



**PSY 413: Research Apprenticeship**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2024**

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Curt A. Carlson, PhD  
Professor, Department of Psychology and Special Education

**University Email Address:** [curt.carlson@tamuc.edu](mailto:curt.carlson@tamuc.edu)

**Preferred Form of Communication:** Email

**Communication Response Time:** Within 24 hours M-F.

**Mandatory Weekly Lab Meeting:** 4pm Wednesdays, in the Applied Cognition Lab (Binnion 208)

**COURSE INFORMATION**

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

There is no textbook. Instead, shortly after each lab meeting, I will email an article that we will discuss at the next week's lab meeting. These articles will be from the published psychological literature, mostly involving eyewitness memory or decision-making.

**Course Description**

This course involves two primary elements:

- 1) Weekly lab meetings, during which one of three things will occur:
  - a) I will lecture about research methods (beginning of the semester) and about the eyewitness memory literature (most of the rest of the semester).
  - b) Training on experiments that we will run in the lab this semester
  - c) Reading and discussing a research article each week. A few times during the semester, you will be in charge of leading discussion (more on this below).
- 2) Attending your weekly timeslots in the lab so that you can run participants through our experiments, and possibly also complete other work we provide (e.g., literature review, data coding/analysis).

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. You will learn how to digest psychological research articles, including interpretation of graphs.
2. You will learn about topics from psychology and law, especially eyewitness identification/memory.
3. You will learn how to interact with participants and how to run them through experiments.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

Using Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint

Using general Internet search engines (i.e. Google.com, Yahoo.com) to locate research related to topics

Accessing and using the Texas A&M University-Commerce Library electronic databases

### **Instructional Methods**

All content in this course will take place in the Applied Cognition Lab (Binnion 208), especially during weekly lab meetings (Wednesdays at 4pm). You can only attend via zoom with prior approval from me before the semester begins.

### ***ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS***

You are required to attend the lab meeting each week, and to be in the lab during your assigned timeslots (see schedule below). If you cannot attend any part of your upcoming timeslots, you must provide notice (to myself or a graduate RA) at least one week in advance. Moreover, you need to make an effort to get another RA to cover your slot.

**There will be no quizzes or tests of any kind in this course.**

**Your grade will be either Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory based largely on your attendance during the semester, both for lab meetings and your timeslots.**

### **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

If you email instructor and do not receive an email response within 24 hours, most likely, your email was not received. Instructor will respond to all emails within a reasonable period of time.

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## **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. A reasonable attempt will be made to communicate any changes.

## **University Specific Procedures**

### **Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.

[http://www.tamuc.edu/student\\_guidebook/Student\\_Guidebook.pdf](http://www.tamuc.edu/student_guidebook/Student_Guidebook.pdf)

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, Chatbots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources. 13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

### **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

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## **Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

### [Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

### [Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

## **INSTRUCTOR'S STATEMENT RELATING TO ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Academic Honesty and Integrity: I cannot emphasize the following enough or too much. Far too many students are "finding out the hard way" that instructors and the university are extremely serious about our policies relating to academic integrity and honesty, and this is true in both web-based and face-to-face classes. Each environment has its own set of security needs, and these are addressed by instructors in various ways. In the simplest of terms, NEVER engage in any behavior or practice that is dishonest or misleading in any way. You must ALWAYS do your work and only your own work. NEVER have another student do work for you and then present it as your own. NEVER agree to do another student's work, and NEVER do another student's work. NEVER copy information from an internet source or another source, online and otherwise, and present it as your own.

### **Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

#### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

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**The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center’s crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)**

**Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

**Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/345afetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf) document and/or consult your event organizer.  
<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/345afetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

**COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

This schedule is to be used as a guide. It is possible that it will change.

<b>Lab Meeting</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1/10	Introductions, lab rules and guidelines
1/17	Training on experiments
1/24	Lecture: Research Methods and Eyewitness ID
1/31	Article Discussion: False Confessions
2/7	Article Discussion: Retention Interval, Showups, and Lineups
2/14	Article Discussion: Prospective Person Memory

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2/21	Article Discussion: Predicting Eyewitness ID Performance
2/28	Article Discussion: Stress and Eyewitness ID
3/6	Article Discussion: Distance and Eyewitness ID
3/13	SPRING BREAK
3/20	Article Discussion: Alcohol and Weapon Focus
3/27	Article Discussion: Misinformation and Post-ID Feedback
4/3	Article Discussion: Face Recognition Ability and Game of Thrones
4/10	Article Discussion: Multiple Perpetrators and Eyewitness ID
4/17	Article Discussion: Stronger Memory for the Perpetrator and ID Procedure
4/24	Article Discussion: Unconscious Transference
5/1	<b>End of Semester Lab Lunch</b>

**Lab Schedule**

	<b>MONDAY</b> (in charge/on call - Zane)	<b>TUESDAY</b> (in charge/on call - Zane)	<b>WEDNESDAY</b> (in charge/on call - Zane)	<b>THURSDAY</b> (in charge/on call - Zane)	<b>FRIDAY</b> (in charge/on call - Zane)
<b>TIME</b>					
8:00					
:15					
:30					
:45					
9:00	Jennifer	Aniyah	Jennifer	Aniyah	Jennifer
:15					
:30					
:45					
10:00					
:15					
:30					
:45					
11:00		Lexi		Lexi	
:15					
:30					
:45					
12:00	Sky		Sky		Sky
:15					
:30					
:45					
1:00					
:15					
:30	Samantha	Nee	Nee	Sky	
:45					
2:00					
:15					
:30					
:45	Aniyah			Aniyah	Aniyah
3:00					
:15					
:30				Lexi	
:45					
4:00			LAB MEETING		
:15					
:30					
:45					
5:00	Samantha				
:15					
:30					
:45					

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