



COUGARS

Syllabus for PSYC-494-601

Capstone in Psychology – Online, Asynchronous

Department of Psychology

Spring 2024

January 9, 2024 – May 3, 2024

About the Instructor

Name: Dr. Eunyoe Ro

Email: ero@siue.edu

Office: Alumni Hall Room 0131

Virtual Office Hours: Tuesdays 1 pm – 3 pm; Wednesdays 10 am -11:30 am; I can also meet outside of these times so please email me if you would like to meet separately.

- Tuesday Zoom Link: <https://siue.zoom.us/j/93451798235>
- Wednesday Zoom Link: <https://siue.zoom.us/j/93740596048>

Graduate Teaching Assistants

Name: Parker Light

Email: plight@siue.edu

Name: Katelyn Scott

Email: katscot@siue.edu

In addition to the professor, the TA can support you in various aspects of this course such as using SPSS, making surveys in Qualtrics, and poster making. Please email Parker or Katelyn if you need to set up a meeting with them.

Welcome

Welcome to Capstone in Psychology! In this course, you will use your knowledge in psychology (e.g., psychological constructs, statistical analysis, research design, critical thinking) and produce research outcomes (i.e., group poster, research paper). At the end of the course, you will have a better understanding of how psychological research is conducted and will be presenting a poster to the psychology faculty.

About the Course

Course goals and objectives

After successfully completing this course and the Senior Assignment, you should be able to:

- Formulate testable research questions based on relevant scientific literature
- Design and conduct a methodologically sound study using reliable and valid measures
- Select appropriate statistical analyses for a study, use SPSS database, interpret results, and understand study's strengths and limitations
- Write a research manuscript in an APA style
- Construct a presentable research poster
- Orally communicate poster findings professionally
- Learn how to work as a research team member

Useful Materials

- American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). American Psychological Association.
 - Check out <https://apastyle.apa.org/> for APA style guides
- Search the Internet for “Laerd” and a statistical test (e.g., “Laerd multiple regression”) for decent SPSS tutorials.
- Notes from PSYC 220 and PSYC 221
- **SPSS:** There are several ways for you to access SPSS:
 - Computers with SPSS on campus (e.g., computer labs, library, etc.)
 - Download a free trial using SIUE ITS instructions: **[THE MOST RECOMMENDED]. You need to first submit a request for the program. Please click below to start the process.**
 - <https://www.siu.edu/its/labsclassrooms/vlab/spss.shtml>
 - Check when the free trial expires. You will need the software throughout the semester.
 - Remote access to SPSS through SIUE’s V-Lab:
 - V-Lab login: <https://www.siu.edu/its/labsclassrooms/vlab/index.shtml>
 - Windows instructions: <https://kb.siu.edu/71294>
 - Mac instructions: <https://kb.siu.edu/96570>
 - How to save files to your computer in V-Lab: <https://kb.siu.edu/71215>
 - How to open files on your computer in V-Lab: <https://kb.siu.edu/71221>
 - Download a free trial directly from IBM:
 - <https://www.ibm.com/analytics/spss-trials>
 - Check when the free trial expires. You will need the software throughout the semester.
- **Qualtrics**
 - Link to access Qualtrics: <https://www.siu.edu/its/qualtrics/>
 - You will use Qualtrics for data collection. If you are not familiar with Qualtrics, there are many introductory videos on YouTube for you. I also have a video about more specific feature of the survey that I would like for you to add.
- **Microsoft Teams**
 - Each group will have regularly scheduled virtual meetings with me using Microsoft Teams. Each group will have a Teams Channel (a private workspace for sharing files, collaborating, and having your own online meetings). Some group assignments may be asked to be submitted through Teams. A link to our Teams site is [here](#) (link also provided on Blackboard).
 - Log in to Teams using your full SIUE email address (e.g., your e-id@siue.edu) and password.
 - To download the Teams app, visit: <https://teams.microsoft.com/downloads>
 - If you’re new to Teams, read this introductory information: <https://kb.siu.edu/93829>

Course Expectations

- This course is an asynchronous online class. In order to supervise your project throughout this online course, you are expected to meet with me (via TEAMS or Zoom) regularly (once a week ideally). The meeting time can be set after we review your group members’ availabilities.
- You have to be self-motivated in this course, seek feedback from the instructor or group members, and be a conscientious group member.
- Your notes from 220/221 will be helpful. I assume that you have basic knowledge of SPSS, and that you have the statistical and methodological knowledge you gained in 220/221.
- If you have difficulty with any of the content of the class or the assignments, please feel free to email me to schedule virtual office hours.
- If you need to be absent due to medical reasons (yours or your immediate family's) on a day that an assignment/ meeting is due, please provide a physician's note and notify me PRIOR to class.

