

Evaluation of Experimental Psychology Research Projects

A good research project involves planning and preparation, as well as actually carrying out a research activity. It also involves presenting the results of the research in writing and in public presentation. Thus, the quality of a research project depends on multiple components. In recognition of this complexity, grading for the project will be based on 4 separate factors:

preparation
execution
paper
public presentation

1. Preparation - timely selection of topic, identification of references, discussion of appropriate methodology (20 points).
2. Execution - project was well-designed, was carried out in an appropriate and thoughtful manner, involved an appropriate number of subjects and/or observations, and ruled out alternative explanations of the data. (35 points)
3. Paper - paper was a well-written presentation of research with clear statement of purpose, hypothesis, significance of question, and appropriateness of approach, careful description of methods, accurate summary of results, and thoughtful, well-organized discussion of findings. Paper also conformed to APA guidelines for papers. (25 points)
4. Presentation - presentation in class provided a clear, well-organized, and interesting summary of the hypothesis, methods, findings, and significance of the research. (20 points)