Research Participation Requirement for Students Enrolled in

Psychology 1879

Introductory Psychology

1. **All** students enrolled in PSY 1879 classes are required to serve as research participants in research projects being done by EIU psychology researchers. Your participation in a research project assists Psychology Department faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate Psychology majors in carrying out their scientific investigations. It also provides you with a valuable firsthand view of how research in psychology is conducted.

Those who do not want to be in research studies can complete written library assignments as an alternative. If you choose this option, you must contact your instructor to get specific guidelines. You will be required to complete **five** **(5)** library assignments. **The deadline for choosing the alternate library assignments is the end of the eighth week of class for the semester: March 3, 2023.**

1. Each research study earns a different number of research credits, depending on how long it takes. Most studies will earn ½ hour or 1 hour of credit. You will be required to earn at least **five (5)** hours of credit.
2. Credit for research participation and written library assignments cannot be combined—you must complete the requirement by doing ALL of one or the other.
3. Many research studies can be completed online. Other studies require you to go to a specific room somewhere to complete the study. **You must complete at least two hours of studies in person (not online).**
4. If you do extra hours, you can get extra credit in your class. For each additional hour of credit you earn, you will receive ½ a point extra credit. You can earn up to 2% extra credit points for your class grade (4 extra research participation hours).
5. Research studies get started, and end, at various times throughout the semester. Over the course of the semester there should be enough studies for you to fulfill your research requirement. However, **there is no guarantee that there will be studies available for you at any given time – especially as we get close to the deadline to complete credits. You are strongly encouraged to begin to complete your research requirement early, and to check the study listings regularly so that you will be able to meet your requirement.**
6. The deadline for participation in all studies is **April 21, 2023 (The second to last Friday of class)**. The deadline to correct any errors in credit is **April 28 2023 (The last day of class)**. The deadline for completion of library assignments will be set by your instructor.
7. If you complete all five hours of research participation (or five library assignments), your requirement will be considered completed. If you complete fewer than five hours, your final course grade will be lowered by up to 10% -- 2% for each hour you are below the requirement. If you do extra studies, you will receive extra credit, as described earlier (up to 2%).
8. Procedures for registering in the Research Participation program, and for signing up for studies appears on the other side of this page.

**Research Participation Program Procedures**

The research participation requirement is managed with a website called SONA. You can reach this site at <https://eiu.sona-systems.com>. There is also a link to the site on the psychology department website at <http://www.eiu.edu/psych>. (Look on the left hand side for the section on Intro Psych Research).

**This system will be available for you to sign up on or before January 10, 2023.** After this date, you should go to <https://eiu.sona-systems.com>, and click on the “Request Account” link. Complete the account information section. **MAKE SURE TO SELECT THE CORRECT INSTRUCTOR/COURSE. SELECTING THE WRONG INSTRUCTOR MAY MEAN YOUR CREDITS WILL NOT BE APPLIED CORRECTLY**.

Please note: You must use an eiu email address. Non-EIU addresses will not be accepted. (All students are automatically issued an EIU email address; if you have problems accessing your account, contact the Help Desk at 581-HELP).

Once you have completed this form, click on the “Request Account” button. Your login information will be sent to you at your EIU email account. You can now login and start earning research participation credits.

When you first login to the system, it is recommended you change your password.

**The next thing to do is to complete the PRESCREEN:** This is an online questionnaire that you may participate in before you sign up for studies.

THIS PRESCREEN IS **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**. Participation in the prescreen may make you eligible for more studies throughout the semester. In addition, **you will receive a ½ hour of research credit for completing the prescreen**.

The prescreen consists of a number of multiple-choice and/or free-answer questions, and may be divided into a number of sections. You must complete all sections in one sitting, as you are not allowed to resume at another time from where you left off. While you are participating, your responses will be stored in a temporary holding area as you move through the sections, but they will not be permanently saved until you complete all sections. The prescreen should take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

Each time you log into the system, you can click on a link to see all available studies. You can also check out how many credits you have, and see if credits have been given for particular studies.

When you sign up for a non-online study, make a note of where you have to go, and when. When you show up for a non-online study, you will sign an attendance sheet to show that you showed up. When you do an online study, the system should automatically record your participation.

Please allow up to 96 hours (4 days) for credit to be granted for studies you did. After that, contact the researcher and/or the SONA administrator (psycresearch@eiu.edu).

**DON’T Wait!**

**Register at** [**http://eiu.sona-systems.com/**](http://eiu.sona-systems.com/) **and take the PRESCREEN TODAY!**