

INTRODUCTORY PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT

Research is a fundamental part of the field of psychology and represents the primary means by which psychologists learn about the mind and behavior. Therefore, the Psychological Science and Counseling Department requires all students taking Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 1030) at Austin Peay State University to participate in research to gain first-hand exposure to the research process. This participation requirement provides a first-hand opportunity for you to participate in ongoing research being conducted at the university. In addition to helping you learn about research in psychology, your participation in these activities will benefit student and faculty researchers who are completing scholarly research.

Please note that most research studies require participants to be at least 18 years old. If you do not qualify for a study or would prefer a different way to fulfill the research requirement, you may complete research reports based on department approved scholarly work. All policies and procedures for the APSU Research Pool are posted on the Psychology Department website at: <http://www.apsu.edu/psychology/undergraduateresearch/>. The policies are summarized briefly below:

All students in Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 1030) at APSU must accumulate 4 research pool credits during the semester. Regardless of instructor, this requirement will count for 4% of the final grade in PSYC 1030.

The 4 research pool credits may be obtained by completing any combination of the following activities:

- (1) Participating in psychology studies: You will earn 1 credit for each 30 minutes of participation.
- (2) Completing 2 research reports according to the guidelines specified on our research participation website. You will earn 2 credits for satisfactory completion of each research report.

All credits must be earned by the last day of classes for the semester. No credits can be earned during the final exam period. Each of the credit opportunities will be posted on <http://apsu.sona-systems.com>. Participation opportunities vary throughout the semester, so check the system early and often. You will first need to create a Research Pool account. To do so, please go to the website listed above and click on "Request account". All students must create an account by the end of the 3rd week of classes. If you have questions about the research participation requirement, please ask your course instructor. If you need help using the Research Pool website, please email the faculty member who is currently coordinating the Research Pool at research-admin@apsu.edu.

*All research studies posted on the Psychology Research Pool site have been approved by the Institutional Review Board at Austin Peay State University. Furthermore, all researchers have all completed CITI training in ethical treatment of research participants.

Ethical Responsibilities of Research Participants: In addition to participants' rights and researchers' responsibilities, as explained in the APA ethics code, Jim Korn (1988) also

describes the ethical responsibilities of participants who volunteer for research studies. They include:

- Be responsible about scheduling and for showing up to appointments with researchers on time.
- Be cooperative and act professionally by taking the research seriously and by giving your best and most honest effort.
- Listen carefully to the experimenter during the informed consent and instructions phases and ask questions if you are not sure what to do.
- Respect any request by the researcher to avoid discussing the research with others until all the data have been collected.
- Be active during the debriefing process by helping the researcher understand the phenomenon being studied or any issues or questions you have about the research experience.