Questionnaire for first time Methods lab instructors

The Methods lecture covers various research designs, data analysis and interpretation, and some non-experimental designs (such as survey and applied behavior analysis). The lab portion of the course provides students with hands-on experience designing, implementing, analyzing, and reporting real research. For many students, this will be their first research experience and we strive to make the lab both entertaining and educational.

There will be three different research projects in the lab portion of the course. The first project will be pre-designed and is intended to demonstrate a 1-Independent Variable design to get students started writing an APA format paper. The second project will be a survey and each lab section will choose a survey topic, develop a survey with demographics, and analyze the data. Each student will write their own APA paper on a few (2-3) demographics of their own choosing. The third project will be a small group project (2-4 students per group) using a jury simulation format that will allow students even more freedom in choosing topics that interest them. They will design and carry out a research project using a 2-way Between Subject Design.

In order to effectively teach your lab section, you will need to be informed and skilled with respect to basic research designs, descriptive and inferential statistics (Null Hypothesis Significance Testing), and APA-style writing. We will be covering these topics in the lecture and you are always welcome to attend if there is a topic you want to brush up on or you simply would like to see what is being taught in lecture.

This questionnaire is intended as a self-assessment of your present knowledge and skills in the areas you will be covering in your lab section. It will help us to understand what topics we need to address in our weekly meetings. We may also set up some targeted workshops or tutorials for instructors that would like to review some of the material taught in the labs.

**Knowledge of Research Designs:**

How confident do you feel about you knowledge of the following research designs on a scale of 1-5 where 1= not at all confident and 5=very confident:

Random Group Designs **4**

Matched Group Designs **4**

Repeated Measures Designs **4**

2-way Between Subject Design **4**

2-way Repeated Measures Design **3**

2-way Mixed Design **3**

Survey Designs **3**

Jury Simulation Research **1**

**Statistical Skills/Knowledge:**

How confident are you about your understanding of basic statistics (on a scale of 1-5)? **4**

Have you taken an undergraduate course in basic statistics, including NHST? **Yes**

Have you taken a graduate level course in statistics? **Yes (Psych 640, but am currently taking 641)**

Are you familiar with SPSS? **No**

Is there is a different piece of software for analyzing data that you are familiar with? **Yes**

If so, what other software program(s) are you familiar with (please list below):

**R**

How confident are you (on a 1-5 scale) about your knowledge of the following statistical terms and concepts:

Null and Alternative Hypotheses **5**

Alpha **5**

Beta **5**

Power **5**

Statistical Significance **5**

Type I error **5**

Type II error **5**

Family-wise error **4**

**APA Writing Experience**:

How confident are you (on a 1-5 scale) about your knowledge of APA style writing? **3**

Have you taken a course as an undergraduate that covered APA style writing? **No**

Have you taken a course as a graduate student that covered APA style writing? **No**

Have you had experience in writing APA papers? **No**

Have you authored or co-authored a published research paper written in APA style? **No**

**Literature Search Techniques**:

How confident are you (on a 1-5 scale) with techniques used to search the research literature? **4**