

April 18, 2019

11:00 am – OPENING REMARKS

11:15 am – Tabitha Forbes, Nissa Fuller, McKenzie Temple, Casandra Walters, and Madison Wyant
The Effects of Mortality Salience, Race, and Time Pressure on Juror Decision Making

The following study examined the effects of mortality salience and race on jury decision making. One hundred and fourteen Mansfield University students participated (Mean Age = 21.27, SD= 4.47). Participants were conveniently sampled and then randomly assigned into one of four conditions, which varied by race of defendant (black/white) and mortality stimulus (present/absent). A factorial ANOVA revealed no main effects or interaction among variable on guilty verdict. Paired samples t-tests showed some difference in juror confidence and verdicts when comparing the verdicts of “jurors of color” were in the individual and group deliberative conditions. These findings and research contribute to the existing literature by exercising a design that used actual group decision making (versus individual deliberation) to better understand variables that may influence the jury decision-making process.

11:30 am – Alexis Anthony, Elizabeth Anderson, Rebekah Foulkrod, and Lauren Blechl
The Effects of Death Anxiety on Charitable Giving

The following study examined the effects of death anxiety on one’s personal sense of charitably. Sixty-one participants volunteered to participate (ages: 18 to 23). Participants were randomly assigned into two groups; control (N=38) and death stimulus (N=23). An Independent T-test revealed that there was no significant difference in sense of personal charitability between groups exposed to a death anxiety stimulus and not. These findings/results contribute to the existing literature by reiterating that the influence of death anxiety on college students does not change their personal sense of charitable giving. Future studies may benefit by looking at how death anxiety effects state measure of charitability and actual charitable behavior.

11:45 am – Sarah Cimachosky, Jordyn Coffee, Kim Cordaro, Hailey Reinbold, and Jenn Kreger
Do Adverse Childhood Experiences Influence State Levels of Aggression?

This study examined how adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) may influence state aggression in participants engaged in a frustrating task. Sixty-five Mansfield University students were recruited to participate (mean age = 20). A tertile split created 3 groups of participants who experience high, middle and lower scores on a scale measuring volume of ACEs. Only those students in the upper and lower thirds of ACE scores were observed. Analyses revealed no differences between students in highest and lowest ACE categories on state aggression scores post frustrating tasks. This finding and research contribute to existing literature by using a manipulation method to evoke aggression instead of evaluating strictly through survey and by attempting to examine how developmental experiences, personality and frustrating context may contribute to state aggression.

12:00 pm – Keith Brown, Kayla Hackett, and Marc Holman
Effect of SHRM Instruction Presentation on Identification of Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

This study examined the effect of using a SHRM sexual harassment training video on the ability to identify sexual harassment in a variety of written scenarios. Participants were recruited from Mansfield University’s general campus population and psychology classes (N=60). Participants were random assigned into two groups (control/experimental) that were either exposed to the SHRM training video or not. Independent T-tests revealed support for the hypothesis for difference in SH identification in trained group in only 2 out of 13 scenarios. Additional analyses found that women would report experiencing more SH incidents than men. The findings and research contribute to the existing literature by challenging the pre-existing literature in the sense that general instruction of SH may not be the best training in helping others to identify SH in specific situations.

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12:15 pm – Alyssa DeNofa, Emilie Diana, Devin Jones, and Jessica Cantale

The Effects of Team Routines in Comparison to Individual Routines on the Performance of Softball Players

The following study examined the effects of team versus individual pre-performance routines on the confidence, affect and performance of softball players. The Mansfield University Softball team (N=15) was recruited to participate (mean age=19.67). They were randomly assigned into two groups that used either an individual (N=8) or team PPR prior to a competitive practice event. Independent samples t-tests revealed that players in the team PPR group showed significantly lower negative affect and higher positive affect than those in the individual PPR group. Athlete confidence was not affected by PPR type. Anecdotal observations by coaches who were blind to the research hypotheses were consistent with the statistical results. These findings and research contribute to existing literature by clarifying how the type of PPR can influence player mood, confidence and performance during a competitive situation.

