

Central course information below:

First, couple of important notions: 1) Because the course is based on on-site (also off-site) group work, presence in lectures and exercises is a must; 2) This is not a course on statistics so you should have some background in statistics. You need also to be able to use SPSS statistical package. SPSS is available on the university's computer labs. Information about self-paid student license is available via UTA intranet.

The course will consist of lectures and exercises. The central aim of the course is to learn central parts of experimental research. For that the students will be divided in 4-6 research groups that will work throughout the course during both the lectures, exercises, as well as outside them. After the course the students are able to plan and carry out small experimental studies. Each group will work out in teams the following things:

1. Setting a research question so that it includes definitions of one depended variable and one independent variable with three levels for the planned study. Note: You can think possible research questions already in advance.
2. All the required documentations for doing experimental research like written instructions, written consent, procedure, etc. important materials.
3. Testing of their planned experimental set up by collecting a real set of data.
4. Statistical analysis of the results (i.e. using the above data) so that each group will perform at least a one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and post hoc tests (if needed).
5. A small scale written research report consisting of the following parts exactly in the following format:
 1. Title and authors of the study
 2. Abstract
 - Very brief summary of the study describing the aim, methods, main result(s), and a conclusion
 - o Introduction
 - Here you take and motivate the reader to understand what your study is about. This part can contain also scientific references to back up your study.
 - o Methods
 - Here you describe the participants, experimental task, apparatus/devices used to measure whatever you had measured, the procedure of your study, and the data analysis methods.
 - o Results
 - Here you report your results by visualizing your results with graphics (i.e., mean bar charts together with error bars), and you report the findings of your statistical analysis in a proper format.
 - o Discussion
 - Here you discuss your findings. For example, first you describe the central findings from your results and then you think what these results can mean. The idea of a discussion in science is also about setting your findings in the proper context so if you can discuss your results in the light of some similar type of research literature it is noted very positively.
 - o References
 - Here you list all the references in APA format you used in your report. Also in-text citations must follow APA format. See <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/1/> - "in-text citations" and "references".

3. Appendixes

- i. Experiment documentation
- ii. Work contribution
 - Each team will give peer estimations about the contribution of each member in the production of the research and report. If someone did not contribute anything it is not possible to pass this course.

Course evaluation

Evaluation will be based on the examination (evaluation covering the participation and working in lectures, group work, and separately given course literature) and each group's research report and peer evaluation.