

Student Research Participation Agreement

Human Subjects Committee
Department of Psychology, Boston College
Fall Semester, 2009-2010

Students must participate in enough research projects to accumulate **3 research credits** if they are registered in one or more of the following courses: Introduction to Psychology as a Natural Science (**PS110**), Introduction to Psychology as a Social Science (**PS111**), and Introduction to Behavioral Statistics and Research (**PS120** or **PS121**).

Failing to complete the research participation requirement in the manner and timeframe specified below will result in an Incomplete (I) grade for the courses that require research participation. Once the requirement is completed, a new course grade will be submitted. If the research credits are submitted after the due date but before grades are due, the course instructor decides whether or not to submit an Incomplete.

Students must fulfill the research participation requirement in one of the following ways:

1. Participate in research. One-half research credit is given for each half-hour (or any part thereof) of participation in research. **Participation must be completed by the last day of classes, Friday, December 11, 2009.** Research participation and sign-ups are managed through Sona Systems, located on the Psychology website at <http://www.bc.edu/schools/cas/psych/undergrad/sona>.

Following the student's participation in each study, the researcher will grant research credit using Sona Systems. A receipt will be given to the student as proof of participation in the study. **It is the student's responsibility to keep the receipt as a record of participation.** It is also the student's responsibility to inquire on Sona Systems whether or not he or she receives research credit. Instructions for using Sona are available at <http://www.bc.edu/schools/cas/psych/undergrad/sona>.

Students cannot participate in the same study more than once.

Canceling Appointments: A student may cancel an appointment without penalty if he or she gives 24 hours' notice. Labs may also reschedule an appointment; if you are given 24 hours' notice of a canceled or rescheduled appointment, you will not receive credit.

Missed Appointments: A student who makes an appointment is committing to show up at the designated time and place. Missing or arriving more than 15 minutes late for an appointment will result in a credit penalty equal to the credit value of the study (e.g., missing or arriving late for an appointment that gives 1 credit will result in a 1-credit decrease of the student's current credit total). The penalty does not apply if the student gives 24 hours' notice.

If a researcher does not arrive within 15 minutes of the appointment time and did not cancel the appointment 24 hours ahead of time, the student receives research credit for the study. In this situation, the student must provide the following information to the Psychology Office: the study name, the researcher's name, and the date and time of the

scheduled appointment. The office will confirm that the researcher missed the appointment.

Withdrawing from a Study: If a student decides to end participation during the course of a study because he or she feels uncomfortable with the nature of the study, the student will not be penalized.

2. Write an article critique. Students may choose to satisfy all or part of the research requirement by writing an article critique. Each critique must be approximately 500 words in length and is worth one research credit. Articles and questions are available on the Psychology website at <http://www.bc.edu/schools/cas/psych/undergrad/sona>.

Critiques must be submitted to the Psychology Office (McGuinn 300) for review by a faculty member by the last day of classes, Friday, December 11, 2009. A student who submits a critique that is incomplete or does not adequately address the questions listed in “Critique of Research Articles” may be asked to revise it or to evaluate another article.

Please fill out the information below and return it to your Psychology professor.

I have read and understand the **Student Research Participation Agreement**, which describes my research requirement for the Fall 09-10 semester.

Student’s Name: _____

Signature: _____

Course Name(s) and Number(s): _____

Professor’s Name(s): _____

Date: _____