

YORK UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY – FACULTY OF HEALTH
PSYCHOLOGY 3010 3.0 A: INTERMEDIATE RESEARCH METHODS
FALL 2014

Lectures: Wednesday 2:30 – 5:30pm in SLH 107

Course Director: Dilys Haner, MA

Office: 072K BSB

Office Hours: Wednesday 1:00 – 2pm – by appointment only

Email: dilys@yorku.ca

You must include “PSYC 3010A” in the subject line or the email will not be answered

Secretary: Agnes Levstik

Office: BSB 281

Email: alevstik@yorku.ca

Phone: (416) 736-5125 (voicemail)

Textbook: Goodwin & Goodwin: Research in Psychology: Methods and Design, 7th Ed.

Highly Recommended: American Psychological Association (2010). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th Ed.). Washington, DC: APA.

*One copy is on reserve at Scott Library

Prerequisites: 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; one of AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2020 6.00, AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2021 3.00, AK/HH/PSYC 2510 3.00. NCR note: No credit will be retained for this course for students who have successfully completed or who are currently enrolled in AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 4000 6.00, AS/SC/PSYC 4170 6.00, AK/HH/PSYC 4700 3.00, or AK/HH/PSYC 4800 6.00. Course credit exclusions: AK/PSYC 3180 3.00 (prior to Summer 2002), GL/PSYC 3525 3.00.

Course Description

This course is designed to ensure you know the basics of how to set up your own research study – from doing the literature review, choosing a research topic, formulating your main research questions and making sure that they are grounded in appropriate theory, designing the study and making sure it is run in an ethical manner. You will also learn how to write the main sections of a research report and present findings to a live audience. There will be a mixture of formal lectures, hands-on tutorials, textbook and article readings, and collaborative participation in research design. There are several small assignments, each of which builds on feedback from the previous assignment. This course is fast-paced, writing-intensive, and will give you a solid grounding in preparation for the honours thesis course and potential future graduate work.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Conduct a critical literature review on a given topic
- Develop a testable research question
- Design a research project to respond to their research question
- Develop and follow an ethics protocol in accordance with Tri-council standards
- Use SPSS to describe their data and conduct basic analyses
- Write a proposal, results, discussion, and references in APA style
- Write up a complete original research project in APA style
- Give a brief oral research presentation and offer critical feedback to peers

Evaluation

In-class Quiz #1 – Academic Honesty –	4% (solo)
In-class Quiz #2 – Ethics –	4% (solo)
Online Ethics Tutorial –	2% (required to pass the course) (solo)
Mock Ethics Package –	5% (partnered)
Literature Review –	5% (partnered)
Framework for Developing a Proposal –	5% (partnered)
Research Proposal –	10% (partnered)
Results Write-up –	10% (partnered)
Mini In-class Presentation –	10% (partnered)
Critical Feedback of Peer Presentations –	5% (solo)
Final Research Paper –	20% (partnered)
Final Exam –	20% (solo)

*Please note which items are expected to be completed on your own and which are partnered activities. Although working in pairs often reduces the workload of assignments and teaches critical skills in research collaboration, I understand that there may be a few students who prefer to do all of the assignments on their own. I may allow a small number of students to do this; however, expectations of quality and quantity of work will remain the same. **I strongly encourage groups to formally create and sign a research partnership agreement – and hand it in along with their mock ethics package.** If any student experiences a situation in which they feel that they are being taken advantage of by their partner, I encourage them to keep a written record of the issue while attempting to resolve it on their own. If their attempts to resolve the situation are not successful, I will intervene by reviewing the research agreement and documentation with both students. This intervention may result in a reduced grade for the offending party.*

Assignments

Quiz 1 – Academic Integrity

Read this: http://www.yorku.ca/tutorial/academic_integrity/index.html and do the tutorial. The quiz will cover this Internet resource content.

Quiz 2 – Ethics

This quiz will cover the content of the online ethics tutorial (see below).

Assignment 1 – Online ethics tutorial (Due Oct. 1)

Students are required to complete the Tri-council TCPS-2 Core ethics tutorial (<http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/eng/education/tutorial-didacticiel/>) and to submit proof that the tutorial is successfully completed. NB. There will be a quiz on the tutorial in class.

Assignment 2 – Mock ethics submission (Due Oct.8)

Students are required to submit a package including a completed *Department of Psychology/Faculty of Health Ethics FORM 2: Individualized Research Protocol* (<http://www.psych.yorku.ca/ethics>), an informed consent form, and a debriefing statement.

Assignment 3 – Literature review (Due Oct. 15)

Students must write a properly referenced review of the literature on the topic relating to their research question. The literature review must include ties to a solid theoretical foundation for the research. Ten to 15 references, appropriately cited, are required.

