

**Psychology D98Y: Thesis in Psychology
2002**

Coordinator: Professor Marilyn Smith

Room S531

Phone: 416-287-7409

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Meeting times: Monday 10-12, Room B355

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a "hands-on" opportunity to do research. Each student will work closely with his or her supervisor to select and execute a research project. At the end of the year a research report, written in APA style, is to be submitted. This report will be graded by the Supervisor (65% of grade) and one other member of the psychology faculty (25% of grade). The grade assigned by the Supervisor will be based on both research participation (40%) and the written report (25%). In addition to this, all the students who are conducting thesis research will meet as a group with the coordinator to discuss research related issues. At these meetings, students will have the opportunity to share information about their projects with one another and get feedback from the other group members. The final 10% of the grade in this course will be based on participation in the D98Y seminar. At the end of the year, all students will give a formal presentation of their research to interested members of the psychology department. In addition, all students are encouraged to present their work at the Inter-university Thesis Conference in the spring. There is a 3% bonus for participating in this conference.

Please note:

1. The actual written report counts for 50% of your grade. Many students make the mistake of waiting till the last minute to write their report, so there is little if any time for corrections and polishing. **DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU!!**
2. Each student is given a small sum of money for research. Discuss with your Supervisor the possibility of using some of that money to hire a tutor (one of our graduate students, who charge \$30 per hour) to help with statistical analysis, if necessary.

Tentative schedule of group meetings

September 9: Introductory meeting: Distribution of Ethics Approval forms

September 23: Hand in completed ethics forms to coordinator. Each student will briefly describe his or her research project.

October 14: Students to submit a one page written report describing the hypothesis and methodology to be employed in the study. Each student to give a brief class presentation

November 4: Research and Writing Seminar, presented by Teaching & Learning Services. **N.B. Seminar will be held in the LINC lab in the Bladen Library. Dress warmly – it's cold in the lab!**

November 18 – December 2: The group will meet on alternate Mondays to provide up-dates on research progress. General discussion of problems, specific issues, etc. Students should attempt to complete data collection in the first term, if possible.

January 6 to February 10: Group will meet on alternate Mondays for up-dates, discussion of problems, etc.

February 24: Lecture on preparation of Power Point presentations

March 3: Discussion on writing your research report. Please review materials from PsyC02 before class, and bring manual and workbook with you

March 10 -31: Individual presentations of research reports to the class

April 4: Submission of thesis

April 10: Thesis Day: Formal presentations to the Psychology Department

TBA: Date of Inter-University thesis conference

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