

## FOR PSYCHOLOGY 320 and 320L

### Important Memo!

Date: Fri 8 Sep 16:40:43 PDT 2006

From: "Paul Skolnick" <paul.skolnick@csun.edu> Add To Address Book | This is Spam

**Subject: Department Policy for lecture courses with labs**

To: "Psyfull" <psyfull-l@csun.edu>, "Psypt" <psypt-l@csun.edu>

Hello:

We have had some problems with students enrolling in lectures and labs with different instructors through SOLAR. Below is a brief history of the issue, departmental policy, and a 'fix' – instructions for handling the situation:

About three years ago, the student registration process changed from registering via phone through touch tone registration to registering online through SOLAR. Before when students registered through touch-tone registration, the departments had the ability to link lectures and labs together. Students had to take the lecture and lab with the same professor. However, with SOLAR, the departments lost the ability to link lectures and labs together. The Psychology Department decided that the students needed to continue taking lectures and labs with the same instructor. The philosophy behind this idea was that even though similar course content is covered, it is not covered in the same matter or at the same pace in different instructors' lecture and lab classes. Both the instructor and the student would be at a disadvantage if the student was not registered in the lecture and lab with the same instructor. Students are instructed both through the schedule of classes and again when they register online that they must take lectures and labs with the same instructor. If a student is enrolled in a lecture and not the lab, then the instructor will give the student a permission number to enroll in the lab. After getting a permission number from the correct instructor for the correct lab section, the student should use the "swap" option on SOLAR. This is the only way to correctly add the new lab. If a student is enrolled in a lab and not the lecture, the student will be asked by the instructor to drop the lab and try to register in another section. If students do not drop the lab section then the instructor will give them a grade of "WU". If a student needs to repeat either just the lecture or the lab to improve their grade, they must make special arrangements with the instructor. This cannot be done until the fourth week of class when they use the admissions and records' add/drop form and they will also need to pay a \$10 late fee.

Paul Skolnick, Ph.D.  
Professor and Department Chair  
Department of Psychology  
California State University, Northridge  
18111 Nordhoff Street  
Northridge, CA 91330

(818) 677-2827

**Psychology 320 and 320L: Psychological Statistics (Tentative: Subject to Change without notice until, Sunday, August 24, 2008)**  
**Fall Semester 2008**

Instructor: Dr. H.B. Lee

Office: ST301

Phone: 677-2827/677-4863

Office Hours: Wed 2-2:50 PM; Friday 11AM-12PM

Recommended Text: Comrey, A.L. & Lee, H.B. (2007). Elementary Statistics: A Problem Solving Approach, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. Lulu.com ISBN: 978-1-4116-6616-0

Download the SPSS Manual from Instructor's website. <http://www.csun.edu/%7Evcpsy015/home.htm>

Pre-requisites for course: Math 140 or equivalent.

There is ONLY ONE grade given for both Lecture and Lab portions of the class. That is, the 320 lecture and 320 lab portions are taken as one FOUR UNIT class. Students are **not** permitted to take only the lecture portion or only the lab portion of the class. Emails to the instructor concerning one's grade or grading component will not be answered. The grading components and evaluation are.

Weekly Quizzes	80 points (40% of final grade)
Final Exam	80 points (40% of final grade)
Class Participation & Attendance	18 points (9% of final grade)
Instructor's Personal Evaluation	16 points (8% of final grade)
Completion and submission of agreement Form on Monday	6 points (3% of final grade)
TOTAL	: 200 points (100%).

No Class /Lab Meetings on the following dates: Monday, September 1, 2008, Friday, November 28, 2008.

The instructor is **not obligated** in any way to add students to the class even if there are vacancies. Some not-enrolled students think the instructor will eventually add them to the class if they continue to attend class. The instructor is NOT obligated and will NOT add such students. However, students seeking to add the course must present to the instructor official written evidence of satisfactory completion of the pre-requisites on demand. If a waiting list for adds are created by the instructor, students on that list must answer to every roll call. The failure to respond to roll call will result in a forfeiture of status on the waiting list. That student will no longer be considered. Any student who is administratively dropped by the university for any reason, (e.g. non-payment) will be placed at the end of the waiting list. The instructor for admission into the class will not give such students any special considerations. The instructor can refuse admission to any student for any reason.

