

Professor: Dr. Aaron Ashley **Office:** SS 360
Email: AaronAshley@weber.edu **Phone:** (801) 626-8743
Office Hours: MWF: 9:00 – 10:00 TR: 10:30 – 11:30

Rosnow, R. L., & Rosenthal, R. (2008). *Beginning behavioral research: A conceptual primer* (6th Ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall.

Grades: Your final course grade will come from your performance on article reviews (25 points each), class presentations (25 points each), research projects (200 points total), exams (100 points each), and class participation (100 points). Your final grade will be based on the percentage of total points obtained relative to the total points available. The following percentage-letter grade equivalents shall apply.

A	90 - 100%	C+	77 - 79%	D+	67 - 69%
B+	87 - 89%	C	73 - 76%	D	63 - 66%
B	83 - 86%	C-	70 - 72%	D-	60 - 62%
B-	80 - 82%	E	< 60%		

Testing Center Hours: All exams will be taken in the Social Science Testing Center, located in the basement of the Social Science Building (SS 036). In order to take an exam, you must show up at the center on the correct day(s), during testing center hours, and with a picture ID. You will not be allowed to take the exam without a picture ID, or if you come after the hours specified. You will also need a calculator, #2 pencil, and 10¢ to purchase a scantron form.

Article Reviews (25 pts each): During the course of the semester, you will be required to review four research articles. The first two articles will be related to your first research project, and

the last two will be related to your second larger research project (see project descriptions below). An example critique will be provided.

Research Projects (200 pts total):

Small Project (50 pts): In this class, you will conduct two different research projects. The first project will be a small group project. By small project, I mean that you will use the other class members for data collection. The first project isn't meant to be some grand research question, but is meant as an example for you to get your feet wet with the research process. This project will include a literature search, writing an abstract, introduction, methods section, conducting the experiment, data management, data analysis and interpretation, writing a results and discussion section. All writings will be in APA format. Remember that this project is designed as a learning experience. You shouldn't expect the project to be flawless, but should use it as a learning experience.

Final Project (150 pts): The final project for this course requires you to research, design, complete, analyze, and write up a research project. As part of this process, you will write and submit a research proposal and submit the required paperwork to the Weber State University's Institutional Review Board (<http://weber.edu/IRB/>). In addition to submitting the research proposal to the IRB, you will also need to complete the required ethics tutorial (<http://phrp.nihtraining.com/users/login.php>). You should complete the ethics tutorial before Friday September 18, and bring your completion form to class and email me a copy of the completion form on the 18th. It will take you approximately two hours to complete the training tutorial online, so don't delay. Additionally, 25 points of your participation grade are based solely on you turning in your ethics tutorial completion forms on September 18th. After getting approval from the IRB to conduct your study, you will gather and analyze your data and complete an approximately 8-10 page paper. Your paper should include an abstract, introduction, methods, results, and discussion section. You will also have to present your results in class. I have scheduled the class so that we will complete all of the text material by the middle of October giving a substantial amount of time for you to work on the large project during the second half of class. You should realize at this point that although I have scheduled a substantial amount of time for the second project that will not seem like enough time.

Class Presentations (25 pts each): In addition to the presentation of your final project, you will also give two group (2-3 persons) presentations in class. These will be on two chapters in the Stanovich text.

Class Participation (100 pts): As a student in this class, it is your responsibility to be an active participant. By active participant, I mean that it is your responsibility to be in class (on-time), prepared (i.e., you have read the assigned materials), ready to participate in class discussion (and to do so), and you behave in a manner representative of an academic environment (see Course Policies and Expectations below). As described about 25 points of your participation grade are based on you completing the ethics tutorial and submitting the completion forms both in class and via email on September 18th. At the end of the course, you will earn a grade for class participation as follows:

(100 pts) Excellent class participation/attendance throughout the course. Participation generally reflected careful reading of the course material. Questions were generally thought-provoking and relevant to the material.

(75 pts) Good participation/attendance throughout the course. Participation questions generally indicated that the material (chapters and articles) had been read and given some thought.

(50 pts) Good participation some days, weak participation other days. Questions not very thoughtful or thought-provoking.

(25 pts) Very little participation. Questions asked did not necessarily reflect a careful reading of the course material.

(0 pts) Poor attendance and participation

Course Policies and Expectations:

Attendance: Attendance is required for this class. It is your responsibility to be in class, on time, and prepared to intelligently discuss the class materials. As a portion of your grade comes directly from class participation, and you have to be present to participate, it is in your best interest to attend every class. As a student, you are responsible for all lecture materials and announcements made in class whether you are present or not. Because this course covers a broad overview of concepts and theories in psychology, attendance is very important and may determine final grades in borderline cases. Additionally, you are expected to be present, attentive, and participate during the entire class period. I do not expect you to arrive late, nor do I expect you to leave early. Both of these are disruptive to the class, and will not be tolerated. I understand an occasional instance, but repeated cases will result in a reduction of participation points.

If you must miss class, **do not** contact me with questions about what was covered in class. At this point, you are to obtain the names, email addresses, and phone numbers of four of your class mates. These are the people that you should contact in case of a class absence. Only after contacting these individuals, obtaining class notes, and preparing the assigned materials are you to contact me. I'm happy to help you learn the material, but only after you have taken the time to prepare and review what you have missed.

