

University of Toronto, Scarborough
PSYB04, Lecture 99
Summer 2017

Instructor: Connie Boudens (PSYB04@utsc.utoronto.ca)
 Office: PO103, room 123
 Office hours: Monday 15:00 – 16:00, Tuesday 13:00-15:00

Course description: This course offers a practical introduction to research methods in psychology for students who need to be able to evaluate and critique research, rather than conduct novel research themselves. Students will learn research designs commonly used in psychological research, how to assess whether a design has been applied correctly or incorrectly, and whether the conclusions drawn from the data are warranted.

Prerequisites: PSYA01H & PSYA02H

Exclusion: PSYB01H

Textbooks: Required: Morling, B. (2015) *Research Methods in Psychology: Evaluating a World of Information* (2nd ed.). New York: Norton

Recommended: American Psychological Association (2010). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Grading Summary:

Midterm exam 40% (Date TBA)

The midterm will consist of 80 multiple-choice questions. The midterm will cover the material presented in the first 5 lectures of the course (Chapters 1-7).

Assignment: Interpreting research findings (15%)

For this assignment, you will be given a research article to read. You will answer a series of questions about the article, and you will produce a 400-500 word summary of the article in a “press release” format.

Further details related to this assignment will be posted on BlackBoard the week of May 8

Final exam: 45% (during the exam period)

The final exam will consist of 100 multiple-choice questions. Eighty of the multiple-choice questions will cover the material presented in lecture 6 and thereafter (Chapters 8 – 14 + statistics review sections). The remaining questions will touch on over-arching themes and issues related to the entire course.

Suggested Schedule of Readings
(Each week corresponds to a lecture on Weboption LectureCast)

Week	Topic	Readings
1	Introduction to the course, Sources of information	Ch 1,2
2	Interrogation tools	Ch 3
3	Research Ethics	Ch 4
4	Measurement	Ch 5
5	Evaluating frequency claims	Ch 6,7
6	Correlational Research	Ch 8, 9
7	The research enterprise – how does it all work?	Video only
8	Introduction to experimental research	Ch 10
9	More on experimental research	Ch 11
10	Statistics	Statistics Review Sections
11	Still more on experimental research	Ch 12, 13
12	Replicability and Generalizability	Ch 14

Rules and Policies Pertinent to This Class (Note that some of these do not apply to online students):

1. Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services as soon as possible. AccessAbility Services staff (located in Rm SW302, Science Wing) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations 416-287-7560 or email ability@utsc.utoronto.ca. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.
2. **Turnitin:** 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.
3. In accordance with the Provost's guidelines on appropriate use of information and communicative technology, and for reasons of privacy and copyright protection, you may not record class session in either audio or video format without the explicit consent of the instructor.
4. **Laptops and other electronic devices should only be used in class for course-related purposes. If you are using them for another purpose, you will be asked to stop.**
5. Email policy: Whenever possible, please talk to me in person if you have a question or problem. Typing an email requires a great deal more time than a verbal response, and talking in person makes it easier for me to understand what you are asking and give an appropriate response. If you must send email, *please include the class you are in and the topic of your email in the subject line.*
6. **Respect for all class participants is essential, and it is something that I insist on as an instructor.** When another member of the class is speaking, everyone else is expected to give that person their full attention.
7. **Distracting behaviour will not be tolerated.** This includes chatting with fellow classmates, playing video games, texting, surfing the internet, arriving late or leaving early, and attempting to redirect the discussion to a topic that is not relevant to the class.
8. Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Work that is handed in late will be penalized 10% for each working day or weekend that it is late.
9. I will not give extra-credit assignments or other opportunities to improve on your course grade, so make sure you work hard during the term.
10. I will attempt to upload my slides before lecture, but occasionally that's not possible, so please come prepared to take your own notes.

Psychology Missed Term Work due to Medical Illness or Emergency Policy:

All students citing a documented reason for missed term work must bring their documentation to the Psychology Course Coordinator, Ainsley Lawson, **within three (3) business days** of the assignment due date.

**** All requests must be accompanied by the [Request for Missed Term Work form](http://uoft.me/PSY-MTW) **** (<http://uoft.me/PSY-MTW>)

In the case of missed term work due to **illness**, only an **original copy** of the official [UTSC Verification of Illness Form](http://uoft.me/UTSC-Verification-Of-Illness-Form) will be accepted (<http://uoft.me/UTSC-Verification-Of-Illness-Form>). 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.

In the case of **medical emergency**, an original copy of the record of visitation to a hospital emergency room should be provided.

In the case of a **death of a family member**, a copy of a death certificate should be provided.

In the case of a **disability-related** concern, an email communication should be sent directly to the Course Coordinator (psychology-undergraduate@utsc.utoronto.ca) from your Disability Consultant at AccessAbility Services. The course instructor should also be copied.

For U of T **Varsity athletic commitments**, an email communication should be sent directly to the Course Coordinator (psychology-undergraduate@utsc.utoronto.ca) from a coach or varsity administrator should be submitted, **in advance** of the missed work.

Documents covering the following situations are **NOT acceptable**: medical prescriptions, anything related to personal travel, weddings/personal/work commitments.

Your [request form](#) and [medical](#)/other documents must be submitted in person **within 3 business days** of the missed test or assignment. Forms should be submitted to **SW427C between 9 AM - 4 PM**, Monday through Friday. You will receive an email response from the Course Instructor / Course Coordinator detailing the accommodations to be made (if any). You are responsible for checking your official U of T email daily, as accommodations may be time-critical. The Course Instructor reserves the right to decide what accommodations (if any) will be made for the missed work.

Note that this policy applies only to missed term work (assignments and midterms). Missed final exams are handled by the Registrar's Office (<http://www.utoronto.ca/registrar/missing-examination>)

Failure to adhere to any aspect of this policy may result in a denial of your request for accommodation

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/ppjun011995.pdf>) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments:

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement;
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor;
- Making up sources or facts;
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.

On tests and exams:

- Using or possessing unauthorized aids;
- Looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test;
- Misrepresenting your identity; and
- When you knew or ought to have known you were doing it.

In academic work:

- Falsifying institutional documents or grades;
- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes; and
- When you knew or ought to have known you were doing so.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If students have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, they are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from their instructors or from other institutional resources.

Note:

You may see advertisements for services offering grammar help, essay editing and proof-reading. Be very careful. If these services take a draft of your work and significantly change the content and/or language, you may be committing an academic offence (unauthorized assistance) under the *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*.

It is much better and safer to take your draft to the Writing Centre as early as you can. They will give you guidance you can trust. Students for whom English is not their first language should go to the English Language Development Centre.

If you decide to use these services in spite of this caution, you must keep a draft of your work and any notes you made before you got help and be prepared to give it to your instructor on request.