### The Signed Course Agreement

Each enrolled student MUST provide a signed copy of the course agreement form in order to remain in the class. Any student who has not signed and returned the agreement to the instructor will not be allowed to remain in the course. Students who are NOT enrolled in the class are NOT guaranteed admission into the class just because they have signed an agreement. If the instructor decides to grant admission to a student not enrolled in the class, the student must provide a signed agreement at the time permission to enroll numbers are given along with official written evidence of completion of the pre-requisites.

**Exams & Quizzes:** There will weekly quizzes usually given during Wednesday's lab period. There will be occasions when the quiz will be given on a Monday or a Friday. This is an extremely large class in terms of CSU standards and the administration of quizzes may be altered to best meet the instructional and educational needs of the students. **Only students properly enrolled in both lecture and lab portions of the class (student is enrolled in the lecture and lab taught by this instructor) will be allowed to take ANY of the quizzes and final exam.** If a student is enrolled only in the lecture or only in the lab, that student will NOT be allowed to take the quizzes or final exam. As a result these students will receive a grade of "WU" for the course they are enrolled in. A "WU" computes as an "F" grade. The quizzes will be related to lecture and lab material from the previous week. Students will need to have the 15-question scantron form for these quizzes. There will be 11 to 12 quizzes given during the semester. Only eight of the highest quizzes will count toward the final grade. There are **no make-up** quizzes. Missed quizzes will be given a score of zero. The final is scheduled for (Wednesday, December 17, 2008 from 10:15 AM

to 12:15 PM ) in the lecture room. There is the possibility that the final exam may be given in the respective final exam period scheduled for each lab. A decision concerning this will be determined later in the semester. If so, a formal announcement in writing will be available for each properly enrolled student. Mark your calendars now for the final exam; **there will be no early or late exams given for any reason**. The quizzes are not directly cumulative. The final exam will be cumulative covering all material in the whole course. You may use a hand-held calculator, but not a palm-pilot, ipod, cell phone or laptop or any electronic device that can store sentences or communicate by infrared or other wireless methods, during the exams. No cell phones are allowed during the class and during quizzes and final exam. They include multiple choice, short answers and manipulation of data, including calculations. Always bring your student photo ID to exams because identification may be checked. For ALL quizzes and final exam, each student is allowed to use his/her complete set of notes. Students during the exam can NOT share notes and calculators. Each student is responsible for bringing his/her own statistical tables. The statistical tables are considered as part of the notes allowed for the test. At the judgement of the reader, any illegible or poorly written or incomplete demonstration of solution on quizzes and exam will result in no credit for that problem. Not following the rules exactly as given by the instructor on how to do a problem will result in a zero score for that problem. No books are allowed during the exam. No copy of pages from the book (except statistical tables) will be allowed during the exam.

Letter grades for the entire course (lecture plus lab) will be assigned using the following scheme:

**The percentages are approximate but will not deviate by more than 1% in either direction:**

**A to A–: Top 13% total scores in the class**

**B+, B and B–: Next 30%**

**C+, C and C–: Next 45%**

**D+, D, and D–: Next 10%**

**F: Bottom 2%**

Note that your evaluation is based on the curve. Your unnecessary cooperation with fellow students could elevate their grade over yours.

### **Housekeeping:**

**Missed Quizzes and exam:** By definition, emergencies beyond a student's control are rare events. There will be no make-up quizzes given. There will be 11 to 12 quizzes given during the semester. Only the highest 8 quizzes will be counted. Any missed quizzes will be assigned a score of zero and could be amongst the three lowest quiz scores to be dropped. However, if for unavoidable and exceptional reasons you are unable to take the final exam, a make-up final examination is given only when circumstances beyond a student's control make it impossible to take the final. Students will be required to provide written documentation of the reason why the final exam was not taken. Make-up final exams are written individually for the student and may have a different format than the regular exam. Having too many finals on one day is not a legitimate reason for requesting a makeup final exam. Your request will be denied. **ALSO, students who are not properly enrolled in both lecture and lab taught by this instructor will NOT be allowed to take any of the quizzes or the final exam. Those students who are only enrolled in the lecture portion or the lab portion of the class will be given a final grade of "WU" which computes as an "F" grade.**

**Grade appeals:** If you believe that a mistake has been made in grading your quiz, write a note describing the error, attach it to the original exam, and give it to the instructor. You have 5 working days to do this starting from the day that the midterms are returned to the students. If you do not attend class, you will have to obtain your quizzes from your instructor during the instructor's office hours. If you are ill or have some other circumstance that will prevent you from complying with this 5-day requirement, you need to discuss this with your instructor before or during this five-day period in order to make alternative arrangements. Appeals after 5 working days will not be considered. Please be advised that the multiple-choice portion of the quiz is commonly copied before returning them to you and will compare the two when considering your appeal. If you have a concern about the quiz grading, you must bring this to the attention of your instructor the day your quiz is returned to you. Since grading of the quizzes is very straightforward, most difficulties arise due to failure to follow the rules and guidelines set by the instructor. If that is so, the appeal will be denied.

