

CRITICAL ANALYSIS IN SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
PSYD16F
COURSE OUTLINE
FALL 2021 Synchronous

Professor: Gerald C. Cupchik
Office: SW564
Telephone: (416) 287-7467
Email: Gerald.cupchik@utoronto.ca

Class time: Wednesday 11 – 1:00 online synchronous via Zoom

Zoom link for lectures:

Office Hours: Thursdays 12 – 1:00 on Zoom

Zoom link for Office Hours:

Please send an email message indicating that you intend to attend.

Text: Van Manen, M. (1990). **Researching Lived-Experience**. London: Althouse.

Text is available through course reserves.

Weekly readings will be assigned.

The first lecture of the term falls on the Jewish New Year and so I won't be present in person. An introductory lecture will be available on the course website.

Goals of the Course

The course is designed to help students understand the difference between psychology as a *discipline* and as a *profession*. This is equivalent to mastering *skills* in a particular area and learning how to develop a *career*. The course will help students develop *critical* skills that can be applied both in academic and practical settings. One way to do this is to examine historical trends and issues in social psychology. Students will be assigned a different reading each week that will be discussed in detail. Assigned readings will be available on course reserves through the library. The purpose of the textbook will be to help students understand the theoretical foundations of their term paper.

Outcomes

Learn to appreciate the positive and negative aspects of “criticism.”
Learn to evaluate concepts and operations critically and place them in a historical context.
Learn to distinguish the Discipline of psychology from the Profession of psychology.
The Discipline encompasses phenomena, theory, and method.
The Profession is a social system and gatekeeper, for better or worse.
Learn about ecological validity through interviewing people about lived-experiences.
Learn about incorporating one’s own emotional and empathic processes in interviews.
Learning to evaluate insights about lived-experiences in relation to mainstream ideas.

Evaluation

Your final grade is based on: Midterm (1/3), Final Exam (1/3), and Term Paper (1/3).

Students must take both the Midterm test and Final exam, and complete the term paper, to receive a grade in the course.

1. **Midterm Test:** The midterm test covers lecture materials up to the date of the test as well as Chapters 1-4 in the textbook. Students will be given two questions and *two hours* to answer them. One question pertains to the lecture materials and the other to the readings. Under the circumstances, this will be an open book exam.

Midterm date: Week of October 18-22 (waiting for confirmation of the date but I presume it will be during class time.)

2. **Final Exam:** The Final exams covers all lecture materials delivered after the midterm as well as Chapters 5-7 in the textbook. The format will be the same as the midterm except students will have *three hours* to answer the questions. Under the circumstances, this will be an open book exam.
3. **Term Paper:** The term paper (minimum 30 pages) will explore a phenomenon from everyday life that is of interest to you. Given the unique nature of the pandemic, I suggest we focus on experiences during COVID-19. Working with the professor, students will define the problem and then interview *four* people to obtain information about real episodes or events which the respondent experienced. These episodes will form the basis for the development of a theory to account for the phenomenon. In addition, students will search the literature for relevant concepts after the episode data are collected and interpreted. They will then compare their ideas with those in the literature and reflect on the overall process in an Epilogue. Detailed instructions and a consent form will be uploaded to Quercus in due course.

Your term paper will be due (uploaded to Quercus) on the last day of the term (December 6th) by midnight in electronic format. Please keep all preliminary notes and materials that you used for the term paper.

Late Term Papers: 2% will be deducted from the term paper grade for each day that it is late by midnight.

Quercus Usage:

Midterm grades will be posted in the Grade Book.

Time Zone conflicts

If you are physically in a different time zone and a quiz or midterm is scheduled outside of 7:00am to midnight in your local time, you may use the following form to request special arrangements. Note that the form is only for term work. [Final exam conflicts](#) are handled by the Registrar's Office.

The form must be submitted **at least ten (10) business days before the activity**.

Form: <https://uoft.me/PSY-TimeZone>

Submit via email to: Keely Hicks, Departmental Assistant, keely.hicks@utoronto.ca

Psychology Department Missed Term Work Policy, FALL 2021

For missed term work (assignments and term tests) due to illness, emergency, or other mitigating circumstances, please follow the procedures outlined below.

- The following reasons are not considered sufficient for missed term work: travel for leisure, weddings, personal commitments, work commitments, human error.
- Missed Final Exams are handled by the Registrar's Office and should be declared on eService: <http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/registrar/missing-examination>
- Instructors cannot accept term work any later than five business days after the last day of class. Beyond this date, you would need to file a petition with the Registrar's Office: <https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/registrar/term-work>

Accommodations for Illness or Emergency:

For missed work due to ILLNESS OR EMERGENCY, complete the following **three-step** process:

1. Complete the **Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations Form** (<http://uoft.me/PSY-MTW>)
2. **Declare your absence** on **ACORN** (Profile & Settings > Absence Declaration)
3. **Email both the Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations Form AND a screenshot of your Self-Declared Absence on ACORN** to the email address provided by your instructor on the course syllabus **WITHIN 2 BUSINESS DAYS** of the missed work.

