

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Version 2 (Sept 2, 2014)

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

Course Webpage Moodle

Term: . Fall/Winter 2014 - 2015

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

Fashler, Samantha sfashler@yorku.ca
Guterman, Pearl 4170guterman@gmail.com

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

Siegal, Rachel rsiegal@yorku.ca
Viecili, Michelle mviecili@yorku.ca

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

Button, Melissa mbutton@yorku.ca
Desimone, Kevin desimone@yorku.ca

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

Barnhart, Ryan yu289083@yorku.ca
Comrie, Janna K jcomrie@yorku.ca
Pritchett, Lisa lmpritch@yorku.ca

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

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| 1. Research Proposal - presented in class (max.10 minutes) using overheads (Nov 17, 19) | 20% |
| 2. SPSS statistical analysis of “dummy” data and interpretation - (Feb 6, 12:00 midnight) | 10% |
| 3. Poster presentations –one per team (March 23, 25) | 20% |
| 4. Papers Final individual written research report (Friday, April 10, 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 6- midnight.**

For every day/partial day including weekends that students miss the Feb 7 deadline, students lose 1 mark to the maximum of the 10 marks. If students follow-up and correct their assignment by Feb 27 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 14. Submissions after April 13th 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. According to University deadlines, papers are due on April 6th, but we have extended this to 1:00 pm April 10th. 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 19th. From Sept 8 - Oct 15 classes will focus on students discussing research areas of interest. From Oct 20th until Nov 12th 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 12, 14 during which time we will learn SPSS, and practice SPSS in the lab. Classes in Jan/Feb will be held weekly in a Computer lab (TBD) until Feb 4th. After that, formal classes will only be held on Feb 9,11 (Ed will present poster samples); March 9,11 (final paper requirements); and March 23, 25 (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 23, 25) 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 14
9. Last date to drop courses without receiving a grade – Feb 6.

	Date	Event	Room	Comment
1	Sept 8-Oct 15	Areas of interest- form teams	Regular	
2	Oct 20 – Nov 12	Research methods classes	Regular	
3	Nov 17, 19	Proposals, Form 2, TCPS2 Certificate	Regular	Late penalties apply
4	Jan 5, 7	No Class- Data collection may proceed		
5	Jan 12,14	SPSS – Lecture and work	HNES B02	No food/drink
6	Jan 19, 21	SPSS	HNES B02	No food/drink
7	Jan 26, 28	SPSS	HNES B02	No food/drink
8	Feb 2, 4	SPSS	HNES B02	No food/drink
9	Before Data Collection	Ethics Form 2 shown or sent to TA Ethics certificate shown or sent to TA		
10	Feb 9, 11	Ed to present sample posters	Regular	
11	Feb 6 midnight	SPSS Word Document e-mail to TA		Late penalties apply
12	Feb 27 midnight	Final deadline for SPSS corrections if Feb 1 missed		
13	March 9, 11	Final paper requirements	Regular	
14	March 23, 25	Poster presentations, sign Form 3	Regular	Late penalties apply
15	April 10 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