

I've listed below a number of possible topic areas that might be appropriate for your "class project"; obviously, this is not exhaustive of the things that might be considered. In each instance the emphasis should be on a topic's probabilistic/statistical aspects, particularly as it might relate to ethical practice and/or psychology. Expansions would be expected.

1) The new Diagnostic and Statistical Manual -- 5, and the surrounding controversies; see www.dsm5.org

2) The Innocence Project; see www.innocenceproject.org

3) Personal medical decision making based on diagnostic or genetic testing: preventative mastectomies (Angelina Jolie); Down syndrome pregnancy terminations; prostate cancer decisions; and so on

4) Robert Spitzer and the "gay cure"; see Benedict Carey (New York Times, May 18, 2012), "Psychiatry Giant Sorry for Backing Gay 'Cure' "

5) John Ioannidis' quantitative work on nonreplication from 2005 onward (following his "why most published research findings are false")

6) "impact factor" in wikipedia

7) "Reid technique" in wikipedia

8) "Agent Orange" in wikipedia

9) The quantitative work of Uri Simonsohn at Wharton

10) "Gulf War Syndrome" in wikipedia

11) The various statements on reporting results from Randomized Clinical Trials (CONSORT); meta-analyses (QUOROM); observational studies (MOOSE); diagnostic tests (STARD)

Psychological Science in the Public Interest Archive

The following issues of Psychological Science in the Public Interest are available through the APS Website as PDF documents.

Volume 14 – 2013

Challenges and Successes in Dissemination of Evidence-Based Treatments for Posttraumatic Stress: Lessons Learned From Prolonged Exposure Therapy for PTSD

April 2013 (Vol. 14, No. 2)

Editorial: Achieving the Promise of Evidence-Based Psychotherapies for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Other Mental Health Conditions for Veterans

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September 2012 (Vol. 13, No. 3)

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Volume 12 – 2011

Psychopathic Personality: Bridging the Gap Between Scientific Evidence and Public Policy

December 2011 (Vol. 12, No. 3)

Editorial: Current Scientific Views of Psychopathy

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Pitfalls and Opportunities in Nonverbal and Verbal Lie Detection
December 2010 (Vol. 11, No. 3)

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Intelligence and Personality as Predictors of Illness and Death: How Researchers in Differential Psychology and Chronic Disease Epidemiology Are Collaborating to Understand and Address Health Inequalities
August 2010 (Vol. 11, No. 2)

Editorial: Commentary on “Intelligence and Personality as Predictors of Illness and Death” by Deary, Weiss, and Batty

Volume 10 – 2009

Psychology, Financial Decision Making, and Financial Crises
January 2009 (Vol. 10, No. 1)

Editorial: The Crisis in Economics, a Challenge for Psychology

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October 2009 (Vol. 9, No. 2)

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Helping Doctors and Patients Make Sense of Health Statistics
November 2007 (Vol. 8, No. 2)

Editorial: Statistical Literacy: A Prerequisite for Evidence-Based Medicine

Volume 7 – 2006

Eyewitness Evidence: Improving Its Probative Value
November 2006 (Vol. 7, No. 2)

Editorial: The Science of Eyewitness Testimony Has Come of Age

Risk and Rationality in Adolescent Decision Making: Implications for Theory, Practice, and Public Policy
September 2006 (Vol. 7, No. 1)

Editorial: Rationality and the Adolescent Mind

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July 2005 (Vol. 6, No. 1)

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Volume 5 – 2004

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May 2002 (Vol. 3, No. 1)

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Paul Ekman (in wikipedia; emotion and faces)

Times Topics:

Benedict Carey
Gina Kolata
Erika Goode
Natasha Singer

Janet Raloff (Science News)

