

University of Toledo
PSY 4100-063
Practicum – Resiliency Lab
Syllabus for Spring 2016 Semester

"Fear defeats more people than any other one thing in the world." ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

Time and Place:

Fridays as needed: 1-2pm
1610 University Hall

Instructors:

Dr. Mojisola F. Tihamiyu
Department of Psychology, UH 1063
Telephone: (419) 530-2853; Fax: (419) 530-8479
Email: mojisola.tihamiyu@utoledo.edu

Dr. Jon D. Elhai
Department of Psychology, UH 1370
Telephone: (419) 530-2829; Fax: (419) 530-8479
Email: jon.elhai@utoledo.edu
www.jon-elhai.com

Office Hours (Dr. Tihamiyu):

Please visit me in my office, if you have any questions. You can also speak with me before or after practicum sessions.

Office Hours (Dr. Elhai):

Please visit me during my office hours if you have any questions. You can also speak with me before or after practicum sessions.

Recommended Texts:

American Psychological Association (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to provide you with opportunities to acquire/enhance and practice research skills that will contribute to making you a more research-friendly professional in the near future. This course should help you to develop new research ideas; incorporate clinical, community, and positive psychological theories into research ideas; design studies that address research questions and rigorously test research hypotheses; and know what to do when research is completed.

Prerequisite:

Completion of PSY 3110/Research Methods or equivalent.

Learning Objectives:

1. Students should identify various methods to analyze research questions in psychology.
2. Students should describe advanced procedures on how to design a study to test a psychological research question.

Technical Skills

In order to succeed in this course, it will be important for students to possess basic computing skills involving document creation, editing, manipulation, and communication, as well as electronic literature database searching.

Technology Requirements

Software

Student computers need to have recent software and the necessary tools to be kept free of viruses and spyware. The computer needs to run the following software:

- Word Processing Software
- pdf reader software
- Internet Browser

Internet Service

High-speed Internet access is recommended.

Practicum Student Responsibilities:

In the course of the semester, you will be taking on a number of important duties as a practicum student. You will work with Dr. Tihamiyu, Dr. Elhai, clinical psychology graduate students, and other undergraduate students. In general, you are expected to devote at least 3 hours per week for every 1 credit hour you are registered for. You are expected to make your schedule open and flexible enough to accommodate your commitment to this research practicum experience.

It is expected that you ...

Ψ Attend Weekly Practicum Sessions. You should plan to attend all practicum sessions. We will greatly appreciate promptness and active participation at these sessions. Absences do have a bearing on your grade (will lower your grade). If you will be missing a practicum session, you need to inform Dr. Tihamiyu or Dr. Elhai as soon as possible.

Ψ Collaborate With Others. Working in a lab offers you an opportunity to interact with like-minded people (e.g., other people who are interested in psychology, research, graduate school, etc.). Make the best use of this opportunity.

Ψ Collect Data. Careful data collection is one of the most important responsibilities of a practicum student. Always remember that the outcomes of our research projects will have significant impact on the professional lives of all of us in the lab (faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students). Thus, we greatly depend on you during the data collection stage of the research endeavor and we greatly appreciate all your assistance. Data collection can involve:

- Serving as an experimenter / someone in charge of a research session involving subjects
- Serving as a confederate / someone who pretends to be another subject

In either of the above roles, it is important that your study is ready to be implemented when participants arrive. This means that you need to have arrived early enough to have set up and prepared all the necessary materials before the study start time. In addition, when carrying out a study, watch out for problems and prepare to offer quick solutions. Finally, as an experimenter, you are expected to dress professionally when you will be working with participants

Ψ Code/Enter Data. An important step in the research process is coding and entering data. After research participants have provided us with their thoughts, feelings, and behavior, we need to translate these into numbers for data analysis. Data coding/entry help us make the transition

from a pile obtained to the synthesized findings we and other researchers present at conferences and write-up as research articles. This step in the research process requires that we be careful and conscientious because it is one of the most critical steps. During the semester, everyone in the lab will be involved in data coding and data entry

Ψ Use of Electronics. Laptops, iPads and other such gadgets are permitted during practicum sessions only when used for practicum-related duties. Please, as a matter of courtesy minimize noisy distractions and other disruptive behaviors during practicum sessions.

Buddy System:

It is the student's responsibility to find a partner/buddy in class early in the semester (from their designed team, discussed below). If the student misses a lecture, s/he can consult with their buddy to borrow class notes. After a missed class, the Instructor will not be able to meet with the student to review what transpired in class.

Class Communication:

The Instructors will communicate to students by email about class announcements, changes to the course schedule (including class cancellations), and grades. It is the student's responsibility to check their email account daily for such announcements via an email listserv we will set up.

Evaluation:

There is no formal exam. Grading will be done by Dr. Tiamiyu and Dr. Elhai based on your reliability and productivity (this includes mandatory attendance at practicum and experiment sessions and prompt submission of individual and group assignments). Students must meet all course requirements in order not to fail the course. We begin the semester with the assumption that all students will **earn** (through hard work) an "A" in this course.

P.S. Dr. Tiamiyu and Dr. Elhai reserve the right for discretionary grade adjustments.

Grade disputes must be submitted in writing in order to be considered. 2) Grievances about the course and/or instructors should be brought up with that individual first in order to resolve the matter, prior to discussing the matter with the department/university's administration.

FLEXIBILITY CLAUSE: The aforementioned requirements, etc. are subject to change. Students' experiences and needs, as well as emerging knowledge, will be considered in modifying this course syllabus.

Academic Honesty:

The Policy Statement on Academic Dishonesty in the UT Catalog is detailed and explicit. Please consult the catalog for how academic dishonesty is described:

P.S. All course requirements must be completed by the Friday before Finals Week in order not to fail the course.

* Assignments should be completed by the time we meet in a particular week in class.

Office of Accessibility:

Students registered with the Office of Accessibility for a disability must discuss possible accommodations with the Instructor during the first week of class in order to allow such accommodations to occur.

Title IX. Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources here ...

Complaints can be reported online:

UT's Title IX coordinator: <https://www.utoledo.edu/offices/oid/title-ix/index.html>

Other resources:

UT's Student Counseling Center: <https://www.utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/counseling/>

UT Campus Police: <https://www.utoledo.edu/depts/police/index.html>

UT Sexual Assault Education and Prevention Program: www.utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/SAEPP

YWCA Battered Women's Shelter: www.ywcanwo.org/