

Sensation, Perception, and Information Processing

Psychology 309 Lab/Spring 2006

201 Section: Thursday 6-7:50 Room IN 328

202 Section: Thursday 8-9:50 Room IN 330

Instructor: Andrew Burns

Email: aburns@gmu.edu **Phone:** 540-257-4282 (I prefer you use email)

Office hours: Thursday 4:45-5:45 in 2034 David King Hall

Texts: Goldstein, E. (2002). *Sensation and perception, 6th ed.* Pacific Grove, CA: Wadsworth.

Ackerman, D. (1990). *A natural history of the senses.* New York: Random House.

*Strongly suggest buying the APA publication manual, 5th edition.

Additional reading assignments may be given throughout the semester.

Course Objectives: The purpose of this lab is to aid in the understanding of perceptual phenomena. The lab will consist of exercises, readings, discussions, and written assignments that will supplement the lecture portion of the class. Students will be expected to choose a topic related to this class, conduct a literature review, and create an APA style research proposal based on this topic.

Grading:

This lab is worth 35% of your final grade. In-class assignments may be given in lab to be completed and handed in for points. Failure to show up for lab can result in a zero for that day.

- Homework may be given and is expected on the next lab day unless otherwise stated.
- Any work that is not turned in on time will result in a zero.
- Quizzes may also be given throughout the semester.

*There are no exams for the lab section.

The points will be tallied as follows:

Literature Review Draft:	10 points
Literature Review Final:	20 points
Introduction:	10 points
Methods Section:	10 points
Analysis and Discussion:	10 points
Final Research Proposal:	20 points
In class assignments:	10 points
Quizzes:	10 points
Extra Credit:	5 points

- **My presentations will be sent to you via email before each lab.**
- **You will be expected to keep your GMU email account working and to check it on a regular basis for class updates and announcements**

Honor System: The Honor Code of George Mason University will be strictly enforced in this course. It is a student's responsibility to be familiar with the Honor Code and to abide by it at all times.

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center(DRC) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

Note: *Last day to add - Feb. 7th*
 Last day to drop - Feb. 24th

Resources: <http://library.gmu.edu>

Tentative Schedule: subject to change

1/26: Introduction, Lab overview, Literature search methods, Research topic

2/2: Visual System, Literature Review, **Research Topic Due**

2/9: Review for Exam 1, APA style

2/16: Visual System, Experimental Design, **Lit Review Draft Due**

2/23: Visual System, Research Design, Discuss Lit Review

3/2: Visual System, Research Proposal, **Lit Review Final Draft Due**

3/9: Review for Exam 2, Research Validity

3/16: No Class, Spring Break

3/23: Topic TBA, **Intro Due**

3/30: Audition, **Methods Section Due**

4/6: Pathologies of Hearing and Vision, **Analysis and Discussion Due**

4/13: Cutaneous Senses, Review for Exam 3, Discuss R.P., **Extra Credit Due**

4/20: Topic TBA, **Final Research Proposal Due**

4/27: The Chemical Senses

5/4: Perceptual Development, Review for Final Exam