# University of Toronto at Scarborough Department of Life Sciences

# Thesis in Psychology Psych D98

Fridays 9-11 am, Bladen Wing 359 (formally R-Wing)

**Professor Konstantine Zakzanis** 

Office Hours: Thursdays 5:30-6:30pm

Office Locations: S-Wing 564 E-mail: zakzanis@utsc.utoronto.ca



#### **Important Dates:**

September 6 Labour Day -- University closed.

September 9 Classes begin in F (Fall) and Y (Fall/Winter) courses.

September 22 Last day to add F and Y courses.

October 11 Thanksgiving Day -- University closed.

November 3 Last day to drop F courses without academic penalty.\*

December 1 Last day of classes and last day for submission of term assignments in

F courses EXCEPT courses that normally meet on a Monday.

December 2 UTSC Monday - Last day of classes and last day for submission of

term assignments in F courses that normally meet on a Monday.

December 3-8 Study Break.

December 9-21 Final examinations in 'F' courses. 2004 Summer deferred

examinations.

December 22 December break -- University closed.

- January 2

February 15 Last day to confirm intention to graduate at the Spring Convocation.

<sup>\*</sup> After this date grades are recorded on transcripts whether course work is completed or not (with a '0' assigned for incomplete work) and they are calculated into GPAs.

<sup>\*</sup>NOTE: Students with a disability/health consideration are encouraged to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services Office @287-7560. They can also drop by the office, S302B, inside the Resource Centre. The Coordinator is available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations.

## **Course Description**

This course provides the opportunity to design and 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 pre-testing 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. You should speak to your supervisor regarding what is to be expected with regards to ethics approval.

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 including the psychology faculty and interested students at UTSC. The course seminars and the UTSC Psychology Thesis Day (date to be announced) provide an excellent opportunity for you to gain experience in presenting research.

On April 1, 2005, each student submits a written research report (2 copies) in the form of a thesis, following APA style (5<sup>th</sup> edition of the APA manual).

#### **Evaluation**

There are two components to the final grade of 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.

## **Lecture Dates & Readings:**

September 10: Welcome; who are you working with, what are you doing?

September 17: No Class

September 24: Research Skills Instruction, Frances Sardone: in AC 221 (TLS writing centre lab); YOU MUST ATTEND!!!! (or I will deduct from your final grade)

October 1: Ethics review should be submitted by today.

October 8: No Class

October 15: Presentation Skills Instruction (To be confirmed)... otherwise Interim Presentation (10 minute update on what you are doing and how you are going to do it). You should be prepared to state your hypothesis, your methods, and we will discuss as a class how to best think about analyzing your data...

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October 22: No Class

October 29: No Class

November 5: Interim Presentation (10 minute update on your progress)

**November 12: No Class** 

November 19: Experimental Design, Professor Niemeier

**December 9-21: Final Examination Period** 

January 7, 2005: No Class

January 14, 2005: How to use Power Point (Demonstration in Class)

January 21, 2005: No Class

February 4, 2005: Basic Statistics; Professor Bors (to be confirmed)

February 11, 2005: No Class; READING WEEK

February 18, 2005: No Class

February 25, 2005: Data Analysis (SPSS aid)

March 4, 2005: No class

March 11, 2005: Data Analysis (SPSS aid)

March 18, 2005: No Class

March 25, 2005: Presentations (Your thesis to be presented)

April 1, 2005: No Class, but note you thesis is due in the department office.