

Psychology D98 (Y) : 1995-96
Undergraduate thesis course

Co-ordinator: Prof. K.K. Dion
Office: S-538A Telephone: 287-7412
Office hours (fall term): Tuesdays (12-1)

Course Policy:

In this course, you will gain experience in designing and conducting an independent research project. Each student must find a faculty member who will supervise her or his research by September 22, 1995. In addition, all students must attend the course seminars indicated in the schedule listed below. In these seminars, you will be presenting your proposed research to the class in the first term and presenting your completed research project near the end of the second term. Class members are expected to provide constructive critiques of each other's research during these meetings.

Before starting any data collection, all students must submit a research protocol for review by an ethics review committee composed of three faculty members. No data collection should begin until this research protocol has been approved by this committee. Those students using the Research Participant Pool from PsyA01 (Introductory Psychology) must adhere to the regulations which will be distributed to you.

In the spring of 1996 (specific date and location to be announced), the Ontario Undergraduate Thesis Conference will be held. This conference provides a unique opportunity for you to present your research to peers from other universities in Ontario. We strongly encourage you to participate in this conference. A student who presents his or her thesis research at the Ontario Undergraduate Thesis Conference will receive five bonus points.

Evaluation: There are three components to your final grade for this course, weighted as follows:

1. Supervisor's appraisal of all stages of the thesis research; namely, written research proposal, data collection, data analysis and the written thesis. (60%)
2. Appraisal of the written thesis by another member of the Scarborough psychology faculty. (20%)
3. Evaluation by the course co-ordinator of research presentations and participation in class discussion during the seminars. (20%)

As indicated above, you will receive five bonus points for presenting your thesis research at the Ontario Undergraduate Thesis Conference.

Seminar Meetings (Fall term, 1995)

September 12: Overview of course

October 3: Brief presentation of research topic
Discussion of preparation of research protocol for ethics review

October 17: Submit research protocol to course co-ordinator

October 24: Update on progress

November 14 and November 21: Presentation of proposed research

November 28: Written thesis proposal due

The schedule of class meetings in the spring term will be handed out at the end of the fall term.

Deadlines:

October 17, 1995: Research protocol due (for ethics review)

November 28, 1995: Written thesis proposal (2 copies: One submitted to thesis supervisor and one to the thesis course co-ordinator)

April 12, 1996 (5:00 PM): Two typewritten copies of written thesis due.