



Fall 2026 PSY 1300 Research Experience: Participant Guidelines

Please direct **any questions** regarding the research experience requirement to the Research Experience Teaching Assistant at: Psy-Research@txstate.edu

This information applies to these sections of PSY 1300 during Fall 2026:

M/W/F, 9:00-9:50AM	Section 001 (CRN 11740) – Instructor: Mr. J. Angulo
T/TH, 8:00-9:20AM	Section 004 (CRN 12664) – Instructor: Dr. A. Meeks
Online	Section 006 (CRN 12665) – Instructor: Dr. K. Tooley
M/W/F, 10:00-10:50AM	Section 007 (CRN 12666) – Instructor: Dr. J. Cascio
M/W, 5:00-6:20PM	Section 011 (CRN 18343) – Instructor: Dr. L. Werner
M/W, 3:30-4:50PM	Section 012 (CRN 18553) – Instructor: Dr. L. Werner
Online	Section 014 (CRN 19061) – Instructor: Dr. A. Jones-Rincon
Online	Section 015 (CRN 20294) – Instructor: Ms. Z. Young
Online	Section 016 (CRN 20882) – Instructor: Ms. Z. Young
Online	Section 017 (CRN 22994) – Instructor: Dr. J. Cascio
M/W, 11:00-12:20PM	Section H01 (CRN 18554) – Instructor: Mr. M. Stern
T/TH, 11:00-12:20PM	Section R15 (CRN 19082) – Instructor: Ms. D. Arreguin
T/TH, 2:00-3:20PM	Section R16 (CRN 19083) – Instructor: Dr. J. Harris

Psychologists conduct much of their research with human participants at universities such as Texas State University. To enhance your understanding of the nature of psychological research, it is important that you get some first-hand experience with research. For that reason, students are required to have direct experience with psychological research.

All research with human participants must be carried out in an ethical manner. For example, you cannot be required to participate in research studies against your wishes. Therefore, you have two options to fulfill the research experience requirement: one involves participation in research studies whereas the other does not. Both options have been designed to take the same amount of effort. **You are free to choose either option or a combination of both** for a total credit balance of **6 credits**. These 6 credits are worth approximately one-half of a letter grade (i.e., 5% of your overall course grade).

You must complete your research requirement NO LATER THAN:

Monday, November 30th, 2026, by 11:59 pm

This is the latest work can be submitted for credit, but we encourage you to complete this requirement earlier in the semester.

Option 1. Research Participation

If you are 18 years of age or older, you are eligible to participate in research studies (the age restriction is due to federal policy). Your participation in these studies will give you direct contact with research. Participation in psychology research studies at Texas State University that require 30 minutes or less are worth 1 credit; studies that take between 30-60 minutes are worth 2 credits; studies that take between 60-90 minutes are worth 3 credits; and so on.

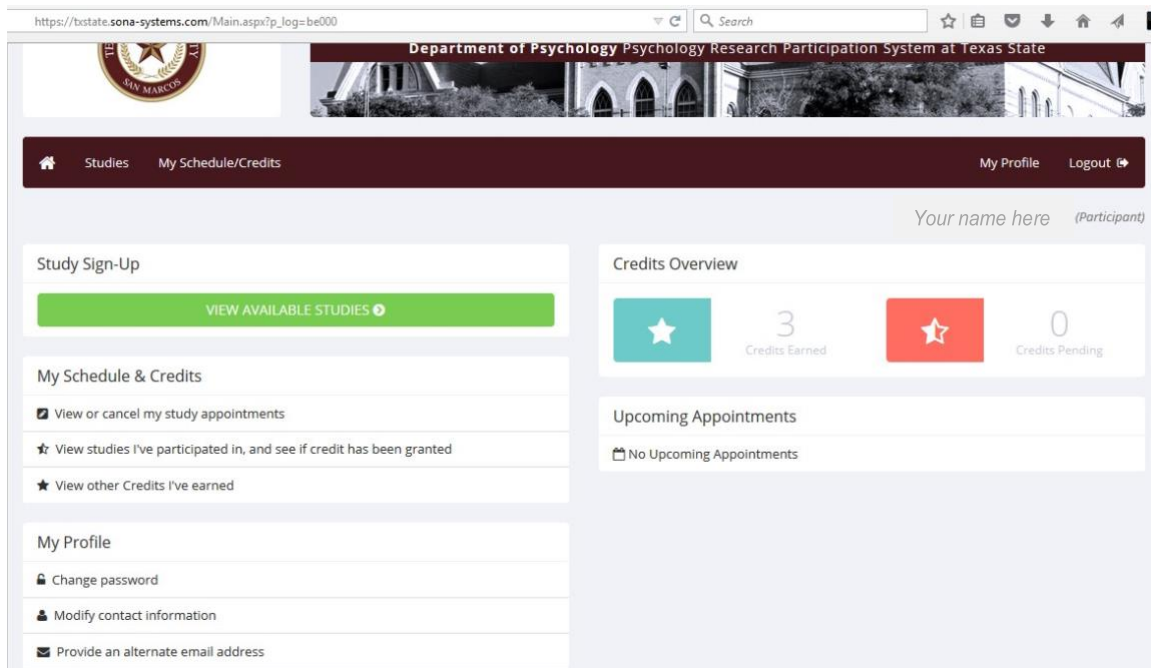
Laboratory studies (those that you have to participate in-person at a predefined location) are worth an additional bonus credit above what the time commitment dictates. Online studies are credited just based on the time commitments listed above. The number of credits will be noted in the study description that you see when you sign up. **The number of credits listed on SONA for each study is accurate, and already includes the bonus point, if applicable.**