Note: If you are unable to submit your documents within 2-business days, **you must still email your instructor within the 2-business day window** to explain the nature of the delay, and when you will be able to provide your documents. Exceptions to the documentation deadline will only be made under **exceptional circumstances**.

Note: For this semester, we do not require any additional supporting documentation (e.g. medical notes) to support your missed term work accommodation request.

Accommodations for Academic Conflicts:

For missed term work due to an ACADEMIC CONFLICT (i.e., two midterms scheduled at the same time), please complete the following process:

1. Complete the **Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations Form** (<http://uoft.me/PSY-MTW>), choosing “Other” and explaining the conflict in the space provided.
2. Take screenshots of your course homepages that demonstrate the conflict.
3. Email the form and screenshots to your course instructor **at least two weeks (10 business days) before the date of the activity**, or as soon as possible if it was not possible to identify the conflict earlier.

Note: Multiple assignments due on the same day are not considered conflicts. Accommodations may only be possible in the case of quizzes and tests that are both scheduled during the same discrete period. Back-to-back tests/quizzes are not considered conflicts.

Note: Students are responsible for keeping their course timetables conflict-free. Students who choose to register in two synchronous courses with overlapping lecture/tutorial/lab schedules may not necessarily be accommodated.

Accommodations for Religious Conflicts:

For missed term work due to a RELIGIOUS CONFLICT, please complete the following process:

1. Complete the **Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations Form** (<http://uoft.me/PSY-MTW>), choosing “Other” and noting “Religious conflict” in the space provided.
2. Email the form to your course instructor **at least two weeks (10 business days) before the date of the activity**, or as soon as possible if it was not possible to identify the conflict earlier.

Accommodations for Time Zone Conflicts:

If you are physically in a different time zone and a quiz or midterm is scheduled outside of 7:00am to midnight in your local time, please complete the following process:

1. Complete the **Time Zone Conflict Form** (<https://uoft.me/PSY-TimeZone>), and
2. Email the form to your course instructor **at least two weeks (10 business days) before the date of the activity**, or as soon as possible, if it was not possible to identify the conflict earlier.

Accommodations for Students Registered with AccessAbility Services:

For missed **TERM TESTS** due to ACCESSABILITY REASONS:

- **Contact your AccessAbility consultant** and have them email your instructor detailing accommodations required.

For missed **ASSIGNMENTS** due to ACCESSABILITY REASONS:

- If your desired accommodation is **within the scope** of your Accommodation Letter (e.g. your letter includes “extensions of up to 7 days” and you need 3 days):
 1. Complete the **Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations Form**.
 2. Email the form and your **Accommodation Letter** to your instructor, specifying how many days extension you are requesting.
- If your desired accommodation is **outside the scope** of your Accommodation Letter (e.g. your letter includes “extensions of up to 7 days” but you need more time than that):

1. **Contact your AccessAbility consultant** and have them email your instructor detailing the accommodations required.

Accommodation Procedure:

After submitting your documentation, you will receive a response from your instructor or TA. This form does not guarantee that you will be accommodated. 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. **You are responsible for checking your official U of T email and Quercus course announcements daily**, as accommodations may be time-critical.

For missed assignments, **do not wait for an instructor response to resume work on your assignment.** Extension accommodations may be as short as one business day, depending on the nature of the illness/emergency. You should complete your assignment as soon as you are able and email it your instructor.

For an anticipated event (e.g. scheduled surgery or an illness with a prolonged recovery period), submit a [Verification of Illness Form](#) completed by your doctor, AND this form to your instructor if you would like to request accommodations in advance of the assignment deadline or midterm date. **Declare your future absence on ACORN (absences can be declared up to 14 days in the future).**

Missed Accommodations

If an accommodation is granted but a continued illness/emergency prevents you from meeting the requirements of your accommodation, you must repeat the missed term work procedure to request additional accommodations. **Please make it clear in your subject line that you are requesting a second accommodation.** For example, if you are given an extension but are still sick and need more time, or if you miss a make-up midterm, you must submit another request 'Missed Term Work Accommodations' form and declare your extended absence on ACORN. ***Note: In the case of a missed make-up test, an opportunity to write a second make-up test may not be provided.