

Dr. Haltrecht's section – Draft Course Outline below

4170 Teams vs. Individual Research

In a nutshell, Research Teams consist of students working under an umbrella of common interest. This may be a big or small umbrella- depending upon how wide their interests run. In some cases students will land on a narrow field, and have similar but different hypotheses. In other cases, it might appear that they really are looking at vastly different elements of the same field of interest. Each student must have at least one unique hypothesis. Team members treat other team members as research assistants/associates - helping collect data, test ideas, etc.

Teams & Collecting Data

By way of example: If one team member needs to use 3 Psychological tests to test their hypotheses (e.g. Beck, VR, Rosenberg), and a second team member only needs 2 - the Beck and Rosenberg- they may jointly collect all three from 200 participants. The first student will use all three, and the second student will only use the two that they need, but may "fish" the data and see if there are any other interesting relationships that they did not hypothesize. A third student in the same group may need the Rosenberg and a recognition memory test with only 20 participants. In this case, the group may decide to collect the latter data separately from the former - helping the third student. For the January SPSS session, the students may decide to have a separate data file for each student, or a single data file covering all of the research. Both approaches work well. Each student will be responsible for performing the statistical tests that they require to test their hypotheses. If a team of three students use the same three tests and predict differences based on some demographic variables (e.g. age for one student, gender for another, and number of Facebook friends for the third) then it is possible that they conduct the SPSS analysis together, each writing up their results and conclusions required for their hypothesis. In other cases, students may have very different analyses- and a single database would not work.

At the end of November class proposal presentations the team has 10 minutes to present all the theory and research related to their hypotheses. In the group, each student must present their own hypothesis, but the group may decide who speaks to what area. This seems complex, but our experience over the past three years demonstrates that it works well.

The posters are also shared- usually students colour code their hypotheses. So only one proposal and one poster per team. On the other hand, they present their own final paper.

In the case noted earlier, the student who only needed two tests, states in their method that data on three tests was gathered, but that their research only required two. They do not include any analysis, hypotheses etc. regarding the research of their other team members.

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Draft Version 1 (June 17, 2013)

Course: HH/PSYC 4170 B, C, G, H 6.00 - Advanced Research in Psychology

Course Webpage *To be announced*

Term: . Fall/Winter 2013 - 2014

Prerequisite / Co-requisite AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 1010 6.00 or AK/HH/PSYC 2410 6.00, with a minimum grade of C; AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2030 3.00 or AK/HH/PSYC 2530 3.00; AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2020 6.00 (or equivalent). Course credit exclusions: AK/PSYC 4700 3.00 (prior to Summer 2002), AK/PSYC 4800 6.00 (prior to Summer 2002), AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 4000 6.00, GL/PSYC 4000 6.00.

Course Instructor Ed Haltrecht haltrech@yorku.ca office, phone to be announced

TA's and Time and Location

4170B, Monday @ 8:30-11:30 RN203

TA's to be
announced

4170C, Monday @ 11:30-2:30 RN203

TA's to be
announced

4170G, Wednesday @ 8:30-11:30 FC106

TA's to be
announced

4170H, Wednesday @ 11:30-2:30 FC106

TA's to be
announced

Expanded Course Description

As an alternative to independent thesis research (AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 4000 6.00), this course offers structure, support and guidance for student research by means of regular seminar meetings. Some research topics may not be eligible for science (SC) credit.

Organization of the Course - This course is designed to give students the background to individually plan, execute, analyze and report a study of equivalent standard to an Honours B.A. thesis. The course will consist of three elements:

- A. A basic refresher on research methods and analysis
- B. Presentation and discussion of individual research proposals
- C. Final design of projects, execution, analysis, and written report on the proposed research

Students must work in teams of 2–5 students from their own section (B,C,G or H) for collaborative purposes and data collection. If you are uncomfortable working in teams, enroll in other sections of 4170 or take 4000 or 4001. No marks will be registered for students who work alone.

Each student will perform a literature search, develop their own hypotheses, present a research proposal, conduct the research, analyze the data, draw conclusions, present the findings in class, and hand in an individually written research report. Students will also review proposals and results of other students.

Evaluation

1. **Research Proposal**- presented in class (max.10 minutes) using overheads (Nov 18, 20) **20%**
2. **SPSS statistical analysis of “dummy” data and interpretation**- (Feb 7) **10%**
3. **Poster presentations** –one per team (March 24, 26) **20%**
4. **Papers** Final individual written research report (Friday, April 11, 9 – 1 pm) **50%**

Grading, Assignment Submission, Lateness Penalties

Grading: The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests* will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.) (For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - <http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2010-2011/academic/index.htm>)

Assignment Submission and Lateness Penalty

1. **Proposals**– team presentation in class - **20%** If the proposal date is missed, students lose 5%, and will submit their proposal in writing.
2. **SPSS statistical analysis of “dummy” data and interpretation - 10%.**

Based upon their hypothesis, students will create a dummy data set that mimics the data collection that they propose. Students use SPSS to analyse this dummy data set and submit the analysis and interpretation of the analysis. Although students are encouraged to work on the SPSS assignment as a team helping each other out, each student must complete their own SPSS assignment. This assignment is to be e-mailed to the TA in a Word Document – The **Deadline is Feb 8- midnight.**

For every day/partial day including weekends that students miss the Feb 8 deadline, students lose 1 mark to the maximum of the 10 marks. If students follow-up and correct their assignment by Feb 28 based on TA feedback, they can get 5 marks automatically even if they missed the deadline and lost 'all their marks'. This gives students 30% of their final grade by mid-Feb (Proposals and SPSS), and encouragement to get the SPSS analysis right by the end of Feb. Since students have all of January to complete this assignment, the only acceptable medical/family situation will be a prolonged illness/situation. If the situation occurs on the last day of submission, they will have to forward all work done to that date.

