

Psyc 203: Research Methods in Psychology
Winter Session, 2013
Syllabus

Instructor: Emma Dargie
Office: Humphrey 319
E-mail: 5eed@queensu.ca
My Office Hours: Wednesdays 9:30-11:30

Class Time: Mondays 2:30-4:00
Thursdays 4:00-5:30

Class Location: Humphrey Hall Auditorium, room 102
Lab Location: Humphrey Hall, room 219

Course Website: Access via Moodle

Required Text:

Agnew, N.McK., & Pyke, S.W. (2007). *The science game: An introduction to research in the social sciences* (7th ed.). Toronto: Oxford University Press.

Recommended Texts:

American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th Edition).

OR

Beins, B. C. (2012). *APA Style Simplified: Writing in Psychology, Education, Nursing, and Sociology*. Wiley-Blackwell.

Course Objectives:

1. Develop critical thinking abilities that can be applied to a broad range of research situations.
2. Develop the skills to plan and implement well designed research projects.
3. Learn how to communicate research results in a way that is both professional and accessible.

Policy for E-Mails and Meetings with the Instructor and TAs

- If you have a question about lab content, e-mail your TA. If you have a question about course content, use the course e-mail address: psyc203@queensu.ca. If you have additional questions or need accommodations, e-mail the instructor.
- E-mails will be answered within 48 hours. If you do not receive a response right away, please wait until 48 hours has passed before re-contacting your instructor or TA.
- If you need to make alternate arrangements for office hours with your instructor or TA, please give at least two days notice and be prepared to work around busy schedules.
- The instructor and TAs will not hold meetings or answer e-mails regarding course content starting 24 hours before the due date of all assignments as well as the final exam. Therefore, do not wait until the last minute to meet with your TA.

Evaluation

Lab Assignment 1	10%
Lab Assignment 2	15%
Lab Assignment 3	20%
Media Assignment	5%
Class Participation	10%
Lab Participation	10%
Final Exam	30%

Class Schedule:

Week	Topics	Reading Assignment
1	Introduction Navigating the World of Research I	<i>none</i> Chapter 1
2	Navigating the World of Research II Designing Research I	Chapter 2 Chapter 13
3	Designing Research II	Chapter 3
4	Control	Chapter 5
5	Experiments	Chapter 4/10
6	Single Factor Design	Chapter 6
7	*****Reading Week*****	
8	Factorial Design	Chapter 12
9	Correlation Research I	Chapter 11
10	Correlation Research II	Chapter 7
11	Survey and Observational Research	Chapter 8
12	Other Forms of Research	Chapter 9
13	Science and Society Exam Review	Chapter 15

Laboratory Schedule

Week	Topic	Assignments
1	***No Lab***	
2	Finding and Evaluating Articles	
3	Developing Research Ideas	Media Assignment due
4	Proposing Research	
5	Problem Solving in Research	
6	Analyses for Assignment 2	Assignment 1 Due
7	*****Reading Week*****	
8	Communicating Results	
9	Data Collection for Assignment 3	Assignment 2 Due
10	Problem Solving in Research	
11	Analyses for Assignment 3	
12	Writing Tutorial	
13	Review	Assignment 3 Due

Lab Times

Lab	Day	Time	TA
004	Monday	16:00 (4:00 pm)	Allisha Patterson
002	Monday	18:30 (6:30 pm)	Michael Grossman
003	Monday	20:00 (8:00 pm)	Michael Grossman
005	Tuesday	08:30	Maya Gupta
006	Tuesday	10:00	Maya Gupta
009	Tuesday	11:30	Amanda Timmers
010	Tuesday	13:00 (1:00 pm)	Valerie Murphy
007	Tuesday	14:30 (2:30 pm)	Christine Lambert
008	Tuesday	16:00 (4:00 pm)	Maddie D'Agata
011	Wednesday	13:00 (1:00 pm)	Christine Lambert

You must attend the laboratory to which you are assigned on SOLUS. If you cannot attend your section one week and wish to attend another section, you may do so **ONLY** if you have permission from the TA whose section you will attend. Note that those who are registered in that section take priority for computer use.

Speaker Series Schedule

Week	Speaker
3	Dr. David Simourd Private Practice
4	Dr. Dean Tripp Pain Research Laboratory
5	Dr. Lee Fabrigar Fab Lab: Attitude and Persuasion Research
6	Dr. Valerie Kuhlmeier Infant Cognition Group
7	*****Reading Week*****
8	Dr. Caroline Pukall Sexual Health Research Laboratory
9	Dr. Ron Holden Graduate Coordinator
10	Dr. Tom Hollenstein Adolescent Dynamics Laboratory
11	Dr. Kevin Parker Director, Queen's Psychology Clinic
12	TBA
13	<i>Exam Review</i>

Evaluation - Details

Media Assignment (5%):

- This assignment is due on **Friday, January 25th**, at midnight.
- You are expected to examine an article published in a newspaper or magazine that features the results of a research study. You will be provided with a selection to choose from. Your task is to evaluate how that study was portrayed, and critique both the original study and the newspaper/magazine article. Make sure to comment on both the method of the study, as well as the interpretation of the results.
- Word limit: 600 words (+/- 150).

