

University of Toronto, Scarborough

PSYC11, Winter 2018

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Office hours: Thursdays

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Course description: In this course we will cover the research methods most commonly used in social psychology, and give you some practical experience at designing and carrying out research. The goals of the course are two-fold: to develop your skills at evaluating and critiquing research in social psychology, and to further your growth as researchers. The course will consist of a mixture of lectures, workshops, and exercises.

Prerequisites: PSYB01H3 and PSYB07H3 (or SOCB06H3 or STAB22H3) and PSYB10H3

Exclusion: PSY329H

Textbooks: Cozby, P. C., & Rawn, C. D. (2012) *Methods in Behavioral Science*. Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson. (any edition of this text is fine, but the schedule of readings refers to the 2nd Canadian edition)
American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association.

Grading Summary:

Attendance and Participation (20%)

This includes attending class, paying attention, and participating in workshops and exercises. It also means refraining from activities that distract the instructor and/or your fellow students. *This includes such activities as carrying on conversations, texting, surfing the internet, updating social media accounts, and playing games on your computer.* If you engage in these activities, your participation grade will reflect that.

Annotated Bibliography (20%)

For this assignment, you will submit all of the papers you intend to use as the 12 references for your term paper (see below). For each article, you will submit a short summary, and you will briefly discuss how the article ties in with the research you are doing for your term paper. For each article you should be writing 1-2 pages. You will submit this *as a group assignment*. The best way to approach this would be to split the work up so that each group member works on 2-3 articles.

Experimental Design Assignment (30%)

For this paper, you will design an experiment that tests the same question as your major paper. This paper should include an abbreviated introduction (approx. 2 pages), and a detailed method section. The paper should be approximately 3-4 pages, exclusive of front and back matter, and must be in APA format. This paper can be submitted as an individual paper *or* as a group paper.

Term Paper (30%)

This paper will consist of a lab report in the style of an APA manuscript. For this paper, you will work in groups to design and carry out a questionnaire-based study, including collecting and analyzing data. Your final paper will include all of the basic sections found in an APA-style paper (abstract, introduction, method, results, and discussion). The paper should be 6-8 pages *exclusive of front and back matter*, and must include a minimum of 12 references from peer-reviewed journals. At least five of those references must be dated 2007 or later (i.e. more recent). Your references can be theory or empirical papers, but cannot include review articles, book chapters, books, dissertations, or conference proceedings. Although you'll be working in groups for most of the term, *the final paper is an individual paper*, so you must write and submit your own work.

Tentative Schedule and Readings

Date	Topic	Readings	
Jan 18	Introduction to the course		
Jan 25	Finding research topics	Ch 2	Formation of groups
Feb 1	Surveys and questionnaires	Ch 7	
Feb 8	Observational research	Ch 6	
Feb 15	Experiments – basic ideas	Ch 4 & Ch 8	
Feb 22	Reading Week: No class		
March 1	Writing the introduction section		
March 8	Experiments continued	Ch 9 & 10	
March 15	Method and results sections Data collection		Annotated bibliography due
March 22	Data analysis		Experimental design paper due
March 29	Consultations on term papers (optional class)		
April 5	Qualitative research		Term paper due

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.utsc.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.

