



PSYCHOLOGY 413: RESEARCH APPRENTICESHIP PSY413-01E

COURSE SYLLABUS: FALL 2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Kevin Diegel, PhD

Office Location: Henderson Hall 209

Office Hours: By Appointment

University Email Address: Kevin.Diegel@etamu.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: **Email** (please include PSY413 in the title)

Communication Response Time: Within 48 hours, or 72 on weekends.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required:

None – relevant materials and readings will be provided weekly.

Textbook(s) Recommended / Optional:

[APA Publication Manual](#)

Software Required:

[Jamovi](#) | [Zotero](#) | **MS Word or Google Sheets**

Software Recommended:

[IBM SPSS Grad Pack 31.0](#) - \$35

Course Description

This course involves the following:

1. Weekly lab meetings, during which one of three things will occur:
 - a. A lecture about research methods and relevant research to our lab focus
 - b. Training for experiments including IRB, CITI, FERPA
 - c. Reading & discussing a research article each week. A few times during the semester, you will be in charge of leading a discussion.
2. Attending weekly timeslots in the lab so that you can run participants through experiments, and to complete any other work provided (e.g., data analysis)
3. At times, students are expected to perform literature reviews to subjects pertinent to a specific research direction.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

4. Students are expected to learn technologies that are relevant to learning, research, and productivity through both instruction and online sources.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. You will learn to digest psychological research articles and interpret graphs.
2. You will learn about topics in psychology, decision-making, morals and ethics.
3. You will learn how to interact with participants and run them through experiments.
4. You will learn to search and identify research articles that are pertinent to the research focus.
5. You will expand your technical knowledge.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Basic understanding of the following technologies:

Microsoft Office (Word/Excel/PowerPoint) **OR** Google (Sheets/Slides)

Basic understanding of AI powered search using a platform such as SciSpace, along with LLM's like ChatGPT or Gemini.

Instructional Methods

All content in this course takes place in the Decision Lab (Henderson 211/213). You are expected to attend each weekly meeting.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

1. Attend every meeting
2. Take good notes
3. Don't be afraid to ask questions

ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

You are required to attend the lab meeting each week, and to be in the lab during your assigned time slots. If you cannot attend any part of your upcoming timeslots, you must provide notice at least one week in advance. Moreover, you need to make an effort to get another RA to cover your slot.

Both lab meeting time and research ours will be discussed with students at the start of the semester. Typically, you are expected to allocate 4-8 hours in the lab per week. Depending on students' schedules (e.g., mid terms), the lab will have some flexibility.

GRADING

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

Course Outline/Calendar

Because schedules are subject to change prior to the start of the semester, no specific meeting day/time is provided currently. Students will be contacted closer to the semester with the official times.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is there extra credit or a way to make up a missed meeting?

No.

Is there a research requirement for this course?

No. Also, because you cannot participate in any studies that you are actively taking part in (as part of the lab) – you will be granted their credit hour equivalent in SONA to use towards other classes if necessary.

Can we use AI to help write or carry out tasks?

Yes. Just do not use A.I. to generate sources – it's unreliable for that.

Can I trade hours with someone?

Yes, but that's between the two of you to figure out. I just need to know that SOMEONE is there for the participants.

If I can't make it to the meeting, can I attend virtually on Zoom?

No. Some of these trainings don't lend themselves to a virtual format. See if one of the other RA's can catch you up first, and if not then reach out to me.

How do I benefit from this course?

In practical terms you gain the following: knowledge of the research process, intimate knowledge of desirable programs, experience that can go on your CV, and (if requested) someone willing to write a letter of recommendation for your graduate applications. Oh, and likely an A for your GPA of course.

Can I return to the lab next semester?

That is entirely up to you. If another lab studies something more interesting to you, then go pursue that. If you like it here, then you will be welcome to return. Returning students will be treated with seniority – meaning they are given more freedom and also more responsibility.

Can I work outside of the semester?

You may, but it would be voluntary with no impact on the course. Contact me if interested.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@etamu.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

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

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COURSE

CWID and Password

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@etamu.edu.

Technology-Related Issues

Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

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TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students will need reliable computer and internet access for this course. Students must be able to effectively use myLeo email, myLeo Online D2L, and Microsoft Office.

Learning Management System (LMS) – D2L

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are the technical requirements:

- View the [Learning Management System Requirements Webpage](#).
- Learn more on the [LMS Browser Support Webpage](#).

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found on the [Brightspace Support Webpage](#).

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor. Correspondence will always be through university email (your “myLeo” mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). You will not RECEIVE email through D2L, so be sure to check your ETAMU email for communication. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

Include the Following in Emails with Instructor:

- Course name and subject in the subject line
 - Salutation (Good afternoon, Dr. Jackson)
 - Proper email etiquette (no “text” emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)
 - Student name and CWID after the body of the email (possibly add to student signature on email)
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COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

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 online in the [Student Guidebook](#).

Students should also consult the [Rules of Netiquette Webpage](#) for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum.

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy, please view the [Attendance Webpage](#) and the [Class Attendance Policy](#).

Academic Integrity

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

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

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

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

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Use of Artificial Intelligence

East Texas A&M University 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.

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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

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

East Texas A&M University

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu

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

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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 ETAMU 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](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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

East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health – Counseling Services

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, 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

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



As an Institutional Member of the National Association of Schools of Music, East Texas State A&M University supports the Association's commitment to student health and wellness. The following web address provides links to information for resources related to physical and mental well-being, as well as assists in offering preventative measures that students can take to avoid serious and/or chronic conditions: [Musician Health and Safety - East Texas A&M University](#)

Department and Accrediting Agency Statement:

School of Music Mission Statement:

The School of Music at East Texas A&M University promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

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