

**Advanced Psychology & Law**

**PSYC 498 Section 3**

**Lecture:** Thursday 12:30 – 3:20

**Classroom:** 202 Burnett Hall

<b>Instructor:</b>	Krystia Reed	Kate Kimble
<b>Office:</b>	12 Burnett Hall	71 Burnett Hall
<b>Office Hours:</b>	By Appointment	By Appointment
<b>Email:</b>	Krystia.Reed@huskers.unl.edu	Katherine.Knight1893@gmail.com

\*Please put PSYC 498 in the subject line for all emails. We will respond to all emails within 1 business day.

**Course Description**

The goal of this course is for you to complete your own research project on a topic involving psychology and law. You will learn how to go through all of the steps of reviewing relevant literature, developing a research project, collecting data, analyzing data, writing it up, and presenting it.

**Prerequisites**

Prior completion of Research Methods (PSYC 350) and Psychology & Law (PSYC 401).

**Required Texts**

Any readings will be posted on Blackboard.

**Grading**

The goal of this course is for you to run your own study and create your own manuscript, thus your grade will be based on the manuscript and the drafts you complete along the way. The grading breakdown is as follows:

Project Topic & Hypotheses	25 points
IRB Proposal	25 points
Drafts	250 points
Poster Draft and Poster Presentation	200 points
Oral Presentation	200 points
Final Manuscript	800 points
<b>Total</b>	<b>1500 points</b>

### **Project Topic & Hypotheses (25 points)**

In order to get IRB approval and start data collection in time to finish your project, you will have to develop a research topic almost immediately. Your project topic and associated research hypotheses will be due the second week of class. This can take any format and be on any topic that is related to psychology and law. Keep in mind you will have to collect the data, analyze it, and write it up this semester, so it should not be too complicated. If you have any questions, contact either one of us and we would be happy to discuss it with you.

### **IRB Proposal (25 points)**

Prior to collecting data, everyone must have IRB (Institutional Review Board) approval, which basically is concerned with whether you are behaving ethically. We will discuss IRB proposals during class, but you will have to submit a draft of your IRB proposal to us before the third week of class. As soon as you receive our feedback, you may submit it to the IRB via NUGrant. They sometimes take a while to approve it, so the earlier you submit it, the better. If you have any problems, please let us know immediately!

### **Drafts (250 points)**

Throughout the semester, you will be submitting drafts of sections of your manuscript. We will give you feedback on these drafts that you can incorporate into your final manuscript so that by the time you turn in your final manuscript, you will have already submitted and gotten feedback on all of the parts. The schedule tells you when each part is due, and we will be providing more information for each section when we discuss it in class. Each section must be in APA format.

The breakdown of points for the drafts is as follows:

Introduction	50 points
Method	50 points
Data Analysis Plan	50 points
Results and Discussion	50 points
Conclusion	25 points
Abstract	25 points

### **Poster Presentation and Oral Presentation (200 points each)**

One important element of conducting research is being able to communicate your research design and findings to other people. This normally takes one of two forms – **poster presentations** or **oral presentations**. You will be practicing both during this semester. The poster presentation will occur during the **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Law-Psychology Program** at UNL (see <http://lawpsych40.unl.edu/preliminary-schedule>). The oral presentation will occur during the final **Law-Psychology Brownbag** of the year. Neither of these will be during regular class hours.

We will discuss both presentations more during class and you will have the opportunity to practice with your fellow students. You will have to submit a draft of your poster as well prior to getting it printed.

### **Final Manuscript (800 points)**

The majority of your grade will be the final manuscript that you will submit at the end of the semester. This should be in APA format and should be publishable (i.e., we should be able to submit it to a journal without too many changes). More information about the final paper is provided on the rubric.

