

## Setting up your Account

- Go to <https://towson.sona-systems.com>
- Click “request account” on the right.

[New to this site? Click here for instructions](#)

All student participants must create a new account each semester (see link below) -- accounts from previous semesters have been deleted. Instructors, student researchers, and principal investigators should continue to use their old account username and password.

Request Account

Forgot Password?

- Enter your First and Last name.
- For user ID, be sure that is the **same as the username that is used for your @students.towson.edu** email account.
- Student ID number and Phone number are not required; you may leave them blank.
- Select **ALL** psychology course(s) you are taking this semester.
  - Note that classes are listed in alphabetical order by course name (e.g., “Introduction to Psychology”, or “Abnormal Psychology”).
  - Be sure to double check for both the Instructor AND the time of your class!
- Click “Request Account”.
- You will then receive an email with your Research Pool username and password. Although the Research Pool system will allow you to select an alternative email address later, the first email will be sent to your @students.towson.edu email address.

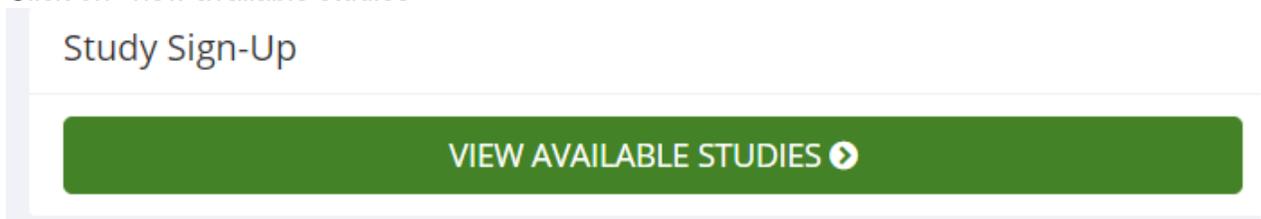
**NOTE: If you do not receive a confirmation email within 48 hours of creating an account, you should try again. Make sure you are using the same TU username that is used for your @students.towson.edu email address.**

# Earning Credit

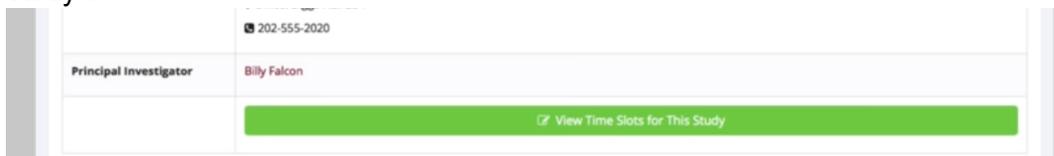
## Option 1: Participating in Studies

- Go to <https://towson.sona-systems.com>
  - When you login for the first time:
    - You will need to read and choose to accept some information about the research pool.
    - You may choose to take the optional prescreen survey to earn .5 credits. Doing so may increase the number of studies for which you are eligible to participate

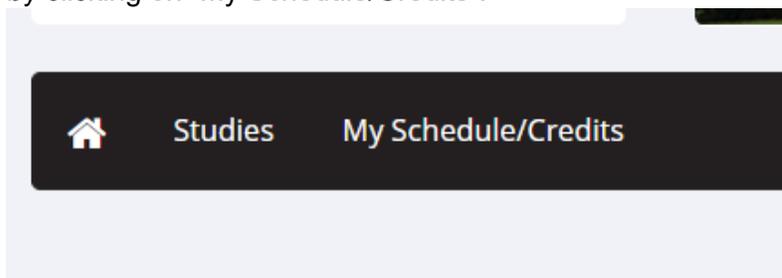
- Click on “view available studies”



- Look for an interesting study **that has “Timeslots Available”** and for which you meet the listed Eligibility requirements, then click on it.
- Once you’ve read over that study’s information in more detail, click “View time slots for this study”.



- If it’s an online study, there will likely be only one time slot – which is the study’s DUE date.
- If it’s an in-lab study (or an online study with a one-on-one component) you will have to sign up for a specific timeslot in which to participate.
- You also need to choose which class you’d like to allocate the credit to.
- Next click “sign up”.
- You should receive an e-mail confirming the sign up.
- If you wish to view your future study details OR your credits earned, you can do so at any time by clicking on “My Schedule/Credits”.



- Finally, if you prefer a video - here is a 9 minute tutorial from Sona systems detailing all of these steps: [\(425\) Sona Systems - Participant Tutorial - YouTube.](#)

## Option 2: Colloquium Report

**Step 1:** Sign up to attend a colloquium listed on the Research Pool website.

**Step 2:** Attend the colloquium, be an active participant (be video on and ask questions when appropriate), and take good notes for your summary! Attending the colloquium is worth 2 credits.

**Step 3:** If you wish to earn an additional 1 credit, fill out the cover sheet and write your summary according to the instructions below. Your summary must be 2-3 double-spaced pages, size 12 font, NOT including the cover page. **This summary must be entirely in YOUR OWN WORDS.**

**Step 4: Submit your summary properly.**

- **Deadline:** 5 p.m. on the last day of classes
- **How to submit:** via e-mail to [PsychResAdmin@towson.edu](mailto:PsychResAdmin@towson.edu) with the title "Colloquium Report Fall 2020" and your summary attached as a pdf or word document.

**NOTE: Reports that fail to meet ANY of the above requirements will not receive credit.**

**Fill in the following prompts in green and include it ALONE as the first page of your Colloquium report. Begin the report on page 2.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID Number \_\_\_\_\_

PSYC 101/102 Instructor \_\_\_\_\_ Section number \_\_\_\_\_

Name of presenter(s):

Date of presentation:

Title of presentation:

**Your colloquium report must answer the following questions:**

1. Describe the general topic of the presentation (e.g., social psychology, cognition, personality, developmental, clinical disorders...).
2. Summarize the main points of the presentation. This should be written so that someone who did not attend the presentation can understand. If it was a research presentation, you should summarize the methods and results of the research.
3. What was the most important thing you learned from this presentation?

