PSYB01: Psychology Research Laboratory
Fall 2016

Course
PSYB01H3: Psychology Research Laboratory (for Specialists)
Lecture Time and Location: Mondays 9-11am, SY110
Tutorial Times/Location: Tues 9-10am, 1-2pm, 2-3pm, 3-4pm, 4-5pm, 5-6pm, 6-7pm in SW316
Blackboard Website: https://portal.utoronto.ca/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp

Instructor
Professor SiSi Tran, Ph.D.
E-mail: sisi.tran@utsc.utoronto.ca
Office: Science Wing, SW531
Office Hours: Mondays 11am-Noon

Teaching Assistants for Tutorials

Teaching Assistant	Teaching Assistant E-mail	Tutorial Time (Tuesdays)	Tutorial Location
Shelly Zhou	shelly.zhou@mail.utoronto.ca	9-10am	SW316
Olivia Podolak	olivia.podolak@mail.utoronto.ca	1-2pm	SW316
Carolyn Watters	carolyn.watters@mail.utoronto.ca	2-3pm	SW316
Paul Bruce	paul.bruce@mail.utoronto.ca	3-4pm	SW316
Adam Frost	adam.frost@mail.utoronto.ca	4-5pm	SW316
Nina Lee	ninah.lee@mail.utoronto.ca	5-6pm	SW316
Nat Brown	nat.brown@mail.utoronto.ca	6-7pm	SW316

Office Hours: By appointment only

Course Description, Goals, and Objectives
The discipline of psychology occupies a peculiar niche. Modern psychologists are concerned with basic humanistic issues (e.g., the nature of emotions, the mind, relationships, free will, and consciousness) that have traditionally been studied by philosophers, poets, and historians. However, unlike scholars in other disciplines, modern psychologists employ methods of the natural sciences (e.g., measurement, experimentation) in order to understand these phenomena. The objective of this course is to introduce you to scientific methods, and how they can be used to better understand psychological phenomena.

The ***general* goals and objectives** of the course are
- Practice and develop critical thinking skills and scientific analysis
- Explore scientific methods of conducting psychological research
- Become more informed consumers of science
- Find ways to apply science to social issues in everyday life

The lectures (on Mondays) will provide a basic overview of conceptual and practical issues concerning research in psychology; and the tutorials (on Tuesdays) will provide opportunities for hands-on applications, demonstrations, and in-depth discussion of these issues. The first half of the course will provide a broad overview of scientific methods to develop students' core understanding of methods and basic scientific literacy; and the second half of the course will provide application and analysis of this newly developed literacy.

Required Course Readings

Lewandowski, G. W., Ciarocco, N. J., & Strohmetz, D. B. (2016). *Discovering the scientist within: Research methods in psychology.* Worth Publishers: New York.

In-Class Participation

As a laboratory course, this class is structured primarily around research activities and class discussion. With an emphasis on research design, data collection, and critical analysis, it is imperative that students direct their undivided attention to the class, actively engage in activities and demonstrations, and contribute to class discussions by expressing their own thoughts about issues related to the course. This will greatly enhance the classroom experience – it will make learning more interactive, more fun, more personally relevant, and more enduring.

Out-of-Class LaunchPad Study Resources

Your textbook comes with a set of online study resources that provide opportunities for application and assessment, importantly with immediate feedback about your learning and mastery of course content. It's a great way to gauge your knowledge of the content, understand your strengths and weaknesses with the material, and apply what you've learned. (HINT HINT: Some of the items from these study materials could show up on your exams.) Study activities can be found at www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpadsolo/researchmethods/3748221. The access code should be provided with your purchase of the textbook.

Exams

There will be 2 exams in the course. The first exam will cover the first half of the class, and the second exam (during finals) will cover the second half. The exams will cover material from the textbook, as well as class lectures, activities, and discussions. Consistent with the structure of the class, the first exam will require comprehension of conceptual and practical issues concerning scientific research and design; whereas the second exam will require application of one's understanding of these issues to real-life examples and case studies. At the end of the course, the two exams will be weighted with a 35-45% distribution, together worth 80% of the final course mark. The heavier (45% weight) will be given to the exam with the higher mark.

Research Analyses

Throughout the course, students will complete two research analysis papers. This will entail carefully reading an empirical article that describes a set of scientific studies and providing an in-depth analysis of the research described. Detailed instructions for this assignment will be provided in class. Each research analysis is worth 25 points, or 50 points together (20% of the final course mark).

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.

Missed Term Work due to Medical Illness or Emergency

All students citing a documented reason for missed term work must bring their documentation to Course Coordinator, Ainsley Lawson, as soon as possible upon return to campus (and within 3 business days from the term assignment due date or exam date). All documentation must be accompanied by the department Request for Missed Term Work form. In the case of missed term work due to illness, only an original copy of the official UTSC Verification of Illness Form will be accepted. Forms are to be completed in full, clearly indicating the start date, anticipated end date, and severity of illness. The physician's registration number and business stamp are required as is the course information. In the case of emergency, a record of visitation to a hospital emergency room or copy of a death certificate may be considered. Forms should be dropped off in SW427C between 9 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. Upon receipt of the documentation, both you and your instructor will receive email notification within 2 business days, containing a stamped departmental document detailing the affected date(s), along with a copy of the original document(s). The course instructor reserves the right to decide what accommodations (if any) will be made for the missed term work.

Disabilities

Academic accommodations are available for students with disabilities who are registered with Access*Ability* Services. Students who register and utilize the Access*Ability* services will not be identified on their transcript as receiving accommodations. Information disclosed to the service is confidential and is disclosed only with the student's permission. Students in need of disability accommodations should schedule an appointment with me early in the semester to discuss appropriate accommodations for the course. Talking with me well in advance is always better. There is little to nothing that I can do for you *after* an assignment is due.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own can result in disciplinary action. The University of Toronto's *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences.

"Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis."

Grading System

35% - Exam with lower mark
45% - Exam with higher mark
20% - Research Analysis Papers

Course Calendar

Date	Topic	Text Readings
1-Sep	Introduction to Science - Why Do Research At All?	
5-Sep	Labour Day - No Class	
12-Sep	Ethics and Standards for Scientific Inquiry	Chapter 3
19-Sep	Empirical Process and Research Design	Chapters 1 and 2
26-Sep	Hypotheses, Variables and Operational Definitions	Chap 5 (p. 117-124), Chap 9 (p. 273-283)
3-Oct	Measurement, Reliability and Validity	Chapter 4 (pgs. 79-101)
10-Oct	Thanksgiving Day - No Class	
17-Oct	Overview of Statistics, Sampling and Power	Chap 4 (pgs. 101-107), Appendix A
24-Oct	In-Class Exam	

Date	Topic	Text Readings
31-Oct	Observational Research	Chapter 6
7-Nov	Survey Design and Scale Construction	Chapter 7
14-Nov	Two-Group and Multi-Group Design	Chapter 8, Chap 9 (pgs. 283-300)
21-Nov	Within-Group Design	Chapter 10
28-Nov	Factorial and Mixed Design	Chapters 11 and 12
Finals	Final Exam	

Tutorials:
Tutorials will be held on the following Tuesdays:
September 13, 20, 27, October 4, 18, November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.

Deadlines:
Research Analysis 1 will be due by 11:59pm on Friday, November 11th
Research Analysis 2 will be due by 11:59pm on Friday, December 2nd.