earned by those top two scorers will receive a B- or above; and so forth.

Derivation of final grade:
Laboratory grade:  30%
First hourly exam:  20%
Second hourly exam:  20%
Final exam:  30%
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Required readings:
The basic text for the course is:
Belmont, CA: Duxbury Press.
During the first few weeks, there will also be required readings from:
Fort Worth: Holt Rinehart Winston. The required chapters are on reserve in Norlin.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 29</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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| Aug. 31 – Sept. 7 | Naive vs. scientific approaches to understanding behavior.  
Criteria for evaluating research.  
Validity and reliability: How do we measure what we want to measure?  
Research design: What designs are good for what purposes? | Judd, Smith, & Kidder:          | Chapters 1-2    |
| Sept. 12 – Sept. 21 | Descriptive statistics: Frequency distributions, measures of central tendency, variability, relative location. | Judd, Smith, & Kidder:          | Chapter 15      |
|             |                                                                        | Howell                          | Chapters 1-5    |
| Sept. 26 – Oct. 10 | The logic of inferential statistics: Probability, sampling distributions, confidence intervals; Single sample t-test. | Howell                          | Chapters 6 - 8, 12 |
| Oct. 12    | First Midterm Exam                                                     |                                 |                |
| Oct. 17 – Oct. 24 | Inferences about the difference between two means; Related and independent samples | Howell                          | Chapters 13 -14 |
| Oct. 26 – Oct. 31 | Statistical power                                                      | Howell                          | Chapter 15      |
| Nov 2 – Nov. 14 | Analysis of variance                                                   | Howell                          | Chapters 16 - 17 |
| Nov. 16    | Second Midterm Exam                                                    |                                 |                |
| Nov. 21 – Dec. 14 | Correlation; Simple and multiple regression                           | Howell                          | Chapters 9 - 11 |
| Dec. 18    | Final Exam (1:30 - 4:00 p.m.)                                          |                                 |                |