Course Requirements

Course activities/assessments

(1) Individual Grades (220 points total)

Submission of Schedule (10 points). You need to submit your regular availabilities in a week to meet with group members/professor/course GA (e.g., "I am available Mondays 1 pm-5 pm, Tuesdays 2 pm-6 pm, Wednesdays 9 am- 12 pm, Thursdays 12 pm-5 pm, and Fridays 3 pm-7pm). We will then assign you to a group based on group members' overlap in availability. It is very important that you be flexible when sending your schedules. Please submit by **Wed** of the first week of classes. Without your schedule, we CANNOT assign you to a group.

Submission of CITI certificate (10 points). You need to submit a PDF version of your CITI certificate by the end of the 2nd week via Blackboard Assignment Folder. If you don't have a CITI certificate (you're your certificate has expired), you need to do the training again.

If you need to do the CITI training, please go to: <https://www.siue.edu/compliance/training/index.shtml> and complete the modules for Human Subjects.

Completion of SPSS Survey (10 points). This is a one-item survey asking you to complete when you have secured access to SPSS. You must find your own way to access SPSS during data analysis and complete this survey by the end of Week 4. The survey link is provided on Blackboard.

Paper Drafts (10 points x 4 sections = 40 points total). At two separate points during the semester, you will upload drafts of your paper to Blackboard (Introduction & Methods, Results & Discussion). It is expected that your drafts will be complete, and this will be your ONLY chance to get written feedback on your paper from the instructor. No late drafts will be accepted. For specific grading criteria, please see a separate document on Blackboard.

Final Paper (150 points). A final research paper should be submitted INDIVIDUALLY (not as a group). Although the project is a group effort, this final paper should be your work, and your work ONLY.

(2) Group Grades (170 points total)

Project Proposal (30 points). One person from your group should upload to Blackboard your group's project proposal. For more information, please see a separate document on Blackboard.

Submission of Measure's Reliability Coefficient Alphas (10 points). Each group should run reliability coefficient alphas (internal consistency) for all of their relevant measures and submit the coefficients via Blackboard.

Online Poster Presentation (30 points). Each group will present its poster to me online. This short presentation will be recorded and shared with faculty raters.

Final Poster Presentation (100 points). You will be graded on your final poster based on two things: (1) ratings from Psychology faculty at the Senior Research Assignment Poster Session and (2) your relative contribution to your project provided anonymously by all of your group members. For more information, please see a separate document on Blackboard.

If you miss the Senior Assignment Poster Submission, you will receive a failing grade for the poster presentation (i.e., 0 points).

Online class behavior

- **Reflect** before you post an emotional response and reread what you have written to be sure it is

professional. Communicate as if your comments are printed in a newspaper.

- **Communicate** effectively.
 - Do not use all caps or multiple punctuation marks (!!!, ???, etc.).
 - Be sure to define or explain acronyms, jargon or uncommon terms so everyone can understand and participate in the discussion.
- **Sign your name.** Take responsibility for your comments in order to build a strong classroom community.
- **Foster community.** Share your ideas and contribute to ongoing discussions. Make comments that add to, not detract from, a positive learning environment for the course.
- **Be constructive.** Challenge ideas and the course content, but do so in positive ways. It's fine to disagree, but when done politely you stimulate and encourage helpful discussion, and you maintain positive relationships with fellow students.
- **Keep the conversation on the topic.** Online dialogue is like a conversation. If there is a particular dialogue going on, please add to it, but if you have something new to say, start a new thread.

Technology requirements

Technical requirements for students can be found in this [ITS KnowledgeBase article](#).