12:30 pm to 1:00 pm – LUNCH BREAK

1:00 pm – Danielle Cross, Megan Garverick, Stacey Davidson, and Abbie Lloyd

The Effects of Educating a Classroom on ADA Guidelines

The following study examined the effect of message quality on attitude of acceptance toward service animals in a college classroom. Two sections of the same psychology course (50 participants of PSY3290 with the same instructor) were told that a student with a service animal would be auditing their course. One class received a brief presentation that provided information that clarified ADA guidelines, their importance and the behavioral expectations for students who took classes in which service animals were present. The range of ages of classroom students was 18-41 years old. Analysis of group differences using independent t-test was completed. These analyses revealed a more accepting attitude toward the service animal/handler in the classroom where students received a more detailed message presentation. These findings and research contribute to the existing literature by showing that the introduction providing ADA guidelines significantly improves student acceptance of service animals.

1:15 pm – Madison Curtis, Alexandra Hartigan, Thea Tomlin, and Kelly Werkheiser

Neuroticism and Alcohol Abuse in At-Risk College Students: Analyzing Self-Esteem, Stress, and Coping Styles as Moderating Variables

The following study examined self-esteem, stress, and coping styles as moderating variables on the relationship between neuroticism and risk for alcohol abuse in college students. Mansfield University college students (N=71) were recruited through psychology and general education classes, social media advertisements, and word-of-mouth. Bivariate and partial correlations were used to investigate “paths” that best explained how neuroticism contributes to the risk profile for alcohol abuse in college students. It was found that no direct path existed between neuroticism and alcohol abuse. Rather, connections linking risk of abuse and neurotic personality may be best understood as one moderated through the variables of self-esteem and perceived stress. These results contradict previous literature that suggests directly relationship between neurotic personality and risk for alcohol abuse. Previous literature may not have analyzed moderating variables or used more complex designs to understand how personality, cognition and self-of-self contribute to how college students risk profile for alcohol abuse.

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1:30 pm – Alex Timins, Shyla Smith, and Cleora Minnich

Environment and How it Interacts with Group Perception

The following study examined how stressful or comforting environments may influence the positivity of perception toward 3 campus social groups. This study had 74 participants recruited from Mansfield University. Participants experienced one of three conditions (stress, neutral, or comforting) while asked to comment on their attitudes toward one of three student groups (athletes, sorority and LGBTQ-club members). One-way ANOVAS showed that attitudes toward only one student group were influenced by environmental stress (or lack of). These findings and research contribute to the existing literature by showing that while environment can influence group perception; it can differ depending on what student group is being perceived.

Advanced Social Psychology Poster Session

1:45pm – 2:15pm

Malaysia Allen and Shyla Smith

The Effects of Appearance and Number of Bystanders on Helping Behavior

This study examined how a person's appearance and the number of bystanders present influence helping behavior. It was predicted that when people feel empathy for another person, they would be likely to help no matter the number of people present. However, if they feel apathy for another, then helping would not occur. No significant differences in helping behavior were found by condition.

Jessica Cantale and Kayla Losito

Effects of Health Trainer Qualifications Toward Extreme Healthy Life Style Images

The purpose of this study was to examine if a perceived qualified person giving a blanketed healthy script while showing extreme healthy photos pulled from social media would have an adverse positive effect on the body image of the participants.

Danielle Cross and Courtney Yeager

Teacher vs. Professor: Gender Bias in Student Evaluations

The researchers studied gender bias in student evaluations of college students. Specifically, the experiment examined if male professors would be evaluated more favorably than female professors, whereas female teachers would be evaluated more favorably than male teachers. All instructors received favorable ratings from students, resulting in no differences by gender and professional title.

Caitlin Strasser and Elyse Elsbree

Weight Bias and Ethnicity: Effect on Willingness to Promote Applicants

Weight and ethnic biases occur within the workplace. The presence of these biases may lead applicants to be turned down for positions for which they are otherwise qualified. This research analyzes the effects of weight and ethnic biases on promotional decisions regarding female applicants.

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Devin MacGeorge and Madison Berkey

Effectiveness of Self-Persuasion on Food Options in Regards to Healthy Choices

Self persuasion has been shown to decrease the effects of unhealthy habits, such as drinking, in college-aged students more than direct persuasion. This study explores self and direct persuasion in the context of healthy eating between fit and unfit students with 48 undergraduate participants.

Stacey Davidson

The Effects of Visual Cues and Physical Temperature on Donation Amounts

The researcher examined previous studies on visual temperature cues and physical temperature to predict which has a stronger relationship to the amount individuals donate to charities. It was predicted that people would donate more money when presented with cold images in cold physical temperatures.

