

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE OPTION II LITERATURE REVIEW

Introductory Psychology (PSY.150)

The intent of the research requirement is to provide you with first-hand experience with human psychological research. From this opportunity, I trust you will have a better understanding of several current areas of research, the methods the experimenters select (and the reasons for their research), as well as the contribution of each study to our understanding of psychology. However, you can achieve some of these goals by reading articles of research projects in psychological journals.

Requirements

As an alternative to serving in experiment(s), you may read articles on human or nonhuman animal research and write a double-spaced literature review on that article for 2 research units per review/article. You may fulfill all or part of your research credit requirements by writing a literature review (two reviews will fulfill the requirement). You may choose this option at any point during regular classes as long as you hand in the summaries in lecture. The **deadline for literature reviews is the day of the final.**

The journals **MUST** be research journals published by the American Psychological Association or the American Psychological Society.

Examples of these journals are:

Behavioral Neuroscience (formerly the Journal of Comparative and Physiological Psychology)

Journal of Abnormal Psychology

Journal of Applied Psychology Emotion

Journal of Comparative Psychology

Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology

Journal of Counseling Psychology

Journal of Educational Psychology

Journal of Educational and Psychological Measurement

Journal of Experimental Psychology: Animal Behavior Processes

Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied

Journal of Experimental Psychology: General

Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance

Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition

Journal of Personality and Social Psychology

Neuropsychology

Professional Psychology: Research and Practice

Psychology and Aging

These journals are all in Mike Library. These articles must report new data collected on some issue, review of the literature (**if it does not have a section headed "Methods," it is not a research article**).

Selecting a Topic

One way to decide on a topic is to browse through you the textbook chapters that are interesting to you. You may select an article by simply looking for research discussed in your text, going to the references in the back of the text and then quarrying that original article from the library by doing a "journal search" on PacCat. Another way to find a topic is to search the PsycInfo database at the library by topic (caution: topic searches frequently result in A LOT of articles, be as specific). If you have questions, please don't hesitate to come by my office and I will show you how to do a literature search. **DO NOT use articles from the Internet.**

The Literature Review

An adequate summary should be one to two pages, double-spaced or one page, single spaced.

1. At the top of the page in the right hand column, provide your name, student ID number and your instructor.
2. Write the reference information from your article at the top of the page. It should be in the following format: author, date, title, journal, journal volume and number, and page numbers. Here is an example of acceptable formatting:

Kessler, B. L. and Bieschke, K. J. (1999). A Retrospective Analysis of Shame, Dissociation, and Adult Victimization in Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse. *Journal of Counseling Psychology*, vol. 46, no. 3, pp. 335-341
3. Describe the topic of study and the reasons why the researchers investigated this area.
4. Summarize the methods and discussion.
 - a. How were participants selected? How many took part in the study? What subjects were used?
 - b. What apparatus or materials were used? What were the experimental procedures?
 - c. What was the outcome of the study?
5. Attach a copy of the ENTIRE ARTICLE to the back of your literature review.

Think of your summary as a short essay. It should have an introductory paragraph as well as a conclusion. Of course, it will be written in complete, grammatically correct sentences without spelling errors and without editorializing.

Do Not Plagiarize!

When you are writing your summary, be cautious not plagiarize. For the sake of this class, plagiarism occurs when you copy somebody else's words (even just two words in a row) and you do not put them in quotes. Students found to have committed plagiarism, will be given a failing grade for the class. Additional sanctions, per the student code, may also be enforced.