

# Final project: getting started

PSYC 11: Laboratory in Psychological Science

Jeremy Manning  
[jeremy@dartmouth.edu](mailto:jeremy@dartmouth.edu)

# Key milestones



- Find a group (ideal: 3—5 students)
- Brainstorm project ideas
- Plan your study
- Implement an experiment
- Collect data
- Analyze data
- Interpret, present, and write up results

# Draw on what you've practiced so far...

- Brainstorming + planning: pitch lab
- Thinking through your methods: drawing lab
- Generating and analyzing data: data sleuthing lab
- Interpreting data, making a story: literature review lab

# This week

- Get your group set up on Slack
- Find your research question
- Design an experiment
- Implement your experiment

# Slack setup

- Create a channel for your group (bonus points for a creative team name!)
- Invite all group members + TA + me
- Use the channel to brainstorm ideas, share documents and data, ask for project-specific help, etc.

# Brainstorming

Try to find a “question” that is:

- Related to psychology in some way
- Creative, exciting, interesting, ethical
- Possible to study in a few weeks\*
- Able to be framed as a viable experiment\*
- Answerable with straightforward analyses of the data you’ll collect

\* your TAs and I can help you evaluate this!

# Brainstorming

Repeat until you converge on something you're happy with:

- Come up with a set of ideas— use a “yes, and...” mindset
- Once you have a good number, narrow down to one or two favorites
- Then iterate on those favorites in the next round

# Up next...

- Design your experiment (Wednesday)
- Implement your experiment (Friday — Monday)