SPSS Summary scoring guidelines

Grade	Circumstance
10	On time, no errors
6 - 9	[On time with errors] or [1 to 4 days late with no errors]
5	5 or more days late, no errors
1 - 4	[On time with errors] or [5 to 20 days late with errors]
0	21 or more days late

3. **Posters** presented in class. **20%** If the poster date is missed, students lose 5%, and will submit their poster at another date but prior to April 12. Submissions after April 12 will not be graded.

4. **Final written paper** submitted with a self-addressed stamped envelope in Room (To Be Announced). **50%**

Section and TA should be clearly marked on paper. Papers are normally due on April 9th, but we have extended this to 1:00 pm April 11th. Any papers handed in past that deadline are considered late papers. For acceptable medical reasons with a medical note – obtain an official Deferred Status - no penalty as long as student sends their TA electronic copies of work done to date by the deadline. There will be a 5% per day late penalty (this is 2.5 marks per day based on 5% of the value of the paper - 50%) There will also be a 5% penalty per day for the weekend or holiday - if students submit their completed paper electronically, with a hard copy to the course secretary by noon the following Monday. By way of example, if a student contacts us on the Saturday following the due date with a finished paper electronically delivered to their TA, they lose a single day or 2.5 marks. If students only submit their completed papers on Monday, they lose 5 marks for Saturday, Sunday.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. **Obtain a FAS computer account:** see: <http://mms.yorku.ca>. This gives students access to the PsychLab and the SPSS programs required for their analysis.
2. Weekly classes will be held until Nov 20th. From Sept 9 - Oct 16 classes will focus on students discussing research areas of interest. From Oct 21st until Nov 13th about 2 hours per class will be dedicated to a review of Research Methods and Analysis taught in prerequisite courses. The first Jan class will be held on Jan 13, 15 during which time we will learn SPSS, and practice SPSS in the lab-. Classes in Jan will be held weekly in a Computer lab (to be determined) until Jan 30th. After that, formal classes will only be held on Feb 10,12 (Ed will present poster samples); March 10,12 (final paper requirements); and March 24, 26 (poster presentations).
3. Students should familiarize themselves with the very excellent Psychology Resource Centre Room 160 BSB. Check web address <http://psycentre.apps01.yorku.ca/drpl/> for hours of operation and the excellent resources available such as tests, statistical support. The use of the URPP pool is not encouraged and will only be assessable under unusual circumstances.
4. **Library Workshops** covering PsycINFO, Web of Science (citation analysis), Mental Measurement Yearbook are available and strongly recommended.
5. **Ethics Review:** There are 3 forms required for ethics review. Ed completes Form 1, Students complete Form 2 and hand it in on the day of the proposals, Ed brings Form 3 to poster class (March 25, 27) for student signatures. All students are required to complete the Tri-Council Policy Statement (TCPS2) tutorial, available online. The certificate must be brought to the end of November proposal class. For more information: <http://www.yorku.ca/health/psyc/ethicsv2.html#two>
6. TA's will be available to answer your questions by e-mail and by appointment.
7. Last date to enrol without permission of course instructor – Sept 22
8. Last date to enrol with permission of course instructor – Oct 25
9. Last date to drop courses without receiving a grade – Feb 14.

	Date	Event	Room	Comment
1	Sept 9-Oct 16	Areas of interest- form teams	Regular	
2	Oct 21 – Nov 13	Research methods classes	Regular	
3	Nov 18, 20	Proposals, Form 2, TCPS2 Certificate	Regular	Late penalties apply
4	Jan 6, 8	No Class- Data collection may proceed	To be determined	No food/drink
5	Jan 13,15	SPSS – Lecture and work	To be determined	No food/drink
6	Jan 20,22	SPSS	To be determined	No food/drink
7	Jan 27,29	SPSS	To be determined	No food/drink
8	Before Data Collection	Ethics Form 2 shown or sent to TA		

		Ethics certificate shown or sent to TA		
9	Feb 10,12	Ed to present sample posters	Regular	
10	Feb 7 midnight	SPSS Word Document e-mail to TA		Late penalties apply
11	Feb 28 midnight	Final deadline for SPSS corrections if Feb 1 missed		
12	March 10,12	Final paper requirements	Regular	
13	March 24,26	Poster presentations, sign Form 3	Regular	Late penalties apply
14	April 11 9am – 1pm	Hand in paper	To be determined	Late penalties apply

IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Academic Standards, Curriculum & Pedagogy webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents) - <http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate/committees/ascp/index-ascp.html>

- Senate Policy on Academic Honesty and the Academic Integrity Website
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Religious Observance Accommodation