POLS-LAB SUBJECT POOL PARTICIPATION INFORMATION AND HOW TO SIGN UP

http://uncc-polsci.sona-systems.com

POLLS-LAB: A Resource for Experiments in Social Sciences
http://politicalscience.uncc.edu/experimental-lab
Department of Political Science and Public Administration
University of North Carolina-Charlotte
Questions? Email pols-experiments@uncc.edu
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ABOUT THE RESEARCH STUDIES

Researchers need your help to learn how information shapes public opinions or influences individual behavior.

We don’t tell you the specific details of the studies up front because we want you to react naturally when reading or watching information and filling out the surveys.

Participating in each study will take between 15 and 30 minutes and you’ll earn 1 or two participation credits for each. Your instructor will tell you how much class credit will be given for each participation credit. The amount varies by instructor.

PLEASE CONTACT POLS-EXPERIMENTS@UNCC.EDU IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.
STUDIES CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

You will have an opportunity to take part in at least 3 research studies before the end of April.

- Online Profile Survey – questions about your background, you opinions and interests and some short psychological tests. This survey must be completed before you are eligible for other studies.

- Lab study in Fretwell 421 – A 30 minute session that involves answering a survey on a computer in the lab while wearing headphones. The Lab study is worth 2 participation credits.

- Online Survey Experiment – You will receive an email announcement when new online studies are posted. These are usually worth 1 participation credit each.

- If you are not interested in taking part in ANY of the experiments, you may earn the same credits by completing a Research Alternative Activity. ONLY select the Research Alternative if you do not want to do any experiments. It is worth 3 participation credits.
  - Upper division participants -- Read an academic article, taking a quiz and writing a paper.
  - Students in POLS1110 and POLS1150 also have an option of listening to a 30 minute podcast about experimental research, taking a quiz and writing a paper.

Please contact POLS-experiments@uncc.edu if you have questions.
HOW TO REGISTER TO BE A SUBJECT

1. Go to the Research Participation System login page.
2. Enter your User ID and Password.
3. Click on the "Log In" button.
4. If you need to request an account, click on "Request Account".
5. If you've forgotten your password, click on "Forgot Password?".

Note: Email questions to pmoore@email.unc.edu.
REGISTER FOR AN ACCOUNT ON SONA

http://uncc-polsci.sona-systems.com

On the main SONA page, click the Request Account Button

PLEASE CONTACT POLS-EXPERIMENTS@UNCC.EDU IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.
Enter your UNCC user id. The system will not accept an alternative userid.

Select your course from the list and move it into the right hand box and click the Request Account button at the bottom of the page.

PLEASE CONTACT POLS-EXPERIMENTS@UNCC.EDU IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.
Your profile Screen contains your information, and your SONA id code – this is the code used in your surveys so that your name is never associated with your survey responses.
Your profile screen also tells you the class you are in, the credits you've earned and the number you need to complete.
SIGNING UP FOR STUDIES THROUGH SONA
From the home screen, click the View Available Studies button to find studies and sign up.
Click on title to learn more about the study

Click on Timeslots Available to sign up to participate in the study

PLEASE CONTACT POLS-EXPERIMENTS@UNCC.EDU IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.
You must complete the Online Profile Survey before signing up for the Lab study. This “sign up prohibited” message will be removed when you complete the Profile Study.
To sign up, click “View Time Slots for the Study”
The sign up button takes you to this page where you can access the link to take the online profile survey.

To get credit you must fully complete the survey. Do not start the survey until you have approximately 20 minutes available to finish it in one sitting.

Click Sign Up

PLEASE CONTACT POLS-EXPERIMENTS@UNCC.EDU IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.
SIGNING UP FOR A LAB STUDY

Research Subject Pool
Department of Political Science and Public Administration
UNC-Charlotte
Once you’ve complete the Online Profile Survey, the system will permit you to register for the Lab-Based Survey Experiment. You will sign up for a 30 minute time slot. You must register at least 1 hour in advance of the schedule time slot. If you must cancel, you must do so at least 1 hour before your scheduled time or receive an unexcused absence.
All lab times with seats available are listed. Select a time when you are sure you can be there on time and stay the full 30 minutes. You will never be asked to stay later than the end time listed.

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WHAT TO EXPECT

Lab studies start promptly. The door to the lab will be closed 2 minutes after the start time of the lab study. If you are late, you will not be admitted.

You will be checked in when you arrive and given your SONA id code to enter into the survey.

You may be asked to wear headphones during the study.

Lab times end approximately 5 minutes before the end of the lab time to permit time for students to exit and enter between lab sessions.

PLEASE CONTACT POLS-EXPERIMENTS@UNCC.EDU IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.
THANK YOU FOR HELPING WITH RESEARCH!

We appreciate your time.

Questions? Email pols-experiments@uncc.edu
FAQ: WHAT IF I’M IN MORE THAN ONE CLASS?

POLS-LAB will report the participation credits you earn to all classes you have listed when you enroll in SONA.

We do this by “duplicating” your participation credits at the end of the semester so we can send credits to each instructor.

You will see the duplicated credits appear on the last of classes for the semester.

If you have questions or do not see the credits, please contact pols-experiments@uncc.edu
FAQ: WHAT IF I CAN’T MAKE MY SCHEDULED LAB TIME?

We understand that emergencies happen and we want to help you reschedule. If you cannot make your scheduled time please contact POLS-Lab to let us know so we can make your seat available to someone else and reschedule you for a different time.

Missing lab sessions without contacting us will result in unexcused absences. Once a student accumulates three unexcused absences, SONA blocks further attempts to sign-up.

If you have to unexpectedly change your lab time, please contact pols-experiments@uncc.edu
FAQ: HOW MANY STUDIES CAN I DO?

Each class has an allocation of 3 participation credits. If you want to volunteer to do more students, add to your profile the “class” titled Volunteer and it will add the option of completing an additional 3 credits to your account.

PLEASE CONTACT POLS-EXPERIMENTS@UNCC.EDU IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.
FAQ: MY FRIEND WANTS TO HELP. CAN THEY COME WITH ME TO THE LAB?

Your friend can come to the lab and complete the experiment if they have registered in SONA, completed the Online Profile Survey, and signed up for the same lab session.

If they arrive at the lab without signing up but have completed the Online Profile Survey, we will add them to the session if there are free computers.

PLEASE CONTACT POLS-EXPERIMENTS@UNCC.EDU IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.
FAQ: CAN I CREATE AN EXPERIMENT FOR A RESEARCH PROJECT OR HONORS THESIS?

YES!! We would love to have you work with POLS-Lab to complete a research project. We have projects that you can join as an intern and we have options for you to work with faculty and students to design your own project.

Please contact pols-experiments@uncc.edu and put Researcher Inquiry in the heading of your email.

Experiment designs for the Omnibus Study are due during the first month of each semester. Student projects must have a faculty sponsor and the sponsor must fill out a form agreeing to supervise the project.

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