Credit Distribution	
Length of Study	Earned Credit (In-person studies: add 1)
1-30 minutes	1 credit
31-60 minutes	2 credits
61-90 minutes	3 credits
90-120 minutes	4 credits
121-150 minutes	5 credits
151-180 minutes	6 credits
Research Article Summary	2 credits

Only studies listed at <http://txstate.sona-systems.com> qualify for credit. **Other studies, including paid studies, cannot be used to satisfy the Research Requirement.**

To sign up for a study, follow the steps below:

1. **Beginning on Tuesday, September, 8th, 2026,**
go to the website: <http://txstate.sona-systems.com>
2. Log in with **your Texas State net ID and password**
 - The first time you login, you will be asked to take a brief survey to get some basic information about you. **This initial survey will earn you your first credit!**
 - After completing the initial (prescreen) survey, you can sign up for additional studies, view your accumulated credits, and edit your profile, as shown in the screen shot below.



***NOTE:** If you sign up for a study but cannot attend/complete the study, **you must cancel** your appointment through the SONA system or contact the study's researcher to cancel. **If you fail to complete or cancel a study, your account will be locked such that you cannot view or sign up for future studies.** Should this happen, please contact the researcher in charge of the study you missed to excuse your absence.

Option 2. Research Article Summaries

You may also demonstrate direct contact with research by submitting a written summary of a research article published during 2025-2026 in *Psi Chi Journal of Psychological Research*. Credit will not be given for summaries of articles published in any other year or any other journal. **Each written summary is worth 2 credits.** To earn credits in this way, follow these steps:

1. Visit the library homepage (<https://www.library.txst.edu/>), then click on "Journals/Periodicals", then search for "Psi Chi Journal of Psychological Research". When the result comes up, click on "Academic Search Complete". Expand the year list (2025 or 2026) on the right side of the page, and choose one of the articles listed.
2. Read the article. Then type a single-spaced, 1 full page paper (600-700 words in 12-point font) that answers the following four questions:
 - a. What question(s) did this research try to answer or what hypotheses did it test?
 - b. What methods were used to answer the question(s) or test the hypotheses?
 - c. What were the major findings of the research?
 - d. What conclusions did the researchers draw based on the findings?
 - e. **Please respond in your own words and avoid direct quotes.** If plagiarism/AI language is detected in your article summary, you will lose the opportunity to

earn credit through article submission.

3. **Submit** your summary via an **email with a file attachment** (.docx or .pdf, NOT SharePoint) to: Psy-Research@txstate.edu

Monitoring your Credits

The Research Experience assignment is worth 5% of your course grade. Research credits for both options can be tracked by logging into <http://txstate.sona-systems.com/> as described above. In addition, your credits earned **will be updated in a column in your Canvas Gradebook, once a week.** Additional details, including frequently asked questions, can be found at: <https://www.psych.txst.edu/research/research-participation/psy-1300.html>

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