**Incompletes:** In the event you miss the final exam, you must meet the following criteria before I can give you an Incomplete: (1) your work must be of passing quality throughout the course, e.g., your quizzes plus attendance are passing work (D grade or higher on a percentage basis). If you have not taken any of the quizzes or shown up to class on a regular basis (Instructor's Opinion) you are NOT considered to be passing the class. (2) Missing the exam was due to an emergency beyond your control that you have documented to my satisfaction, and (3) you contacted me on or before the day of the final to arrange a conference. Please be aware that the instructor will NOT be around during the winter break so no makeup final exams will be given during that period of time. Students who are granted an incomplete will have two semesters following this semester in order to makeup the incomplete. If you have taken an incomplete grade for the class, do NOT re-enroll in the class. The instructor will not approve any extension regardless of the reason.

**Tentative Order of Topics to be covered:**

- Normal Curve
- Derived Scores
- : Correlation
- : Prediction
- : Interpretative Aspects of Correlation and Regression
- The Basis of Statistical Inference
- Hypothesis Testing
- : Hypothesis testing: Two independent Means
- : Hypothesis Testing: Two Dependent Means
- : Inference about Correlation
- : One-Way Analysis of variance (ANOVA)
- Two-way ANOVA
- : Chi-Square
- : Nonparametric Statistics

**The final exam is cumulative**, covering all of the topics, with more emphasis on the Two-way ANOVA, Chi-Square and Nonparametric Statistics.

**Cell phones and pagers:** Students are asked to turn off their cell phones and their pagers during class time. Failure to do so may result in interrupting the class. If this situation occurs, the student responsible will be penalized at least one point for each occurrence in terms of class participation and attendance component of the grade. If the student is unidentifiable, every student in the proximity of the call phone noise will be penalized 1 point. If a cell phone rings during a quiz or exam, the quiz or exam session ends. All quizzes and exams will be collected at that time. So be sure to turn off your cell phone or leave it with your instructor or exam proctor during quiz and examination periods.

**Class Attendance and Participation:** Nine percent of each student's grade is available for the student who attends class regularly without causing anguish and difficulties for the instructor and other students. Attendance will be taken on a semi-regular basis. If no response from the student is given at the time attendance is taken, 4 points will be deducted from this component of the grade. Disruptions caused by the student during class time will also result in a deduction. Attendance is definitely taken when quizzes are given and when quizzes are returned to the student. The Instructor's personal evaluation (8 percent of the final grade) of each student is a totally subjective assessment by the instructor of each student. Any student missing the final exam (except those with a legitimate incomplete; see above) will receive zero points for class participation and attendance and the instructors personal evaluation. Any student caught or suspected of cheating or plagiarizing will be given a zero score for that quiz or exam and also receive a zero score for the class participation and attendance and personal evaluation components of the course.

**Agreement Form.** Attached to this course syllabus is the course agreement form. Each student must submit a signed copy of this form to the instructor on Friday, August 29<sup>th</sup> on or before 12 PM. The form is a signed agreement by the student certifying that the student has read this syllabus completely and that he/she understands the rules and regulations set by the instructor for the course. Any student

who does not understand the provisions of this syllabus needs to ask for clarification from the instructor. **Any student who does not submit this form to the instructor must be prepared to drop the class or take a "F" grade in the course. Your first quiz will most likely have questions on it that directly pertains to the course syllabus. Note: It is inappropriate for any student to submit the agreement form without reading the course syllabus in its entirety. Submitting the form during or immediately after the first class meeting will be met with suspicion and a likelihood of points deducted from one's grade.**

In those situations where students are given a take-home quiz or assignment, the instructor expects each student to work on her/his own. It would be considered cheating if students worked together on the take-home or out-of-class assignments. Any students caught working together on graded take home assignments or quizzes will receive a zero on that assignment or quiz and also lose all points accumulated for the class participation and attendance portion of the class. Additionally, the instructor will give all students involved a score of zero on the personal evaluation portion of the class. The burden of non-cheating proof rests with the students involved.