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Classroom Courtesy:

Cell phones/beepers/laptops: Please leave **all** cell phones turned off, or at least muted, during class. I do not want to see or hear your cell phones out during the class period. You can text message and email your friends during the other twenty-two hours and fifty minutes of the day, but not during this class. This behavior is not only rude, but is also extremely disruptive. A first warning is forgetfulness. A second warning (and subsequent warnings) will result in five points off your final total points for each occurrence. In regard to laptops, there will be many times that it will be most efficient for you to bring your laptops to class so we can go through your data and work on analyses. However, on a daily basis I don't want you to have your laptops out during class. I know that many students say they use their laptops for note taking, but walk past any classroom where students have their laptops out and see what type of notes they're taking. As methods is not only a very time intensive class, but also a nuanced class it is of the utmost importance that you are very attentive.

Discriminatory Harassment: Weber State University is committed to providing an environment free from harassment and other forms of discrimination based upon race, color, ethnic background, national origin, religion, creed, age, lack of American citizenship, disability, status of veteran of the Vietnam era, sexual orientation or preference or gender, including sexual/gender harassment. Such an environment is a necessary part of a healthy learning and working atmosphere because such discrimination undermines the sense of human dignity and sense of belonging of all people in the environment. Thus, students in this class should practice professional deportment, and avoid treating others in a manner that is demeaning or derisive in any respect.

While diverse viewpoints and opinions are welcome in this class, in expressing them, we will practice mutual deference so important in the world of work. Thus, while I encourage you to share your opinions, when appropriate, you will be expected to do so in a manner that is respectful towards others, even when you disagree with them.

If you have questions regarding the university's policy against discrimination and harassment you may contact the university's AA/EO office (626-6239) or visit its website:

<http://departments.weber.edu/aaeeo/> .

Academic dishonesty policy: Weber State University imposes specific disciplinary actions in response to incidents of academic misconduct (cheating, plagiarism, etc.). These actions may include admonition, failing grade, failure of course, disciplinary probation, suspension, and dismissal. The specified policies can be found in the WSU Student Code at <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm> . Cheating will not be tolerated in this or any class at WSU. Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing on any assignment will result in a grade of E. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes plagiarism, if you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism please contact me.

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in room 181 of the Student Service Center. SSD can also arrange to provide course materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats if necessary. Weber State University policies regarding Services for Students with Disabilities are available on the <http://weber.edu/ssd> website.

TENATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

Mon. Aug. 24	Overview	Syllabus, Stanovich Ch. 1	
Wed. Aug. 26		Stanovich Ch. 2- 5	
Fri. Aug. 28		Stanovich Ch. 6- 9	
Mon. Aug. 31		Stanovich Ch. 10- 12	
Wed. Sept. 2	NO CLASS		EXAM 1
Fri. Sept. 4	Statistics Review	R&R Chs 10-15	
Mon. Sept. 7	NO CLASS	Labor Day Holiday	
Wed. Sept. 9	Statistics Review	R&R Chs 10-15	
Fri. Sept. 11	Statistics Review	R&R Chs 10-15	
Mon. Sept. 14	NO CLASS		EXAM 2
Wed. Sept. 16	Scientific Method	R&R Ch. 1	
Fri. Sept. 18	Ethics in Research	R&R Ch. 3	Ethics training forms due.
Mon. Sept. 21	Hypothesis Generation	R&R Ch. 2	
Wed. Sept. 23	Communicating Research	R&R Appendix A	
Fri. Sept. 25	NO CLASS		Library Research
Mon. Sept. 28			Article Review 1 Due
Wed. Sept. 30	NO CLASS		EXAM 3
Fri. Oct. 2	Observational Research	R&R Chs 4-6	
Mon. Oct. 5			
Wed. Oct. 7			Article Review 2 Due
Fri. Oct. 9	Design & Implementation	R&R Chs 7-9	
Mon. Oct. 12			
Wed. Oct. 14			
Fri. Oct. 16	NO CLASS		EXAM 4
Mon. Oct. 19	Data Collection Project 1		
Wed. Oct. 21	Class time on Project 1		
Fri. Oct. 23	Class time on Project 1		
Mon. Oct. 26	Discussion of Project 2		Project 1 Due
Wed. Oct. 28	Project 2 Methods Discussion		Article Review 3 Due
Fri. Oct. 30	Project 2 Methods Discussion		Article Review 4 Due
Mon. Nov. 2			Lit. Review Due
Wed. Nov. 4	Review IRB Proposals		

Fri. Nov. 6			IRB Proposal Due
Mon. Nov. 9			
Wed. Nov. 11			
Fri. Nov. 13			
Mon. Nov. 16	Project 2 Data Analysis		Data Analysis
Wed. Nov. 18	NO CLASS		Data Analysis
Fri. Nov. 20	Class time on Project 2		
Mon. Nov. 23	Class time on Project 2		
Wed. Nov. 25	Class time on Project 2		
Fri. Nov. 27	NO CLASS	Thanksgiving Break	
Mon. Nov. 30			Final Project Due
Wed. Dec. 2	Project Presentations		
Fri. Dec. 4	Project Presentations		
Wed. Dec. 9	Project Presentations		

*Please remember, this schedule is tentative and subject to change at the Instructors discretion.