### **Grading Scale**

<b>Letter</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Letter</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
A+	97.0-100%	C+	77.0-79.9%
A	93.0-96.9%	C	73.0-76.9%
A-	90.0-92.9%	C-	70.0-72.9%
B+	87.0-89.9%	D+	67.0-69.9%
B	83.0-86.9%	D	63.0-66.9%
B-	80.0-82.9%	D-	60.0-62.9%
		F	Less than 60%

Note that a grade of C or higher (i.e., not a C-) is necessary for your grade in this course to count toward the major in psychology. I will not round up grades at the end of the semester. For example, if you receive an 89.49, you will receive a B+ for the course. If you have concerns about your grade, please speak with me during the semester (sooner is better). I may be able to offer you suggestions that will help you to increase your grade. I can do nothing, however, at the end of the semester once the final grades have been calculated.

### **Course Policies**

#### **Blackboard**

Check Blackboard (<http://blackboard.unl.edu>) daily and make sure that your default email address on Blackboard is correct. The materials on Blackboard (announcements, assignments, readings, and syllabus) will be updated regularly. All out-of-class assignments must be submitted on Blackboard via SafeAssign.

#### **Late Work Policy**

Due dates noted in the syllabus, in the assignment descriptions, or during class will be strictly enforced. All assignments must be submitted on time in the manner indicated in the instructions. Assignments turned in after the due date/time will be **penalized 10% for up to 24 hours after the deadline. After 24 hours, the assignment will receive a 0.** You must contact one of us **prior to the deadline** if you want me to consider approving a late submission.

#### **Attendance**

Class attendance and participation are strongly encouraged. Attendance is mandatory during data analysis days.

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the instructor for a confidential discussion of their individual needs for academic accommodation. It is the policy of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to provide flexible and individualized accommodation to students with documented disabilities that may affect their ability to fully participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. To receive accommodation services, students must be registered with the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) office, 132 Canfield Administration, 472-3787, voice or TTY.

### **Academic Misconduct Policy**

Academic misconduct in any form is a very serious matter and it will not be tolerated in this course. Academic misconduct is broadly defined as being any action on your part that violates the rights of another student in academic work or that involves misrepresentation of your own work. If you are found to be cheating on examinations or to be engaging in scholarly dishonesty in your work, you will receive a failing grade for the entire course and your misconduct will be reported to the Psychology department, your major department, and to Student Judicial Affairs, and any other appropriate University offices, any of which may impose additional sanctions.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Cheating
- Fabrication and Falsification
- Plagiarism
- Abuse of Academic Materials
- Complicity in Academic Dishonesty
- Falsifying Grade Reports
- Misrepresentation to Avoid Academic Work

Please see the University of Nebraska's Student Code of Conduct (§ 4.2) for more details. If you have questions about what is and is not acceptable behavior, **please ask**

**Tentative Course Schedule**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Lecture Topic</b>	<b>Presentations</b>	<b>Assignments Due</b>
1 August 28	Review Psychology & Law Review Research Methods		
2 September 4	IRB Proposals Methods Section	Research Topics & Hypotheses	Research Topics & Hypotheses
3 September 11	Introductions/Literature Reviews APA Style References Data Analysis Plans	Methods	IRB Proposal Draft Methods Section Draft
4 September 18	No Class - Individual Meetings		Submit IRB Proposal to IRB by today
5 September 25	No Class – Individual Meetings		Data Analysis Plan
6 October 2	No Class – Individual Meetings		Introduction/Literature Review Draft
7 October 9	Poster Presentations	Project So Far (Introduction, Hypotheses, Methods, Data Analysis Plan)	
8 October 16	Results Section	Practice Poster Presentation	Poster Draft
9 October 23	No Class – Attend 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Law- Psychology Program and Present Poster		Final Poster
10 October 30	No Class – Data Collection		
11 November 6	Data Analysis		Bring in Data
12 November 13	Data Analysis		Bring in Data
13 November 20	Oral Presentations	Results	Results Section Draft
14 November 27	No Class – Thanksgiving		
15 December 4	Abstracts & Conclusions	Practice Powerpoint Presentation	Oral Presentation at Brownbag at 4pm
16 December 11 December 15	No Class		Abstract & Conclusion Drafts Final Manuscript due by Midnight