# Homework 5 – Article Critique

## Objectives:

1. To practice writing a critique of empirical research.
2. To practice effectively reading and analyzing empirical research, that is, being a good consumer of research, which requires the use of critical thinking skills.
3. To expose the reader to APA formatting, the required format for all psychological writing.

## Directions:

1. Read the following article: Hughes, M. G., Day, E. A., Wang, X., Schuelke, M. J., Arsenault, M. L., Harkrider, L. N., & Cooper, O. D. (2013). Learner-controlled practice difficulty in the training of a complex task: Cognitive and motivational mechanisms. *Journal of Applied Psychology, 98*, 80-98. doi:10.1037/a0029821
2. **DO NOT** wait until the last minute to read the article.
3. Write an article critique. Critiques should be at least 1.5 typed pages in length (12 pt. font, double-spaced with 1” margins) and adhere to APA formatting. All writing in the report should be **IN YOUR OWN WORDS**. Copying from the article is a violation of Academic Integrity and will result in you being charged with plagiarism. As a general writing hint, the authors’ full names and title of the article should NOT appear in your response.
4. Write the report as follows:
   1. You should write a half-page summary of the article including:
      1. The purpose of the study as you understand it and a VERY brief summary of the hypotheses (i.e., what is the main research question)
      2. A brief description of the research including the design (experimental/correlational), identification of the IV/DV (or predictor/criterion).
      3. A description of the results/findings of the study. You do not need to cite statistics; just summarize what was found.
   2. After the summary you should write at least 1-page answering the following questions:
      1. What was the most interesting finding from the article? Why did you find it interesting and what theoretical or practical application does the finding have?
      2. What are the one or two questions you had about the research as you read the study? Elaborate on your questions. Your questions could be related to the limitations, directions for future, or the research area in general.
      3. What was the main point you took away from the article in terms of individual differences in training? In other words, how would you use the results of this article to help you when developing a training program?
      4. What are the limitations of the study? This includes, but is not limited to, whether the study design matches the hypotheses, whether the analysis strategy matches the study design, whether a representative sample was utilized, whether the study is generalizable, etc. Do the limitations affect your opinion about using the article to inform training design?

## Submission Instructions:

This homework is due on March 30h by 11:59pm via Blackboard.