

Psychology D98Y: Thesis in Psychology (2003-2004)

Course co-ordinator: K.K. Dion

Office: S-538A

Phone: 416-287-7412

E-mail: dionkk@utsc.utoronto.ca

This course provides the opportunity to design and conduct an independent research project under the supervision of a psychology faculty member at UTSC. Each student will be working with her/his research supervisor to select a topic and then conduct a research project in the chosen area.

Before starting any data collection, including pretesting measures or conducting a pilot study, each student must submit an ethics review protocol to the course co-ordinator for review by the UTSC psychology review committee for undergraduate research projects. **No data collection should begin until you receive written approval from this committee.** Information about the material to be submitted for this review procedure will be handed out early in the fall term.

As part of the psychology thesis course, you are expected to attend seminars throughout the year, first, to present your research proposal and later on, to present your research findings to the seminar group. In addition, at the end of the winter term, each student is expected to give a formal presentation of his/her thesis research to the psychology group (psychology faculty and interested students) at UTSC. The course seminars and the UTSC Psychology Thesis Day (to take place on April 8, 2004) provide an excellent opportunity for you to gain experience in presenting research.

On April 2, 2004, each student submits a written research report (2 copies) in the form of a thesis, following APA style (5th edition of the APA manual).

Evaluation:

There are two components to the final grade for this course. The research supervisor's component comprises 65% of the final grade and is based on the student's performance across all phases of the thesis research project throughout the year and on the written research report. There is also a second reader from the psychology faculty at UTSC whose grade comprises 35% of the final course grade, based on the written research report of the project.

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Schedule of seminar meetings

Fall term (2003)

September 12: Introductory meeting; review of material needed for submission of ethics review protocol.

September 26: Submit completed form and related material for ethics review.

October 17: Seminar presentations of research proposals (15 minutes for each research proposal plus 10 minutes for questions, comments, feedback).

October 24: Research presentations continue

October 31: Research presentations continue.

November 28: Research progress update

Winter term (2004)

January 30: Research progress update

February 27: Research progress update

March 12: Seminar presentations of research (15 minutes for each research presentation plus 10 minutes for questions, comments, feedback)

March 19: Research presentations continue

March 26: Research presentations continue

April 2: Written thesis due

April 8: Psychology Thesis Day at UTSC