

HNRS 3000

Psychology Research Methods

Fall 2015

Instructor: Janet McDonald, Psychology
psmcdo@lsu.edu

**Interested in going to graduate school in psychology?
Want to get one on one mentoring in a psychology research
project?
This is the class for you!**

This is the first class in a four semester sequence designed to enable you to write an upper division honors thesis in psychology. You must take this course in order to do an honors thesis in psychology. The course covers the methods used in psychological research, teaches you critical thinking skills for research by reading and critiquing psychology journal articles, allows you to design, run and analyze a small research study that the class does together, and requires an APA style research proposal in an area of your choosing.

Requirements: Psychology major

3.5 GPA

Junior level standing, or 4 semesters left until graduation (i.e., you plan to graduate in Spring 2015)

After completing this class, you will be paired with a faculty mentor in the psychology department for the next three semesters. During that time you will devise an empirical research project, do a formal written and oral proposal, devise your stimuli and measurement instruments, run participants in your study, enter and analyze your data, and write an APA style report, and have a formal oral defense of your project. You will gain extremely valuable research and data analysis skills that graduate departments in psychology are looking for!

Most of the students who successfully complete an honors thesis in psychology go on to graduate study in psychology or professional schools (law; medicine).