Lab Assignment #1 (10%):

- Due at the beginning of your lab section on the week of February 11th.
- This assignment will serve as a proposal for Assignment 2. It will consist of the following:
 - Title page
 - Summary
 - Introduction
 - Method
 - References

Lab Assignment #2 (15%):

- Due at the beginning of your lab section on the week of March 4th.
- This assignment will expand on your proposal from Assignment #1. You will be expected to incorporate the comments from your TA from Assignment #1 and write a full lab report consisting of the following sections:
 - Title page
 - Abstract
 - Introduction
 - Method
 - Results
 - Discussion
 - References
 - Figures

Lab Assignment #3 (20%):

- Due at the beginning of your lab section on the week of April 1st.
- For this assignment you are expected to write a full lab report consisting of the following sections:
 - Title page
 - Abstract
 - Introduction
 - Method
 - Results
 - Discussion
 - References
 - Figures

Class Participation (10%):

- A quiz will be available online after every lecture (Note: talks from the Speaker Series do not apply). The questions will be based on lecture content as well as assigned text content.
- There will be 13 quizzes; your best 10 will be retained for your final mark.

Lab Participation (10%):

- You must attend your lab section and complete the exercise set/task for that day.
- Marks:
 - 0/1 Did not complete task; very inaccurate answers
 - .5/1 Competed parts of task; major errors
 - 1/1 Completed task with no major problems
- If you are unable to attend your lab section, you are still responsible for completing that day's activity, contact your TA for details as soon as possible. The task must be completed before the subsequent lab in order to receive a mark.

Final Exam (30%)

- To be held during the final examination period.
- This exam is cumulative covering material from the entire course, including concepts presented in lecture, the assigned readings, the *Psychology at Queen's and Beyond* speakers, as well as material presented in your lab.
- It will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions.
- To assist in study efforts, examine the course objectives.

Re-Marking Policy:

- Students who believe their mark should be adjusted must first discuss the marking with the appropriate teaching assistant. If a re-mark is formally requested, the instructor will do the re-mark.
- The re-mark will stand as the final mark, **even if it is lower than the original mark.**

Handing in Assignments Late

- If you do not have an extension, you will be penalized 5% per day off the final grade of your assignment. This includes weekend days. Assignments will not be accepted 14 days from the original due date unless explicitly approved.

Missing or Delaying Assignments

- If you are unable to complete an assignment or require an extension, appropriate documentation of your reason for not writing will be required. **Missing or delaying an assignment must be approved by the instructor five days prior to the due date**, unless there are extreme extenuating circumstances.

Missing the Final Exam

- **Students who cannot write an exam during the December or April exam period due to a serious, extenuating circumstance (with the supporting documentation required) must be available to write a deferred exam during the Psychology Department's Make up Exam period January 11/12th, April 29th, or September 13/14th, 2013.**

Grading Method

All components of this course will receive numerical percentage marks. The final grade you receive for the course will be derived by converting your numerical course average to a letter grade according to Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale:

Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale

Grade	Numerical Course Average (Range)
A+	90-100
A	85-89

A-	80-84
B+	77-79
B	73-76
B-	70-72
C+	67-69
C	63-66
C-	60-62
D+	57-59
D	53-56
D-	50-52
F	49 and below

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is constituted by the five core fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility (see www.academicintegrity.org). These values are central to the building, nurturing and sustaining of an academic community in which all members of the community will thrive. Adherence to the values expressed through academic integrity forms a foundation for the "freedom of inquiry and exchange of ideas" essential to the intellectual life of the University (see the Senate Report on Principles and Priorities

<http://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/policies/senateandtrustees/principlespriorities.html>).

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the regulations concerning academic integrity and for ensuring that their assignments conform to the principles of academic integrity. Information on academic integrity is available in the Arts and Science Calendar (see Academic Regulation 1 <http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academic-calendars/2011-2012-calendar/academic-regulations/regulation-1>), on the Arts and Science website (see <http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academics/undergraduate/academic-integrity>), and from the instructor of this course. Departures from academic integrity include plagiarism, use of unauthorized materials, facilitation, forgery and falsification, and are antithetical to the development of an academic community at Queen's. Given the seriousness of these matters, actions which contravene the regulation on academic integrity carry sanctions that can range from a warning or the loss of grades on an assignment to the failure of a course to a requirement to withdraw from the university.

Copyright of Course Materials

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