

**Research in Psychology**  
**Psychology 400**  
Fall 2014  
3:30 - 4:45 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday  
Rm 102W Bullock Science Center

Dr. Bonnie Perdue  
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125 E Bullock Science Center

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m., or by appointment

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Seminars focusing on research in area of psychology. The specific research topic in each section of the class will be determined by the individual class instructor. Students will conduct collaborative research projects in the designated research area. Prerequisite: PSY 207 or BIO 210. This is a 4-credit hour course in which we will meet in the classroom for 3 hours each week. The additional credit hour will allow for course readings to be completed before class. This course will also involve projects, reading assignments and studying to be completed outside of class time.

**Learning Goals:** Students will continue to work on American Psychological Association Learning Goals 2, 3, and 4. Students will be able to weigh evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and reflect other values that are the underpinnings of psychology as a discipline—Learning Goal 5 of the American Psychological Association Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major (2006)

- ❖ Every student will use APA style and research sources to write or co-author a research paper that is at least 15 pages long
- ❖ Every student will participate in an oral presentation for at least 15 minutes
- ❖ Every student will be expected to critique and discuss research articles
- ❖ Every student will design projects
- ❖ Every student will be strongly encouraged to submit to give a presentation or poster presentation at an internal and/or external conference about their research
- ❖ Every student will spend time exploring her career goals

**Course Objectives:**

- ❖ Create materials for career development including a CV and personal statement
- ❖ Design a research project to be carried out at the zoo. Collect, analyze and present the research
- ❖ Engage with speakers at different stages of careers in a variety of cognitive neuroscience and animal science jobs.
- ❖ Prepare a paper and a poster that will be presented in a class session, as well as potentially at a conference

**REQUIRED READING MATERIAL**

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**Reading Assignments:** All readings will be posted on Moodle.

**CLASS COMPONENTS**

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**Methods of Evaluation:**

Participation Points

Over the course of the semester, there will be 27 class meetings. You can earn 3 points for each class in which you attend, complete required assignments and actively participate. I reserve the right to deduct points if your behavior is not conducive to a group learning environment. On zoo days, you must be present and collecting data at the zoo to earn your participation points. You can miss two classes without losing any points from the total. You can earn up to 6 extra points on towards your final total.

Student Led Discussion

You will lead a portion of class discussion. You will find and read two papers related to animal welfare. You will summarize these for the rest of the class and ask discussion questions about the material. You will lead the discussion for approximately an 8-10 minute period on a designated date. More details will come in class.

Rough Draft of C.V.

On the designated class day, you will hand in a rough draft of your Curriculum Vitae. More details will come in class.

Final Draft of C.V.

On the designated class day, you will hand in a final draft of your Curriculum Vitae. More details will come in class.

*Research Project: Each student will collect data on one species at the zoo. The data collection will take place with a partner; however, each person will carry out their own project. Every individual is responsible for turning in all of the following independently.*

### Research Proposal

You will submit a research proposal that includes a literature review and the proposed methods for your study. This needs to be formatted using APA style. More details will come in class.

### Oral Presentation

At the end of the semester, you will give a 12-15 minute PowerPoint presentation on your research study. More details will come in class.

### Final Draft of Poster

You will create a final draft of a poster of your research study. More details will come in class.

### Final Paper

You will write a final paper draft of your research study, APA style, 6<sup>th</sup> edition. You will be the first author on the paper, your partner will be the second author, and I will be the third author. More details will come in class.

Any late assignments will be accepted for up to 24 hours beyond the due date for half credit.

## **LIVING HONORABLY**

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Everyone has pledged to follow [Agnes Scott College's Honor System](#) as outlined in the student handbook. The following statement on academic honesty comes from the faculty Committee on Academic Standards and Admission of Agnes Scott College (ASC Faculty Meeting Minutes, Attachment 5. May 11, 2012.)

**Academic Honesty:** The Agnes Scott College honor code embodies an ideal of character, conduct, and citizenship, and is an important part of the College's mission and core identity. This applies especially to academic honesty and integrity. Passing off someone else's work as your own represents intellectual fraud and theft, and violates the core values of our academic community. To be honorable, you should understand not only what counts as academic dishonesty, but also how to avoid engaging in these practices. You should:

- ❖ review each course syllabus for the professor's expectations regarding course work and class attendance.
- ❖ attribute all ideas taken from other sources; this shows respect for other scholars. Plagiarism can include portraying another's work or ideas as your own, buying a paper online and turning it in as if it were your own work, or not citing or improperly citing references on a reference page or within the text of a paper.
- ❖ not falsify or create data and resources or alter a graded work without the prior consent of your professor. This includes making up a reference for a works cited page or making up statistics or facts for academic work.
- ❖ not allow another party to do your work/exam, or submit the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from the course instructors. Cheating also includes taking an exam for another person, looking on another person's exam for answers, using exams from previous classes without permission, or bringing and using unauthorized notes or resources (i.e., electronic, written, or otherwise) during an exam.
- ❖ not facilitate cheating, which can happen when you help another student complete a take home exam, give answers to an exam, talk about an exam with a student who has not taken it, or collaborate with others on work that is supposed to be completed independently.
- ❖ be truthful about the submission of work, which includes the time of submission and the place of submission (e.g., e-mail, online, in a mailbox, to an office, etc.) You should understand that penalties result from dishonest conduct, ranging from failure of the assignment to expulsion from the college. You should speak with your professors if you need clarification about any of these policies.

