

***Developmental Psychology Laboratory***

Instructor: *Mark A. Schmuckler*  
Office: *AA437*  
Office Hours: *Wednesdays, 1:00 – 2:00 PM, or by appointment*  
Email: [\*marksch@utsc.utoronto.ca\*](mailto:marksch@utsc.utoronto.ca)

Course Hours: *Monday, 7:00 – 9:00 PM*  
Course Location: *SW316*

Teaching Assistant: *Michelle Mcphee*  
Office: *HW302*  
Office Hours: *Thursdays, 11:00 – 12:00 PM, or by appointment*  
Email: [\*michelle.mcphee@mail.utoronto.ca\*](mailto:michelle.mcphee@mail.utoronto.ca)

**Text:** Miller, S.A. (2018). *Developmental research methods*, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications

**Overview of Course**

The purpose of PSYC26 is to acquaint you with research in psychology in general, and with the methodology of developmental psychology in particular. You will do this in part by writing, but primarily by collecting data and by writing reports describing your research. The course is demanding, but it should also be enjoyable. Formulating research questions, collecting and analysing data, and writing and interpreting your results are among the most exciting parts of experimental psychology. Developmental psychology focuses on the process of change within and across the difference phases of the life-span. Reflecting the broad range of topics in this area, there are diverse research methods. This course will cover a sample of some of these approaches, as well as consider issues in research design as it relates to developmental concerns.

**Course Requirements**

There are several course requirements. First, there are a series of short assignments that you must complete. The length of these projects, and what they entail, will be discussed later in class. You will also be required to actually conduct an observational coding experiment in child development (making use of the day care facility at Scarborough), and to write an experimental report for this experiment. Finally, in addition to collecting data and writing a report, there is a textbook to be learned, as well as lecture material to be mastered. You will be expected to know this material, and to demonstrate your knowledge in the form of a midterm and final exam. Each of these exams will cover approximately half of the book. A rough outline of the lecture topics, as well as the due dates and relative weighting of these assignments, is given below.

**General Topics, Readings, Course Assignments, and Due Dates**

Below is an APPROXIMATE outline of the readings and topics to be covered in class. More specific information concerning each week’s material will be given as the class progresses.

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Value</u>
Sep. 10	Introduction to Class	---		
Sep. 17	Scientific Communication	Ch. 11		
Sep. 24	The Nature of Science	Ch. 1		
Oct. 1	Research Methods I	Ch. 2 – 8	Assignment # 1 Due	10%
Oct. 8	<i>Thanksgiving / Reading Week</i>			
Oct. 15	Research Methods II	Ch. 2 – 8		
Oct. 22	<b>Term Exam 1</b>			20%
Oct. 29	Infancy	Ch. 12		
Nov. 5	Cognitive Development	Ch. 13	Assignment # 2 Due	15%
Nov. 12	Social Development	Ch. 14		
Nov. 19	<b>Term Exam 2</b>			20%
Nov. 26	Practical Statistics	Ch. 9		
Dec. 3	Practical Statistics	Ch. 9	Assignment # 3 Due	15%
T. B. A.	<b>Take Home Exam</b>		Final Paper Due	20%

Deadlines for assignments will be posted when the assignment is made available. Penalty for unjustified late assignment: 1 mark per day (i.e., 1 day late, a B becomes a B-, and so on).

## *Policies and Procedures*

### **Missed Term Work due to Medical Illness or Other Emergency:**

All students citing a documented reason for missed term work must bring their documentation to the Psychology Course Coordinator in SW427C **within three (3) business days** of the assignment due date. You must bring the following:

- (1.) A completed Request for Missed Term Work form (<http://uoft.me/PSY-MTW>), and
- (2.) Appropriate documentation to verify your illness or emergency, as described below.

#### Appropriate Documentation:

For missed **TERM TESTS** due to ILLNESS:

- Submit an **original** copy of the official UTSC Verification of Illness Form (<http://uoft.me/UTSC-Verification-Of-Illness-Form>) or an **original** copy of the record of visitation to a hospital emergency room. 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.

For missed **ASSIGNMENTS** due to ILLNESS:

- Submit **both** (1.) a **hardcopy** of the Self-Declaration of Student Illness Form (<http://uoft.me/PSY-self-declare-form>), and (2.) the **web-based** departmental declaration form (<http://uoft.me/PSY-self-declare-web>).

For missed term tests or assignments in OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES:

- 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 from your Disability Consultant at AccessAbility Services should be sent directly to both the Course Coordinator ([psychology-undergraduate@utsc.utoronto.ca](mailto:psychology-undergraduate@utsc.utoronto.ca)) and your instructor, detailing the accommodations required.
- For U of T Varsity **athletic commitments**, an email from your coach or varsity administrator should be sent directly to the Course Coordinator ([psychology-undergraduate@utsc.utoronto.ca](mailto:psychology-undergraduate@utsc.utoronto.ca)), detailing the dates and nature of the commitment. The email should be sent **well in advance** of the missed work.

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

#### Procedure:

Submit your (1.) [request form](#) and (2.) [medical/self-declaration](#)/other documents in person **WITHIN 3 BUSINESS DAYS** of the missed term test or assignment.

**Submit to:** Course Coordinator, Room SW427C, Monday – Friday, 9 AM – 4 PM

If you are unable to meet this deadline for some reason, you must contact the Course Coordinator via email ([psychology-undergraduate@utsc.utoronto.ca](mailto:psychology-undergraduate@utsc.utoronto.ca)) within the three business day window. Exceptions to the documentation deadline will only be made under exceptional circumstances.

Within approximately one week, 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 and Quercus course announcements daily, as accommodations may be time-critical.

Completion of this form does NOT guarantee that accommodations will be made. The course instructor reserves the right to decide what accommodations (if any) will be made. **Failure to adhere to any aspect of this policy may result in a denial of your request for accommodation.**

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

**AccessAbility:**

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](tel:416-287-7560) or email [ability@utsc.utoronto.ca](mailto: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.

**Turnitin:**

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.

**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.