

PSYC11: Social Psychology Methods Laboratory Winter 2019

Course

PSYC11H3: Social Psychology Methods Laboratory

Class Times and Location: Tuesdays 10am-Noon (L01) and Noon-2pm (L02), SW316

Quercus Website: q.utoronto.ca

Instructor

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Teaching Assistants

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Course Description, Goals, and Objectives

The course provides an introduction to conceptual and practical issues concerning research in social psychology. It provides hands-on experience with several different types of research methods including (1) survey and questionnaire development, (2) behavioral observation and coding methods, (3) laboratory and field experimental methods, (4) social cognitive priming methods, and (5) reaction time methods. The course will cover research design, data collection, analysis, validity, written reports, and formal presentation of findings.

The ***general goals and objectives*** of the course are

- Learn how to frame a research question and design studies to test predictions
- Explore various methods of conducting social psychological research
- Practice and develop critical thinking skills and scientific analysis.
- Learn written and oral communication skills that emphasize scientific precision.
- Find ways to apply science to social issues in everyday life.

Course Readings

Crano, W. D., & Brewer, M. D. (2005). *Principles and methods of social research (2nd ed.)*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Assoc. (The text is available to download in electronic form from the UofT library. It is also on reserve in hardback form at the UTSC library.)

Class Participation

As a C-level laboratory course, this class is structured primarily around research activities, class discussion, and general engagement. With an emphasis on research design, data collection, and critical analysis, it is imperative that students actively participate in class exercises and discussions. This will greatly enhance the classroom experience. It will make learning more interactive, more fun, more personally relevant, and more enduring. Class participation throughout the term will be worth 30 points in total.

Research Paper 1 – Summary

Throughout the course, the class will conduct five mini-research projects using the social psych methods listed above. Students will write a research summary about one of the five projects from the course; the project can be of the students' own choosing. Detailed instructions for the research paper will be provided in class. The paper is worth 100 points; it must be submitted by 11:59pm on the due date in order to receive full credit. Late papers will be accepted up to one week late; however, 10 points will be deducted from the score for every day that it is late.

Research Presentation

The research presentation will involve pairing up with one or two other students to present your collaborative research proposal to the class. In the presentation, each group of students will (a) present a specific model, theory or phenomenon, (b) review the literature pertaining to this topic, (c) present a set of hypotheses to fill a gap that has yet to be tested in the literature, and (d) propose a methodological procedure to test their predictions. Visual aids are recommended (e.g., powerpoint presentation). The presentation should last approximately 10-12 minutes with a few minutes for questions. Detailed instructions for the presentation will be provided in class. Each group of students will receive the same mark for the final presentation, worth 50 points.

Research Paper 2 – Proposal

The final paper will be an extension of the research presentation from above. Although the presentation will be conducted in collaboration with other students, the research paper will be written separately and each student will receive their own mark for the final written proposal. It is expected that the overarching topic and many details of the methods and expected results will be similar for each pair of students. Detailed instructions for the research proposal will be provided in class. The research proposal is worth 100 points, and it must be submitted by 11:59pm on the due date in order to receive full credit. Late papers will be accepted up to one week late however 10 points will be deducted from the score for every day that it is late.

Missed Term Work due to Medical Illness or Emergency

All students citing a documented reason for missed term work must submit their request for accommodations within three (3) business days of the deadline for the missed work.

Students must submit **BOTH** of the following:

- (1.) A completed Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations 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 the Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations form (<http://uoft.me/PSY-MTW>), along with an original copy of the official UTSC Verification of Illness Form (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 the Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations form (<http://uoft.me/PSY-MTW>), along with a hardcopy of the Self-Declaration of Student Illness Form (uoft.me/PSY-self-declare-form).

For missed term tests or assignments in OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES:

Submit the Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations form (<http://uoft.me/PSY-MTW>), along with:

- In the case of a death of a family member or friend, please provide a copy of a death certificate.
- In the case of a disability-related concern, if your desired accommodation is within the scope of your Accommodation Letter, please attach a copy of your letter. If your desired accommodation is outside the scope of your Accommodation Letter (ex. if your letter says “extensions of up to 7 days” but you need more time than that) you will need to meet with your consultant at AccessAbility Services and have them email Keely Hicks (keely.hicks@utoronto.ca) detailing the accommodations required.
- For U of T Varsity athletic commitments, an email from your coach or varsity administrator should be sent directly to Keely Hicks (keely.hicks@utoronto.ca) well in advance of the missed work, detailing the dates and nature of the commitment.
- For religious accommodations, please email (keely.hicks@utoronto.ca) well in advance of the missed work.

Documents covering the following situations are NOT acceptable: medical prescriptions, personal travel, weddings/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: Keely Hicks, Room SW420B, Monday – Friday, 9 AM – 4 PM

Exceptions to the documentation deadline will only be made under exceptional circumstances. If you are unable to meet this deadline, you must email Keely Hicks (keely.hicks@utoronto.ca) within the three business day window to explain when you will be able to bring your documents in person. Attach scans of your documentation.

Within approximately one week, you will receive an email response from your instructor 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.

Instructors cannot accept term work after April 12, 2019. Beyond this date, you would need to file a petition with the Registrar’s Office to have your term work accepted (<https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/registrar/term-work>).

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>).

Disabilities

Academic accommodations are available for students with disabilities who are registered with AccessAbility Services (<http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~ability/>). Students who register and utilize the AccessAbility 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. 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: 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.

In this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an "F" for the course. If you have any questions regarding the expectations for a specific assignment or exam, please don’t hesitate to ask me.

Grading System

Research Summary	100 points
Research Proposal	100 points
Research Presentation	50 points
<u>Class Participation</u>	<u>30 points</u>
Total	280 points

Grade	Point Value	%	Definition
A+	251 to 280	90-100	Excellent
A	237 to 250	85-89	
A-	223 to 236	80-84	
B+	215 to 222	77-79	Good
B	203 to 214	73-76	
B-	195 to 202	70-72	
C+	187 to 194	67-69	Adequate
C	175 to 186	63-66	
C-	167 to 174	60-62	
D+	159 to 166	57-59	Marginal
D	147 to 158	53-56	
D-	137 to 146	50-52	
F	0 to 136	0-49	Inadequate

Course Calendar

C11 Social Methods		
Tuesdays	Topic	Deadlines
8-Jan	Scientific Literacy	
15-Jan	Scientific Literacy	
22-Jan	Questionnaires	
29-Jan	Lab Experiments	
5-Feb	Field Experiments	
12-Feb	Behavioral Observations	

19-Feb	Reading Week - No Class	Research Summary Due: Sun Feb 24, 11:59pm
26-Feb	Priming & Reaction Time, Review & Shift to Research Proposals	
5-Mar	Individual Consultations w/ Prof Tran	
12-Mar	Group Work on Final Proposals	
19-Mar	Student Presentations	
26-Mar	Student Presentations	
2-Apr	Professor is Away - No Class	Research Proposal Due: Sun April 7, 11:59pm