## Option 3: Research Report

### Step 1: Choose an Article.

Your article must be published **within the last 10 years** (e.g., 2011 or newer for 2021) in the **journal *Psychological Science***. Articles from any other journal/timeframe will NOT be accepted.

Here are steps to access this database and find an article:

- Go to <https://libraries.towson.edu/journal-list>
- Type “psychological science” into the “search by title” field.

## Search by Title or ISSN

TITLE BEGINS WITH

psychological science

- Choose the “sage journals” option.



Psychological science

ISSN: 0956-7976

 Peer Reviewed

01/01/1990 to 12/31/2014 in [JSTOR](#)

01/01/1990 to 12/31/2009 in [Academic Search Ultimate](#)

[Business Source Complete](#)

[Psychology & Behavioral Sciences Collection](#)

[SPORTDiscus with Full Text](#)

**01/01/1999 to Present in [Sage Journals](#)**

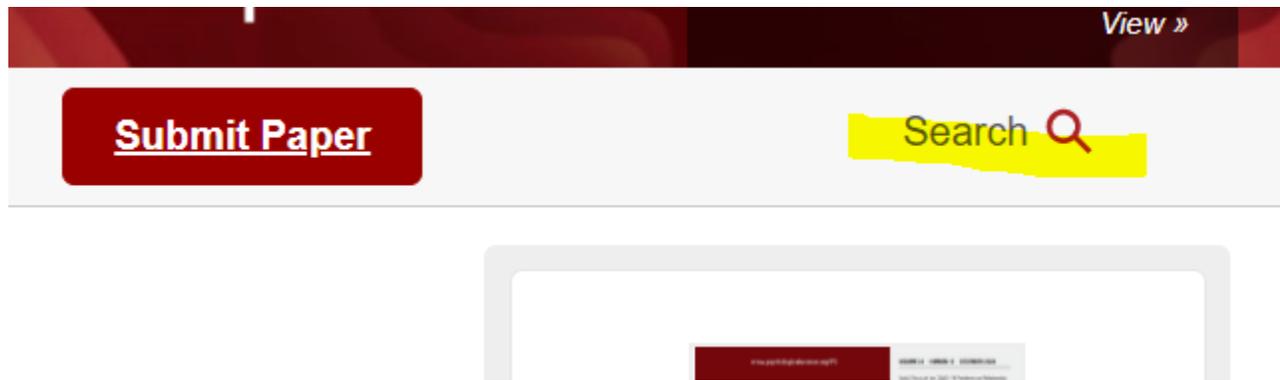
- Login with your Towson credentials if prompted to do so.
- Now browse around to find an article of interest!
  - You can browse by year...

### Browse by year

 2020

 2010 - 2019

- Or use the “search” function to enter keywords of interesting psychological concepts.



- Once you find an article, be sure to choose the symbol highlighted below to open and then SAVE it as a PDF to attach with your report.



### Early Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Relationship Satisfaction and Attributions

Hannah C. Williamson 

First Published November 5, 2020; pp. 1479–1487

[Abstract](#)  
> [Preview](#)



Open URL

### Step 2: Write the summary.

All summaries must be typed, be in prose (not outline form), and conform to proper grammar. Each summary must be 3-4 double-spaced pages, size 12 font, NOT including the cover page. See the final page of this document for the questions you should cover in the assignment.

**NOTE: Research reports must be in your own words, which means that NO quotes are permitted.** Plagiarism (which includes copying material from another student or directly from a book, article, or online source) is a form of cheating. If a student is suspected of plagiarism, the Psychology Research Administrator will inform the course instructor and investigate the matter. If it is established that the student plagiarized, a penalty (up to and including an F in the course) will be assessed according to University policy. So, be careful to use your own words to summarize the article.

### Step 3: Submit your summary properly.

- **Deadline:** 5 p.m. on the last day of classes
- **How to submit:** via e-mail to [PsychResAdmin@towson.edu](mailto:PsychResAdmin@towson.edu) with the title "Research Report Fall 2020"
- **Two** documents must be attached:
  1. Your summary (in Word or pdf form) -- with the cover page as the first page and then 3-4 additional pages of your own writing
  2. Your chosen article (in pdf form)

**NOTE: Reports that fail to meet ANY of the above requirements will not receive credit.**

**Fill in the following prompts in green and include it ALONE on the first page of your Research report. Begin the report on page 2.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID Number \_\_\_\_\_

PSYC 101/102 Instructor \_\_\_\_\_ Section number \_\_\_\_\_

Author(s) of article:

Year of publication:

Title of article:

**Your research report must address the following questions:**

1. Describe the general topic of the research paper (e.g., social psychology, cognition, personality, developmental, clinical disorders....).
2. Describe the specific hypothesis or question being tested.
3. If the research was an experiment, what were the independent and dependent variables? If the study was correlational, what were the important variables measured?
4. Briefly describe the method used to test the hypothesis (e.g., who were the participants, what were they asked to do, how were data collected...).
5. What did the researcher find? Note: You do NOT need to provide precise statistical data; it is more appropriate to give a summary. What conclusions can be reached from this research?
6. How are the results important (e.g. Can they be applied to solve social or individual problems, do they change the way other studies are interpreted, do they support one theory over another, do they help explain past research findings?)
7. Identify and discuss shortcomings or limitations of the research.
8. What were the author's suggestions for future research?