Technology capabilities

Students in an online course should be able to:

- Use a word processor, such as MS Word, to compose assignments and communicate with others in the class.
- Attach files to emails or course areas.
- Navigate websites and course materials.
- Reach out to tech support staff when issues arise and troubleshoot to resolve problems.

Additional guidance for taking online courses can be found on the [Online at SIUE site](#).

Course Policies and University Policies

Academic integrity/plagiarism

Students are reminded that the expectations and academic standards outlined in the [Student Academic Code \(3C2\)](#) apply to all courses, field experiences and educational experiences at the University, regardless of modality or location.

Plagiarism is the use of another person's words or ideas without crediting that person. Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated and may lead to failure on an assignment, in the class, or dismissal from the University, per the [SIUE academic dishonesty policy](#). Students are responsible for complying with University policies about academic honesty as stated in the [University's Student Academic Conduct Code](#).

Unless expressly allowed by the instructor, the use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools and applications (including ChatGPT, DALL-E, and others) to produce content for course assignments and assessments is a violation of SIUE's academic policy and is prohibited.

Grading

Activity	Points
Individual Grades	
Submission of Schedule	10
Submission of CITI certificate	10
Completion of SPSS Survey	10
Paper Drafts (10 points x 4 sections)	40
Final Paper	150

Group Grades	
Project Proposal	30
Submission of Measure's Reliability Coefficient Alphas	10
Online Poster Presentation	30
Final Poster Presentation	100
Total	390

Grading scale

You can earn a maximum of 390 points in this class. Your grade will be assigned based upon a 90% (A), 80% (B), etc., grading system.

Department of Psychology Policy on Withdrawal and Incomplete Grades

All withdrawals must be completed by the end of the 13th week of classes during fall and spring, and by a similarly late date (i.e., before 82% of class meetings have occurred) in any summer term. Grades that apply to students who initiate a withdrawal and grades that apply when a student fails to officially withdraw within established deadlines are determined by university policy (see <http://www.siu.edu/policies/1j1.shtml>). The granting of a grade of I (Incomplete) is not automatic. It is available only in cases when a student has completed most of the work required for a class but is prevented by a medical or similar emergency from completing a small portion of the coursework before the deadline for grade submission. An I must be approved by the instructor with appropriate documentation provided by the student. If an instructor agrees to give a student an I, the instructor will fill out a Memorandum of Incomplete Grade to be kept with the student's records. If the work is not completed by the time specified on the Memorandum, the student's grade will be changed from I to F.

Department of Psychology SRA Policy

All students at SIUE are required to do a Senior Assignment in order to graduate. This is the class in which you will work on this project. In order to pass the Senior Assignment requirement, you must 1) pass your Capstone course with a grade of C or better, 2) present a poster based on the project you completed in the Capstone class at the Department of Psychology's Senior Assignment Poster Session, 3) have your poster deemed acceptable by the faculty (i.e., a mean rating of 3 or above on the faculty evaluation form) and 4) fulfill any other senior assignment requirements stipulated by your professor. In the event that you do not fulfill all four requirements in a given semester, you will need to retake the Capstone course and complete all four requirements in a subsequent semester. For example, if you receive below a C in the Capstone course, even if your poster presentation is deemed acceptable by the faculty, you will fail to complete the senior assignment requirement and must retake Capstone in its entirety with a new project. If you receive a C or better in the Capstone course, but your poster presentation is deemed unacceptable by the faculty, this in most circumstances will result in having to retake Capstone in its entirety, unless the Capstone professor presents evidence to the contrary. In order to help you with this endeavor, you have several resources: your Capstone professor, the Senior Assignment Coordinator (Dr. Ro), and two Senior Assignment Graduate Assistants (Katelyn Scott and Parker Light).

The Senior Assignment poster session will be held ONLINE asynchronously. Therefore, **you should submit (1) an electronic version (a pdf file) of the poster and (2) a video recording of the poster presentation to your Capstone professor by April 12th Friday). Poster evaluation by the faculty will start April 15th.**

Also, please note that ONE member of your group should email the Senior Assignment Graduate Assistants (psychsra@yahoo.com) with the following information by March 29th (Friday): your Capstone professor's name, the title of your poster, and the names of all other members of your group. We need this information to get ready for the Senior Assignment poster session.

