

## EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES

You have three opportunities for extra credit in your psychology courses. You are allowed to complete up to 6 points of extra credit each semester (6 points = 2% extra credit in each psychology course).

1. **RESEARCH PARTICIPATION:** You can participate in psychological research studies for extra credit. Participation in research will take place outside of class. You will be awarded 1 point for every 30 minutes of research participation this semester. In order to get credit, you will need to complete the Psychology Department Research Participation form (available on the psychology department website) and hand in consent forms from all studies.
2. **ARTICLE CRITIQUES:** If you do not wish to participate in research studies, you can complete article critiques for extra credit. You may NOT use articles that are assigned in any of your courses for extra credit. Each article critique will be worth 1 point. All article critiques must be posted to the Turnitin link on the Psychology Extra Credit Moodle site. See the attached document for additional information regarding article critiques.
3. **COMBINATION OF RESEARCH AND ARTICLE CRITIQUES:** You can complete any combination of research participation and article critiques for up to 6 points (2%) of extra credit.

All extra credit needs to be completed by the last day of classes for the semester. If you participate in research studies, you will need to turn in your participation form by this date to one of your psychology instructors. You may turn in your participation form and consent forms to any psychology instructor; the instructor will share your form with the professors of other psychology courses you indicate on the form. If you choose to write research article critiques, you will need to upload them to Moodle by this date. Any extra credit turned in after the last day of classes for the semester will not be accepted.

Please note that research studies available will likely vary from semester to semester; use the alternative article critique option if you desire the full 6 points. Also, once final grades are calculated, extra credit cannot be retroactively applied to enhance a recorded grade. For example, credit earned during the last weeks of a semester may not be applied to an evening 8 week course that already concluded.

**EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITY: ARTICLE CRITIQUES  
WORTH 1 POINT PER CRITIQUE**

You must choose an empirical paper on a psychological topic of your choice and critique the article. Use Oglethorpe's online library to find the empirical articles through PsycINFO. The article must be published in a psychological research journal within the past two years (2016-2018). Dissertations and book chapters are not allowed. You MUST find and read the full text of the article.

Article critiques must include a summary of the article and your personal reaction to the article.

**SECTION 1: Summary of Article:** Describe the study and include the following information:

1. **Problem/Purpose:** What is the problem to be investigated? Why is the study necessary and important? What is the research question?
2. **Key Hypotheses:** What are the hypotheses? What previous research are they based on? Are they grounded in theory? If so, describe.
3. **Sample:** Who are the participants and how generalizable is the sample?
4. **Measures and Procedure:** What are the independent and dependent variables? What tests, instruments, or questionnaires are used in the study? How was the study conducted?
5. **Results/Conclusions:** What are the results of the study? Are the results consistent with the hypothesis/hypotheses?
6. **Practical Application:** What, if any, are the practical implications?

**SECTION 2. Personal Reaction:** In this section, provide a thoughtful reaction to multiple aspects of the article (describe your reaction and reasoning). Below are a few examples of ways you can react to the article:

1. Discuss your thoughts about the results and conclusions.
2. Explain what you would do differently if it were your research study.
3. Discuss any cautions that you have about the results of the study.
4. Discuss how the work is related to your life experiences.
5. Has your perspective on the topic change? Why or why not?

**FORMATTING:**

- (1) 500 words minimum for each article critique
- (2) Times New Roman, size 12 point font
- (3) Double spaced
- (4) APA-style Reference included at the bottom of the critique
- (5) Direct quotes from the research paper are NOT allowed. You must paraphrase (put everything into your own words). Be VERY careful not to plagiarize- Turnitin will identify any parts of your critique that are not your own words, and you will be turned into the Honor Council for plagiarism.