

Outline of Research Participation Option in PSYC 1200

(Fall/Winter 2009/2010)

To ensure that students have some contact with psychological research, and to enable departmental researchers to conduct scientific investigations, most departments of psychology in North America have an introductory psychology research participation pool in one form or other. As a result, a good deal of the knowledge psychologists have gained has come from students' participation in research. Such programs have an important place in psychological research.

Research Participation Option

A certain percentage of your final grade may be earned by participating in research projects (see your syllabus for the exact figure). For each half hour (or part thereof) of participation, you will receive 1 participation credit. The maximum number of these credits you can earn is 16. If you collect more than 16 credits, only 16 will be counted. In general, you will have an *opportunity* to serve in as many experiments as will be required, but you should, if possible, sign up whenever experiments become available. Be patient, for it often takes several weeks for a plentiful supply of experiments to appear, and many studies are begun in the latter half of the course. For those who find it difficult to arrange the time to participate in research, or choose not to do so, an alternative to experimental participation is provided that will help to broaden your understanding of research in psychology. This option is to read material (approximately 60 pages in total) dealing with methodological issues in psychological research and to write a multiple-choice test based on these readings set by the Pool Committee. Copies of the required reading, Chapters 1 and 2 of L. B. Christensen's *Experimental Methodology* text, can be found on 24-hour reserve in Dafoe Library under the call number *U1 PSYC 1200 001*. You will be given points towards the research option equal to your test performance. You may rewrite the test to improve your score. You must make your decision known to your instructor within four weeks of the beginning of the course). Your instructor will pass your name on to the test coordinator who will contact you at approximately mid-term.

Note: Any research participation credits earned in a previous attempt at PSYC 1200 (or 17.120) **may not** be used in the current attempt.

HOW TO SIGN UP FOR AN EXPERIMENT

The Psychology Research Participation System is an online system that is used to manage many aspects of the participant pool. To find and sign up to participate in experiments, you need to go online to:

<http://subpool.psych.umanitoba.ca>

BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

Please Note: You MUST have a valid U of M email address to register for the Psychology Research Participation System. If you have not yet claimed your U of M email account, you can do so at the following website address: <http://umanitoba.ca/claimid>

In order to become a research participant and earn credits, you need to have an account on the research participation system. To create your account, click 'Request an account here' located at the bottom left corner of the Log-In display screen (<http://subpool.psych.umanitoba.ca>). You MUST use your U of M email user ID as the user ID for this account. Once you have filled in the required information and have clicked the 'Request Account' button, your User ID and Password will be emailed to you at your U of M email account (<http://webmail.cc.umanitoba.ca>).

TO SIGN UP FOR AN EXPERIMENT:

If you wish to sign up for an experiment, log onto the system (<http://subpool.psych.umanitoba.ca>) and enter your User ID and Password. Next, click the 'Study Sign-Up' button, and a list of the names of all experiments that are currently available will be shown. ***If you do not see any experiments one day, come back the next day as new experiments are added on a regular basis.*** You can click on the name of the experiment to get more information about that particular study. **To schedule an appointment to participate, click the 'View Time Slots for This Study' and once you find a timeslot that fits your schedule, click the 'Sign Up' button next to the timeslot you have chosen, assuming you meet any special qualifications that might be listed (e.g., good eyesight).**

NOTE: You may only sign up for one time slot for each experiment; otherwise you will prevent others from being able to earn credits. You may only participate in an experiment once, so if you sign up for more than one appointment time, you will be penalized for the sessions which you do not attend (2 credits each).