CLOSING REMARKS



Congratulation Keith,

I am so proud of you. There are no words that can explain my happiness. I hope you are as proud of yourself. This semester I watched you grow and mature and I am honored to witness all the hard work and dedication you have put into this project. I know you will do a great job and I look forward to it.

Love always,

Mom (Kay)



Madison

We wish you the strength to face challenges with confidence...
 Along with the wisdom to choose your battles carefully...
 We wish you adventure on your journey and may you always
 stop to help someone along the way...
 Listen to your heart and take risks carefully...
 Remember how much you are loved...
 Know you will reap many great rewards in the coming years:
 this research project is just the beginning...
 Persist + Endure + Persevere = Prevail
 We can't wait to watch you grow and achieve amazing things!
 We are so proud of you!

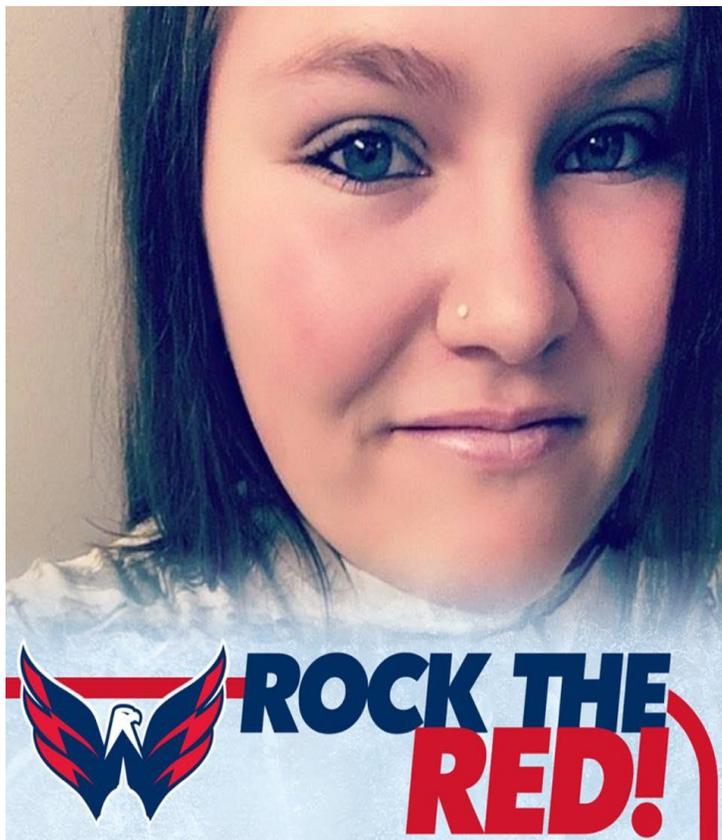


Love Mom, Carlee, Harley, Kevin, Dixie, Rose, Mia, King, and Duke

Believe in yourself and all that you are.

Know that there is something inside you that is greater than any obstacle.

Christian D. Larson



Congratulations Hailey!!

We are so proud of you and ALL your accomplishments!!

Attending a University has always been a dream for you and here you are killing it at Mansfield!!!

You are an amazing student, daughter, friend, young lady!!! We know your presentation will be amazing!!!

Keep reaching for the stars and never stop chasing your dreams!!!

We love you to the moon and back!!!

Love, Your #1 fans XOXO

Congratulations to the Spring 2019 Interns!

Olga Bilardi, Calli Cody, Erin Davidson, David Sweeney, Emily Torres, Shelby Valvano, Meghan Weber

I am so proud of all of you for how you embraced your internships! It was my privilege to be a part of the personal and professional growth you experienced this semester and throughout your college careers.

Congratulations on your graduation and best wishes for your next adventure!

Best,

Dr. Sechrist

SUCCESS
*is liking yourself,
liking what you do,
and liking*
HOW YOU DO IT.

