

## PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT SUBJECT POOL

### ALTERNATIVE WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT

The intent of the research participation requirement is to provide you with first-hand experience with human psychological research. From this, we hope you will get a better understanding of several current areas of research, the methods the researchers select (and the reasons why), as well as the potential contribution of each particular study to our understanding of psychology. However, you can achieve some of these goals by reading reports of human research projects in psychological journals.

As an alternative to serving in studies, please read one article on **human research** for each hour of your subject pool requirement (adjusted for no-shows). The journals should be research journals published by the American Psychological Association:

Behavioral Neuroscience (formerly *Journal of Comparative & Physiological Psychology*)

Journal of Abnormal Psychology

Journal of Applied Psychology

Journal of Comparative Psychology (formerly *Journal of Comparative and Physiological Psychology*)

Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology

Journal of Counseling Psychology

Developmental Psychology

Journal of Educational Psychology

Journal of Experimental Psychology: General

Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory & Cognition

Journal of Experimental Psychology: Perception and Performance

Journal of Experimental Psychology: Animal Behavior Processes

Journal of Personality and Social Psychology

Professional Psychology: Research and Practice

Psychology and Aging

These journals are all in the Shapiro and the Graduate Library. Some are also available online through UM's Library website: [www.lib.umich.edu/ejournals](http://www.lib.umich.edu/ejournals). Find an article published in the last five years that looks interesting; the abstract at the beginning of each article will help you make a choice. **Be sure it is a research article:** it must report new data collected on some issue (if it does not have a section headed "Methods," it probably is not a research article).

Then read the first two parts of the article: the introductory section, which describes the issue and surveys previous studies, and the section headed “Methods,” which describes how this particular study was carried out. You need not read the rest of the article (“Results and Discussion”), though you might want to do so to satisfy your curiosity.

Type a summary of the introduction and methods sections using the following format:

1. Your name, username, student ID number (Mcard middle 8 digits, NOT Social Security number), course and discussion section number.
2. The title of the article you read, followed by the authors' names and a full reference to the journal (this usually appears at the top left of the first page of the article), and include journal title, year, volume number, issue number, and pages.
3. Describe the issue being studied and the reasons.
4. Summarize the methods used to conduct the research.
  - a. What subjects were used, how many, how were they selected.
  - b. What apparatus or materials were used, and procedures (describe how the research was conducted).

An adequate summary should be one to two pages (double spaced) or one-half to one page (single spaced).

Turn in your written assignments by email to [subject.pool@umich.edu](mailto:subject.pool@umich.edu) as a Microsoft Word document in the form of an attachment. We will then send you an email that serves as a receipt verifying that we have received your assignments and your requirement has been met. Please keep this email until you have seen your grade posted correctly on Wolverine Access. Assignments are due **no later than the last day of classes this term.**