

Undergraduate Thesis Course
Psychology D98Y, 1994-1995

Directed by the Psychology Faculty at Scarborough College
Co-ordinated by Professor Marilyn Smith (room S531, phone 287-7409)
Office Hours: Monday 1-3, Tuesday 4-6

This course is designed to provide you with firsthand research experience. To this end, each student is required to find a faculty member who is willing to supervise his or her research by September 26. All students enrolled in Psychology D98Y are required to attend seminars which will meet on the dates indicated below. These seminars will provide you with the opportunity to share research experiences, to develop the ability to offer and benefit from constructive criticism, and to gain some expertise in the presentation of a scientific paper. The Ontario Undergraduate Thesis Conference will be held in Toronto on the St. George Campus on Saturday April 29 1995, and all students are strongly encouraged to make a presentation at that conference.

Grading in this course will be based on three components:

1. The supervisor's evaluation of all aspects of the student's work, including contribution to project development, data collection, data analysis, and written report. (65%)
2. Evaluation of the written thesis by a reviewer selected from among the faculty. (20%)
3. Evaluation by the course co-ordinator, based on class participation. (15%)

Note: Five bonus points will be granted to students who present a paper based on their thesis at the Ontario Undergraduate Thesis Conference.

All students are required to submit a research protocol for review by an ethics review committee composed of three faculty members. Students who use the Introductory Psychology Students subject pool must abide by the posted regulations, which will be distributed during class. All participants in experiments must be de-briefed following the study, usually with a written document describing the purpose of the study.

Penalties

Five points will be deducted for each scheduled meeting missed by a student without pre-arrangement or medical documentation. Your presence is essential to the quality of the seminar experience in the class.

Five points will be deducted for each day of tardiness in meeting deadlines for the course:

Submission of research protocol to co-ordinator: October 17

Submission of draft thesis proposal to co-ordinator: October 31

Submission of completed thesis proposal to co-ordinator: December 5

Submission of a 200 word abstract: February 28

Submission of thesis (two copies, typewritten): April 7

Seminar Meetings:

Sept. 12: General Introduction

October 3: Brief presentation of research topic

October 24, 31: Progress reports

November 21, 28: Preliminary presentations of proposed research

Dates for meetings in second semester to be announced