If you have any questions related to Senior Assignment, please email Dr. Ro (ero@siue.edu) or the Graduate Assistants (psychsra@yahoo.com). Have a wonderful semester!

Department of Psychology Writing Policy

As a student in this course, you will be expected to display university-level writing, which includes completing course assignments that meet the following basic writing criteria. Specifically, all written assignments completed for this course should include:

- clear transitions from sentence to sentence and idea to idea (e.g., paper is organized/flows well);
- verb tense consistency;
- clear and unambiguous sentences and ideas;
- writing that is free of typos, spelling errors, and major grammatical errors;
- properly formatted citations and references (if relevant).

This is by no means an exhaustive list of basic writing skills, but will give you an idea of what we are looking for in our papers. If you feel you need help with your writing, you are encouraged to seek assistance from the writing center on campus (<http://www.siue.edu/is/writing>) or utilize one of the many online resources they have identified to help students (<http://www.siue.edu/is/writing/resources.shtml>). If your graded written assignments fail to meet the basic writing requirements listed above (and any others found to be appropriate by your instructor), the instructor will stop the grading process and return the paper to you (see below for the specific policy for this class).

The penalty for unacceptable writing in this class is as follows: You will receive **no points** for your assignment.

Writing Center Information

The SIUE Writing Center assists students and faculty/staff across the curriculum, and at all levels, to further develop their writing skills in order to become confident and independent writers and thinkers. Through individual consultations the Writing Center will help students to: brainstorm on a topic, organize thoughts, outline an assignment, develop support, integrate research, learn a “style” of writing, identify and fix errors, and much more. Please keep in mind that the Writing Center will not simply fix mistakes or write a paper for a student; instead, the consultants will teach students how to improve their work. For more information, or to schedule a 30 minute consultation, please call our front desk (650-2045), visit our website (siue.edu/lss/writing), or stop by our main location – SSC 1254 (inside the Academic Advancement Center).

Feedback and grading timeline

Discussion board grades with rubric feedback will be posted within 48 hours of the discussion due date. Other assignments may take longer to grade. You can find your grade by clicking the My Grades link on the left menu of the Blackboard course. If there is a rubric attached to the assignment, you can click your score to see my personal feedback on the rubric.

Participation

It is vitally important that our classroom environment promotes the respectful exchange of ideas, including being sensitive to the views and beliefs expressed during online discussions. Your success in this course will depend on your communication, consistent engagement, and active participation in all course activities. Success in this course requires that adhere to the deadlines given below as you complete assignments, discussions, and other course activities. Timely participation in online discussions is very important and is not optional. You are expected to post and reply to discussions in a timely manner consistent with the requirements contained within the course syllabus and discussion rubric.

Technology Privacy Information

We will be using Blackboard in this course. View the [Anthology Blackboard Privacy Statement](#) to review how your data is being used and stored.

University Policies and Information

University policies and guidance that address teaching, learning, and student support services are available at: <https://kb.siue.edu/132378> Students are encouraged to visit [this resource site](#) for current information on:

- Regular and Substantive Interaction
- Recordings of Class Content
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Pregnancy and Newly Parenting Policy
- Services for Students Needing Accommodations (ACCESS)
- Academic and Other Student Services (Library, Academic Success, Tutoring, etc.)
- Cougar Care
- Student Success Coaches

Technical Support

Contact ITS at [618-650-5500](tel:618-650-5500) or at help@siue.edu with any technical concerns. You can also check the functionality of University systems, including Blackboard, at the [ITS System Status page](#), or search the [ITS KnowledgeBase](#) for various how- to and troubleshooting guides.

Subject to change notice

All material, assignments, and deadlines are subject to change with prior notice. It is your responsibility to stay in touch with your instructor, review the course site regularly, or communicate with other students, to adjust as needed if assignments or due dates change.

