



Apr 23rd, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

# The Role of Stimuli Dependent Component Duration on Within-Session Responding

Susan Reynolds

*Illinois Wesleyan University*

Amie Lulinski

*Illinois Wesleyan University*

James Dougan, Faculty Advisor

*Illinois Wesleyan University*

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc>

Reynolds, Susan; Lulinski, Amie; and Dougan, Faculty Advisor, James, "The Role of Stimuli Dependent Component Duration on Within-Session Responding" (1994). *John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference*. 39.  
<http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc/1994/posters/39>

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by The Ames Library, the Andrew W. Mellon Center for Curricular and Faculty Development, the Office of the Provost and the Office of the President. It has been accepted for inclusion in Digital Commons @ IWU by the faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@iwu.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@iwu.edu).

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.

## THE ROLE OF STIMULI DEPENDENT COMPONENT DURATION ON WITHIN-SESSION RESPONDING

Susan Reynolds, Amie Lulinski, and James D. Dougan\*,  
Department of Psychology, IWU.

Previous research in the area of within-session responding has shown that responding varies within a given session. Results have specifically shown increasing, decreasing, and bitonic function in which bitonic is predominant. The present experiments examined the effects of altering stimuli dependent component durations on responding within sessions. Six female rats pressed a bar for food reinforcers on a multiple VI 30 VI 30 schedule in daily one hour sessions. Components, consisting of alternations between an illuminated and a non-illuminated stimulus light, served as the independent variables. After taking a baseline with a component length of five minutes, the subjects were assigned to one of two experimental groups. The first group was exposed to a component length of four minutes, and the second group was exposed to a component length of six minutes. It was found that the alternating stimulus light did have an effect on within-session responding.