Psychology 200: Experimental Design Paper Assignment

Due: Wednesday, Nov 19\textsuperscript{th}, by 4:00 pm, in Psychology Office.

**General Description**
Select a topic of your choice from psychology and develop a research question which you would test by forming groups and testing some experimental manipulation. If this can be something you would consider seriously in the future, it will be of more help to you to apply the design issues, and you will be more motivated to do it well.

The paper should be between 4-6 pages total, including a title page (with title, name, affiliation, and running head and page number, upper right corner). You do not need references, but if the idea came from a particular article, please indicate this in the introduction. There should be 3 sections in the paper: Introduction, Experimental Design, Data Analysis and Results.

**Introduction**
Please don’t pour your heart into a literature review. Just set up a hypothesis using a minimum of background information to do so (i.e., if it is a cognitive issue and you are testing for a gender effect, you should have some reason to believe it would make a difference in the result if you are a man or a woman. That might come from some literature source.) I expect a few paragraphs here, with 1 to 3 references to support your ideas, with the final sentence being hypotheses and predictions.

**Experimental Design**
You should write separate sections for subjects, apparatus and procedure (as in APA style). But, in addition to this convention, make it clear in this section 1) who the subjects are, 2) how you plan to solicit them, 3) dependent and independent variables, 4) how you conduct the experiment, and 5) what kind of design it is (factorial, one-way, repeated measures, etc).

**Data Analysis and Results**
Your data analysis is the selection of tests you would use to look at the data. You can include a few sentences about this, and to complete the job, tell me how the data would look (either graphically or through text) if you got the effect or if you did not get it. Consider interaction effects and main effects, if you need to, in your speculations here.

**Reference page** if you used any references in your paper, include them in APA style.

**General Aim**
This is intended as a way to attach the stats you are using to real psychological questions that interest you. It is a way for you to play around with design issues and stats in psychology (i.e., when you are not actually conducting the study yet, or it is not your comps). Please try to keep the scope of the paper narrow, focused, and addressing only these points.