Course Schedule:

Class Schedule (This schedule may change slightly at the discretion of the instructor)			
Important meetings highlighted. Absolutely a MUST activity highlighted. Important due dates highlighted.			
Even if not specifically written on here, your groups should have regular meetings to work on the project.			
	Group Work Foci	Specific Topics	Assignments Due
Week 1 1/8	INTRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syllabus review + Topic Lecture • Submit via Assignment folder regular times you can meet with group/Dr. Ro/Parker/Katelyn. • Set up group meeting times • Your group members MUST meet at least once a week. 	Submit your schedule by Wed this week!
Week 2 1/15		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch Senior Assignment Presentation (link will be posted on BB) • Virtual meeting with Dr. Ro (and/or Parker or Katelyn) re: project idea, project background. • Continue meeting with your group to find a research topic that interests all of you + read research articles to further your idea. 	Submit the pdf version of your CITI certificate. Complete Intake Survey
Week 3 1/22	Generate Project Idea	Virtual meeting with Dr. Ro (and/or Parker) re: project idea, project background.	
Week 4 1/29		Virtual meeting with Dr. Ro (and/or Parker or Katelyn) re: project idea and method.	Complete SPSS Survey

Class Schedule

(This schedule may change slightly at the discretion of the instructor)

Important meetings highlighted.

Absolutely a MUST activity highlighted.

Important due dates highlighted.

Even if not specifically written on here, your groups should have regular meetings to work on the project.

	Group Work Foci	Specific Topics	Assignments Due
Week 5 2/5		Virtual meeting with Dr. Ro (and/or Parker or Katelyn) re: project method and Qualtrics survey.	Upload project proposal to BB by Thursday 2/8 11:59pm . Your Qualtrics Survey must be approved by the TA before data collection starts. Check Recruitment Documents on BB.
Week 6 2/12	Project Idea Finalize + Data Collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual meeting with Dr. Ro (and/or Parker or Katelyn) re: project proposal feedback and Qualtrics survey. Start data collection 	Your Qualtrics Survey must be approved by the TA before data collection starts (if it hasn't been approved last week)
Week 7 2/19		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data collection No mandatory meetings. Dr. Ro and Parker available if needed. 	Upload Introduction and Method Draft to BB by Thursday 2/22 11:59pm One member of your group should submit your current sample size by Friday (2/23) .
Week 8 2/26	Data Collection Finalize + Data Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data collection (if needed) If data collection complete, start data analysis. No mandatory meetings. However, Dr. Ro and Parker will meet with groups that are ready to start data analysis. 	
Spring Break			
Week 9 3/11		Virtual meeting with Dr. Ro (and/or Parker or Katelyn) re: data analysis	Submit reliability alphas to Dr. Ro by Thursday 3/14 11:59pm .
Week 10 3/18		Virtual meeting with Dr. Ro (and/or Parker or Katelyn) re: data analysis	
Week 11 3/25	Data Analysis + Poster Making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual meeting with Dr. Ro (and/or Parker or Katelyn) re: data analysis + poster making Submit poster draft file 	Upload Results and Discussion Draft to BB by Thursday 3/28 11:59 pm Upload poster draft by Friday 3/29 11:59pm . One member of the group email GA (psychsra@yahoo.com) the following information: Capstone professor's name, the title of your poster, and the names of all other members of your group by 4/5 (Friday) .
Week 12 4/1	Poster Finalize	Virtual meeting with Dr. Ro (and/or Parker) : poster feedback	
Week 13 4/8	Poster Video Recording + Final	Virtual meeting with Dr. Ro (and/or Parker) : Poster presentation practice and recording	Upload final version of the poster and video recording due

Class Schedule

(This schedule may change slightly at the discretion of the instructor)

Important meetings highlighted.

Absolutely a MUST activity highlighted.

Important due dates highlighted.

Even if not specifically written on here, your groups should have regular meetings to work on the project.

	Group Work Foci	Specific Topics	Assignments Due
	Poster Submit		by Friday 4/12 NOON.
Week 14 4/15	SRA Week	SRA Week! Evaluation dates: 4/15 – 4/17	
Week 15 4/22	Semester Wrap Up	Department Assessment Test	
Week 16 4/29		Final paper finish and submit	Upload Final Paper by Monday 4/29 11:59pm