**Motor Learning & Performance Lab (KINE 3651) Syllabus**

**Lab Instructors:** Ms. Robyn Feiss and Ms. Julia Sassi

**Email:** Ms. Feiss (rsf0012@auburn.edu), Ms. Sassi (jzm0082@auburn.edu)

**Office Hours:** By Appointment

**Office Location:** Ms. Feiss (KINE 035), Ms. Sassi (KINE 003)

**Lab Time and Location:**

We will meet during the weeks indicated below in the Lab Schedule during your scheduled lab time at the location indicated on your schedule (either SAC 241 or SAC 257).

**Lab Description:**

The goal of this lab is to give you first-hand experience with experimental methods and data collection/analysis tools.

**Lab assignments (50% of lab grade):**

Your grade in the lab is based on the completion of the six lab assignments. These assignments are worksheets that are completed in each lab. The content of the individual lab assignments will vary depending on the topic being covered in lab. During the lab, please note the following policy: *The material and experiences in this class are important and if you are not in class, you cannot take an active role as a student. Class attendance and appropriate participation is paramount to your success as a student. Participation is defined as, but not limited to, “fully engaging in the course content and activities at a level that is deemed appropriate by the instructor.”* See the calendar below for a detailed schedule of the lab topics.

Lab Schedule:

08/19 – 23: Introduction to Lab, Terms, and Experimental Methods

09/09 – 13: Understanding Accuracy and Consistency (Precision)

09/16 – 20: Electromyography (EMG)

09/30 – 10/04: Electroencephalography (EEG)

11/11 – 15: Constant and Variable Practice

11/18 – 22: Self-Requested Feedback

**Experience of human research participants (50% of lab grade and due by 12/06 at 11:59 PM):** The only way that research in motor learning and performance moves forward is by the voluntary participation of human research participants. Participants are key stakeholders in the research process who sacrificed their time and, in some cases, put their health/safety at varying degrees of risk to advance scientific knowledge. As such, a key part of this lab is to give students a deeper appreciation of the value and experience of human research participants. For our lab, this understanding of the human research experience can be gained in two ways: (1) active participation in research and/or (2) reading about published experiments and writing papers explaining the experience of participants in those studies. Each research participation is worth a particular number of credits, and each paper is worth up to 2 credits. You must accumulate 6 credits. So, you could, for example, earn your 6 credits by participating in 4 credits of research and writing 1 paper (assuming you earned all 2 credits for the paper). Your grade will be based on how many credits you complete (e.g., if you complete 3 credits, then you will receive a 50%).

1. Participation in research
	1. You should have received an email from the College of Education’s SONA system, which coordinates human subjects research. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU ARE ON THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION’S SONA SYSTEM (The Department of Psychology also has a separate SONA system.) The email contained a temporary password, which you can use to log on to SONA: <https://auburn-education.sona-systems.com/Default.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f> . If you cannot locate this email, please visit the SONA website (see link above) and request a new password. If you are continuing to have difficulty logging on to SONA, please contact the SONA administrator at sona@auburn.edu .
	2. Once logged on to SONA, you can sign up for studies worth varying amounts of credit.
	3. There are also studies that are being conducted that are not posted on SONA. You may complete these studies. If you complete one of these studies, please have the experimenter indicate your participation on the sheet at the end of this syllabus. Each half-hour of participation is equal to 1 credit.
	4. If a study is posted on SONA, you must register for it through SONA. That is, you *cannot* email the researcher and have them complete the sheet at the end of the syllabus.
	5. You cannot use research participation for more than one course. That is, you cannot participate in research and apply the credit to this course and another course. Make certain you choose to assign the SONA credits to this course (KINE 3651).
	6. All six of your participation credits must come from laboratory-based studies (as opposed to online surveys).
2. Write a brief research paper that describes the research methods of a primary research article (ask your lab instructor if you are unsure whether an article is ‘primary’) published in one of the following journals: [*Human Movement Science*](https://www.journals.elsevier.com/human-movement-science/); [*Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception & Performance*](http://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/xhp/); [*Journal of Motor Behavior*](http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/vjmb20); [*Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology*](http://journals.humankinetics.com/journal/jsep); [*Psychology of Sport and Exercise*](https://www.journals.elsevier.com/psychology-of-sport-and-exercise/); [*Sport, Exercise, and Performance Psychology*](http://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/spy/). In your paper, you must clearly explain the following: (1) What was the goal of the research? (2) Who were the participants and how were they selected? (3) What were the experimental methods (make sure that you focus on the participants’ experience with the methods (e.g., How long were participants in the lab? Were any of the procedures invasive? Did any of the procedures place the participants at risk?) (4) Do you believe the benefits of the study (the information gained from the study) outweighed the costs to the participants (the time and effort put forth by participants as well as the risk they took by participating). Each of the four requirements in the paper is worth 0.5 credits. So, if you successfully meet all four requirements, then you will earn 2 credits.

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