

# Psychology Research Program (PRP)

## Extra Credit Opportunities for Upper-Level Courses

The Psychology Research Program provides opportunities for students in upper level psychology classes to earn extra course credit, if allowed by their instructor. The deadline for earning this credit is the last day of classes for the semester, before Reading Days start.

### What's in it for me?

Benefits of PRP participation to students include:

- Course credit
- First-hand experience with psychological research procedures
- Information about treatments and/or interventions
- Interaction with faculty and graduate students

### What types of activities will I be doing?

The PRP houses many different types of experiments and activities. Your options include:

- Participating in a research study, either in a lab or online
- Completing a research-based alternate activity, such as attending a research talk, helping with student-led research projects, attending and rating a graduate student's practice lecture, or reading a research article and passing a quiz on the article
- Participating in a simulated clinical psychology experience (this includes mock psychological evaluation or psychotherapy training practice for graduate students).

### How do I earn these credits?

1. Log in to the PRP website (<http://msstate.sona-systems.com/>). If you've been assigned a username and password for a previous class (such as General Psychology), you will use that same login information.

If you've never had a PRP account for a previous class, you'll need to request an account. Do this by clicking "**Request an Account Here**," on the lower-left side of the web page.

2. If this is your first time logging into the system, you will be asked to complete several pre-screen questions. Be sure to answer these as accurately as possible, as this helps to determine which research opportunities you are eligible for.
3. After logging into your account, click the "**Study Sign Up**" or "**Studies**" tab. This will list all of the available experiments and research alternatives. You may click on the name of an activity both to learn more about it and to choose to participate in that activity.
4. For in-person studies, be sure to write down the date, time, location (building and room number) for the study. The Psychology Main Office will not have this information. It is therefore your responsibility to record this information.
5. If you must cancel an appointment, you may do so by clicking the "**My Schedule**" tab after logging into the PRP system, and clicking "**Cancel**" under that research activity. You must cancel an appointment at least 24 hours in advance. **If you do not cancel in time, or if you do not show up at least 5 minutes BEFORE an activity is scheduled to begin, you will not receive credit and instead will receive a "no show."** If a student receives three or more "no shows," he or she will be restricted to only signing up for research alternatives, such as quizzes.

### Frequently-Asked Questions:

- **Where and when are experiments conducted?**

*Some of the experiments are online and you may take them any time, day or night. Others are held in various laboratories, mostly in Rice Hall located off Hardy Road across from the music building (see [MAP](#)). For in-person experiments, you sign up for a particular time, usually during the same hours classes are held from 9-5 Monday thru Friday.*

- **How do I know how many credits I've done?**

*Log in to your account and click the "My Schedule/Credits" tab.*

- **Why don't I see more studies?**

*Experiments are completed and new ones added throughout the semester. Keep checking back. It is your responsibility to be working towards completing your credits THROUGHOUT the semester, so that you are able to meet the requirement.*

- **What if I have a disability that makes it difficult for me to complete the research requirement?**

*If you have a disability that would make it difficult to complete the research requirements through the PRP (e.g., are visually impaired, hearing impaired, or unable to climb stairs) notify your instructor and contact the PRP assistant at [prp@psychology.msstate.edu](mailto:prp@psychology.msstate.edu) BEFORE THE START OF THE SECOND WEEK OF CLASSES, in order to make arrangements for completing this requirement.*

- **Where was the experiment being held, again?**

*You may find information about the experiments you signed up for under the "My Schedule/Credits" tab (see below). It is your responsibility to write down all pertinent information related to your scheduled experiment, as the Psychology staff will be unable to retrieve this information for you.*

- **What if I have more questions?**

*If we didn't cover your question in this document, please contact us at: [prp@psychology.msstate.edu](mailto:prp@psychology.msstate.edu).*