Maya Angelou

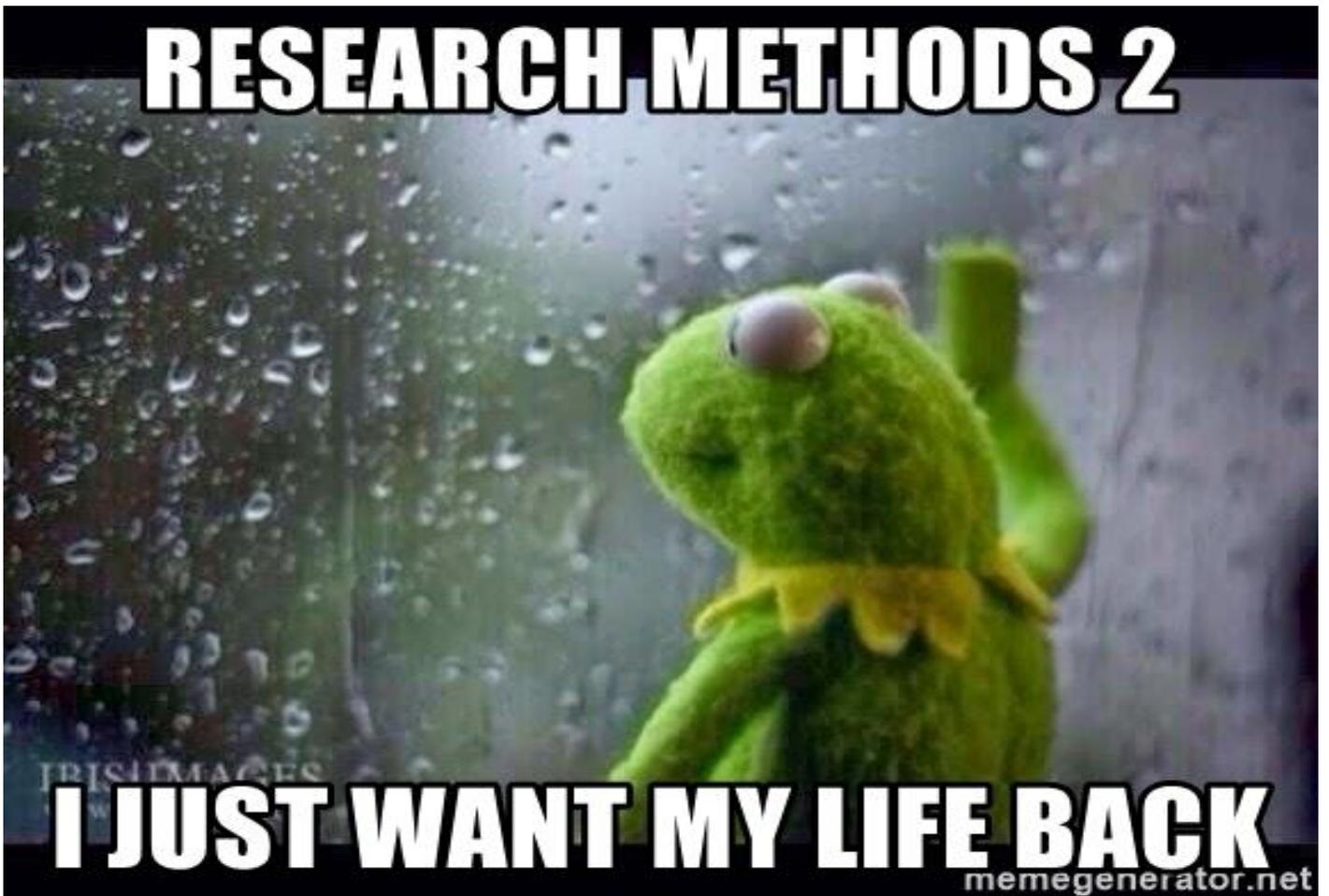
MANSFIELD UNIVERSITY



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY



RESEARCH METHODS 2



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**A MESSAGE FROM THE
MANSFIELD UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY**

Thank you for attending this year's research symposium. We hope you have learned something new and enjoyed hearing the presentations of our students. If you are interested in knowing more about the Psychology department, or student research in Psychology at Mansfield University, we welcome the opportunity to answer your questions and discuss your thoughts.

—The Faculty of the MU Psychology Department—

**Student presenters were participants
in PSY3306 – Research Methods II and
PSY3345 – Advanced Social Psychology**

Spring 2019

**Taught by: Francis Craig, Ph.D. and
Gretchen Sechrist, Ph.D.**

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!!