Assignment 4 – Framework for developing a proposal (Due Oct. 22)

Students must submit a thoroughly completed proposal outline. The format for the outline will be made available in class.

Assignment 5 – Research proposal (Due Nov. 5)

Students must hand in a full research proposal including literature review, research question, hypothesis, detailed description of the methods, detailed plan for data analysis, anticipated results, implications of the research, references, and ethics package. Students may include work done in previous assignments to contribute to this proposal provided they have incorporated feedback from the professor and classmates.

Assignment 6 – Results section (Due Nov. 12)

Students are required to create a mock data set for their study, conduct the appropriate statistical analyses, and write up the results in APA format. An electronic copy of the data set and output must be handed in along with a hard copy of the statistical output for verification by the professor.

Assignment 7 – Mini in-class presentation (Due Nov. 12, 19, or 26)

Each student will present their research in a 10 minute audio/visual presentation. The class will ask questions and give feedback for approximately 10 minutes. It is expected that critical feedback be incorporated into the final paper.

Assignment 8 – Critical Feedback of peer presentations (Due Nov.13, 20, or 27)

Each student will provide written feedback for two presentations, one for each presentation day other than the day on which he or she presents. For example, if you present on Nov. 12th, you will give written feedback for one presentation on the 20th and one on the 26th. This policy is non-negotiable and ensures an audience for your classmates' presentations. Be mindful that the course director will be taking notes and you should be careful not to simply parrot your colleagues' feedback. Feedback should include a description of at least one positive element of the research design, one piece

of constructive feedback (what could be improved), and something that you found particularly interesting/suggestions for future directions. Each presentation feedback should comprise approximately one page of written work.

Assignment 9 – Final research paper (Due Dec. 5th)

Building on all of the previous assignments, students will write a full research paper including an introduction, literature review (with theoretical foundation), research question, hypothesis, method (including participants and measures), results, discussion, conclusion (with limitations and future directions), and references. The paper must be in APA format.

Assignment Submission and Lateness Penalty

Late submissions of any assignment will be deducted 10% of the value of the assignment for the first day and 5% for each additional day. Extensions will be granted only in extreme circumstances (e.g., illness, death in the family) and only with the appropriate documentation (i.e., in the case of illness only the York-approved Attending Physician's Statement will be accepted). It is highly recommended that you retain a copy for your own records and that you also retain an electronic copy of your submitted work.

Last date to drop the course without receiving a grade

November 7th, 2014

Additional Considerations

All students must familiarize themselves with the information contained in the following links:

Senate Policy on Academic Honesty:

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=69>

http://www.yorku.ca/tutorial/academic_integrity/index.html

Academic Accommodation for students with disabilities

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=68>

Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities:

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=202>

Senate Policy on Research Involving Human Participants

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=94>

Senate Policy on Religious Observance

<http://w2prod.sis.yorku.ca/Apps/WebObjects/cdm.woa/wa/regobs>

Course Schedule

Class #	Date	Topic	Tasks for this Week
1	Sept. 10	Introduction, Academic Honesty, Research Interests	Prepare for Class #2 quiz Think about partners Read Ch.1 & 3 of text
2	Sept. 17	Academic Honesty Quiz (4%) Lecture on Theory in Research	Make decisions about partners Read Ch. 2 of text
3	Sept. 24	Finalize research partnerships Library workshop and consultation (3:30-4:30) Lecture on Ethics	Ethics tutorial – must complete and hand in certificate next week Prepare for Class #4 quiz Read Ch. TBD of text
4	Oct. 1	Hand in ethics certificate (2%) Ethics Quiz (4%) Lecture on Research Design	Read Appendix A of text Finish mock ethics package
5	Oct. 8	Hand in mock ethics package (5%) Writing a Proposal Writing for Psychology	Read Ch. 4 of text Finish literature review
6	Oct. 15	Hand in literature review (5%) SPSS lab (2:30 – 4:30pm) then discussion	Assigned reading
7	Oct. 22	Hand in framework for developing a proposal (5%) SPSS lab (2:30 – 4:30pm) then discussion	Work on proposal Assigned reading
	Oct. 29	No class – co curricular day	Start thinking about your presentations Finish proposal
8	Nov. 5	Hand in proposal (10%)	Finish results write-up Work on presentations
9	Nov. 12	Hand in results write-up (10%) Presentations and critical feedback (CF due Nov. 13, 5%)	Work on presentations/final paper Possible assigned reading
10	Nov. 19	Presentations and critical feedback (CF due Nov. 13, 5%)	Work on presentations/final paper Possible assigned reading
11	Nov. 26	Presentations and critical feedback (CF due Nov. 13, 5%)	Work on final paper Study for final exam Possible assigned reading
12	Dec. 3	Exam (20%)	Finishing touches on final paper
	Dec. 5	Hand in final paper (20%)	