IMPORTANT: The instructor will refer to formulas, examples and statistical tables given in the textbook.

### **Some important rules to maximize your grade in the class.**

#### Basic Rules for the Class

1. Attend ALL lectures and scheduled lab meetings. Attendance will be taken on an irregular basis.
2. Follow Instructor's Instructions Exactly
3. There is NO creativity in this course. Do **NOT** make up your own rules. This is a statistics course and not an art class. The instructor gives specific rules that you need to follow. Failure to do so will result in a zero score for the lab assignment and exams. This will be enforced strictly this semester.
4. Where appropriate or asked, show ALL meaningful steps in your computations. Meaningful steps that are left out will result in no credit given. For example, in computing the Centile Rank, if the formula is left off, you will receive no credit. If you present your final answer of a scaled score without showing clearly the decimal answer and the rounding used, you will receive no credit.
5. You must have a calculator capable of doing statistical computations quickly. Such calculators are available for \$9 or less at various places. DO NOT BUY a calculator from Staples! They are way overpriced! DO NOT buy Phillips products, they are NOT reliable and most likely fail to operate properly at crucial times. Ones by TI and Casio are fine. These calculators have special function keys to compute the mean and standard deviation. Each student is expected to know how to access these special functions on her/his calculator. The instructor or teaching assistant is NOT responsible for teaching a student how to operate his/her calculator.

Rules for Hand Computations. Violation of any of these rules when doing hand computations will result in no credit given.

1. Your answer must agree exactly with the one computed or arrived at by the instructor. Inability to do so will definitely result in points deducted.
2. Carry three (3) decimal places for ALL of your computations. Exercise rounding rules ONLY at the end of the computational problem. Failure to do so will result in **no credit** given for the question/problem regardless of whether you arrived at the solution that agrees with the instructor's.
3. For centiles (or percentiles), CEEB, deviation IQ, and McCall T-score scaled scores, the final answer is expressed as an integer (whole number; no fractions). At the end of the computation for these scaled scores, round to the nearest whole number (no decimals). Failure to round these to whole numbers will result in no credit given. Inadequate demonstration of rounding will also result in no credit given.
4. Centiles (or percentiles) are RANKS. Even though they are interpreted in terms of percentages, they are NOT percentages. Do NOT attach a percentage sign to a centile, percentile, centile rank or a percentile rank.

5. Z-scores, or standard scores are computed using numbers that are carried to 3 decimal places. They are reported to 2 decimal places. So if you need to report a Z-score, round it to 2 decimal places. However, if a Z-score is used in an intermediate step to arrive at another statistic, such as a scaled score, keep it at 3 decimal places.
6. For final answers involving percentages, they are reported as is. Do not round them to a whole number. A percentage symbol is attached to these.
7. For correlations and regression equations, 3 decimals are also carried in all computations. Correlations and regression coefficients are reported as a final answer to 2 decimal places. However, if the correlation and/or regression coefficients are used in the computation of another statistic, they must be used with 3 decimal places. If correlations and regressions, as a final answer, are not reported and rounded to 2 decimal places, no credit will be given.
8. If the problem requires you to compute a quantity that is generally reported as a whole number, such as the number of cases, or a predicted test score, these are rounded and reported as whole integer numbers.
9. The formula used to compute the standard deviation for this course will be

$$S = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (X - M)^2}{n - 1}} = \sqrt{\frac{n \sum X^2 - (\sum X)^2}{n(n - 1)}}$$

It is assumed that each student in the course have successfully completed the pre-requisite course and familiar with using formulas such as these. Failure to use these formulas or use these formulas correctly will result in no credit.

If you are unable to comply with these important rules, drop this course immediately and take it from someone else where these rules are NOT important to them. Reminder: Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, of the 3<sup>rd</sup> week is the last day to drop the course without instructor's approval. I will not sign any drop sheets after that deadline unless the reason is well documented; is within the rules of the university and meets with my approval.

Psychology 320 and 320L  
Psychological Statistics  
Fall Semester 2008  
Agreement Form

I, \_\_\_\_\_ certify that I have read this entire course syllabus and that I fully understand and agree to abide by all the rules, requirements and policy set forth by the instructor, department, college and university. The instructor has discussed the content of the syllabus in class. He has also informed every student in attendance that he will answer all questions concerning the syllabus and the course content during the semester.

I also understand that the any quiz given in this course could cover material from the course syllabus.

This form must be signed and dated by me and submitted to the instructor on Friday, August 29, 2008, no later than 12 PM (Noon)..

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_