### Modified Pledge

Students pledge that they have completed assignments honestly by attaching the following statement to each test, quiz, paper, overnight assignment, in-class essay, or other work:

*I pledge that I have neither given nor received any unauthorized aid on this assignment.*

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

## **OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLASS**

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**Course Evaluations:** Students' feedback about this course is valuable to the professor, the psychology department, and the college administration. Students' comments are taken seriously and the comments are used to improve the course in the future. Students will be asked to complete evaluations of the course at the end of the semester.

**Disability Accommodations:** Agnes Scott College seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. All accommodations for disabilities are authorized through the Office of Academic Advising (please see the contact information listed below to complete the registration process). Once registered, please contact me so we can discuss any specific accommodations needed for this course. Both Academic Advising and the faculty respect students' confidentiality when accommodations are made.

Kelly Deasy, Coordinator of Student Disability Services  
Office of Academic Advising and Student Disability Services  
Buttrick 104b  
[404-471-6174](tel:404-471-6174)  
[kdeasy@agnesscott.edu](mailto:kdeasy@agnesscott.edu)

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**POINT ALLOCATION**

Participation Points***	75
Student led discussion	25
CV Rough Draft	25
CV Final Draft	25
Research Proposal	50
Oral Presentation	50
Personal Statement	50
Poster	50
Final Paper	100
<b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>	<b>450</b>

**GRADING SCALE (%)**

A = 93 - 100	A - = 90 - 92
B+ = 87 - 89	B = 83 - 86
B - = 80 - 82	C+ = 77 - 79
C = 73 - 76	C - = 70 - 72
D+ = 67 - 69	D = 63 - 66
D - = 60 - 62	F = 59 or less

\*\*\*Reminder – you can actually earn up to 81 participation points. If you attend and participate every day, these will count as extra points in your total.

**PSY 400 Schedule**

(Although every effort will be made to follow the syllabus, I reserve the right to make changes.)

<b>Class Date</b>	<b>General Topic</b>	<b>Due Dates</b>	<b>Readings</b>
TH-Aug 28	Course Introduction		
T-Sept 2	Animal Welfare	Bring 3 questions to class based on readings	Read Postings on Moodle
TH-Sept 4	Literature Search Workshop in <b>McCain 211</b> (bring computer)		Read Handouts 1-3
T-Sept 9	Student Led Discussion	Present a summary of 2 welfare papers to class	
TH-Sept 11	Initial Zoo Visit and Tour		
T-Sept 16	Data Collection Techniques	Hypotheses Due	
TH-Sept 18	Draft Development		Read Handouts 4-5
T-Sept 23	GUEST SPEAKER – Dr. Hillary Schwarb	Research Proposal Due & 3 questions for speaker	
TH-Sept 25	Professional Development		Read Handouts 6-7
T-Sept 30	CV & Personal Statement Workshop (bring computer)		
TH-Oct 2	Zoo Day!		
T-Oct 7	GUEST SPEAKER – Dr. Andrea Clay	Rough Draft of CV Due & 3 questions for speaker	
TH-Oct 9	Zoo Day!		
T-Oct 14	GUEST SPEAKER – Laurent Pretot	Personal Statement Due & 3 questions for speaker	
TH-Oct 16	FALL BREAK - NO CLASS		
T-Oct 21	GUEST SPEAKER – Dr. Megan Wilson	3 questions for speaker	
TH-Oct 23	Zoo Day!		
T-Oct 28	GUEST SPEAKER – Dr. Michael Beran	3 questions for speaker	
TH-Oct 30	Zoo Day!		
T-Nov 4	Data preparation and analysis (bring computer and data sheets)	TBA – Zoo Visit	
TH-Nov 6	Zoo Day!		
T-Nov 11	Poster Workshop (bring computer to class)		
TH-Nov 13	Zoo Day!	Final Draft of CV Due	
T-Nov 18	Data analysis (bring computer to class)		
TH-Nov 20	Report Preparation		
T-Nov 25	Report Preparation	Poster Due	
TH-Nov 27	<b>Happy Thanksgiving!</b>		
T-Dec 2	<b>RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS</b>		
TH-Dec 4	<b>RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS</b>		
Dec. 12-16	<b>Final Exam Week – Research Paper Due Dec. 16 at 5:00</b>		

