

PSY C02F: SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION IN PSYCHOLOGY
1996-97

Lectures Mon. & Wed. 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Tutorials Mon. 11:00-1:00/ Mon. 3:00-5:00.

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Teaching Assistants

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Required Books

American Psychological Association. (1994). Publication manual (4th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Gelfand, H., & Walker, C.J. (1990). Mastering APA Style. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Stanovich, K. (1996). How to think straight about psychology (4th ed.). New York: HarperCollins.

Objectives

The purpose of this course is the development and enhancement of practical and professional skills based on current standard discourse in the field of psychology. It aims to improve the student's ability (a) to think scientifically, (b) to find, analyze, and organize information, and (c) to communicate clearly, critically, and effectively within the discipline.

Prerequisites

The course is intended for students enrolled in the Psychology Specialist Programme, for which it is required. It is to be taken following completion of PSY B01, PSY B07 and PSY C08, and is recommended to be taken in the third year.

Assignments and Evaluation

APA Style: Students will work towards the mastery of APA Style by doing the exercises and practice test in Mastering APA Style. Credit earned for the *Term Paper Mastery Test* and for the *Research Report Mastery Test* will depend on when you achieve your highest score, as follows:

<u>Items correct</u>	<u>First testing</u>	<u>Second testing</u>
90% or more	10/10	9/10
80-89%	7/10	6/10
75-79%	4/10	3/10
70-75%	2/10	0/10
<70%	0/10	0/10

Short Writing Assignments: These assignments will be one to two pages in length. Content and style will be equally weighted in the evaluation. Further details will be given in a separate hand-out.

Assignment 1: Summarize a chapter in the text.

Assignment 2: Write a letter to the editor of The Globe and Mail.

Assignment 3: Summarize an article.

Assignment 4: Write an abstract of an assigned article.

Assignments are due by 5:00 p.m. on the due dates indicated below. The late penalty is the loss of 1 point (of the 5 possible) per day.

Major Writing Assignment: You will write a review article of 10-12 pages on a topic that will be agreed upon early in the course. You will have to do library research for this piece of work, involving using materials on the St. George campus. Training sessions in carrying out library research will be provided during tutorial hours. Content and style will be equally weighted in the evaluation. The final report is due on the day of the last class in the course, 4 December.

A topic outline of the review article is to be submitted no later than 30 October.

A draft of the review article is to be submitted no later than 15 November; the draft should be at least 6-8 pages long.

Classroom Presentations: You will give two presentations: (a) an oral summary of an article in the literature and (b) an oral summary of your review article.

Final Examination: The two-hour examination will be scheduled during the final exam period. It will contain both multiple choice and essay questions on the text by Stanovich. An additional hour will be provided for those students who wish to attempt a second writing of the *Research Report Mastery Test*.

Deadlines and Weighting of Evaluation Components

	<i>Weight</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
APA Style: <i>Term Paper Mastery Test</i>	10	9 Oct. & 21 Oct.
APA Style: <i>Research Report Mastery Test</i>	10	20 Nov. & TBA
Short Writing Assignments (5 each)	20	23 Sept., 2 Oct., 16 Oct., 11 Nov.
Classroom Presentations (5 each)	10	1) 28 Oct. & 4 Nov. 2) 25 Nov. & 2 Dec.
Outline of review article	2	30 October
Draft of review article	3	15 November
Major Writing Assignment (Review Article)	25	4 Dec.
Final Examination	20	TBA

Short Writing Assignments: These assignments will be 1-2 pages in length.

Assignment 1: Summarize a chapter in the text.

Assignment 2: Write a letter to the editor of The Globe and Mail.

Assignment 3: Summarize an article.

Assignment 4: Provide an outline of your review article.

Assignment 5: Write an abstract of an assigned article.

Major Writing Assignment: You will write a review article of 10-12 pages on a topic that will be agreed upon early in the course. You will have to do library research for this piece of work, involving using materials on the St. George campus. Training sessions in carrying out library research will be provided during tutorial hours early in the course; the research itself will be conducted outside class time.

Classroom Presentations: You will do two presentations: (a) an oral summary of an article in the literature and (b) an oral summary of your review article. Your tutorial leader will determine the dates on which your presentations will be made and will give you at least two weeks notice.

Final Examination: The two-hour examination will be scheduled during the final exam period. It will include both multiple choice and essay questions on the text by Stanovich. An additional hour will be provided for those students who wish to attempt a second writing of the *Research Report Mastery Test*.

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Final Examination	20	TBA