

PSYC 203: Research Methods in Psychology
Winter Session, 2014
Syllabus

Instructor: Daryl Wilson
Office: Humphrey Hall, room 347
Email: daryl.wilson@queensu.ca
My Office Hours: Tuesday 10:00am-12:00pm

Class Time: Monday 8:30-10:00am
Class Location: Etherington Hall Auditorium

Psychology at Queen's Speaker Time: Thursday 10:00-11:30am
Psychology at Queen's Speaker Location: Etherington Hall Auditorium

Lab Location: Humphrey Hall, room 219

Teaching Assistant Co-ordinator: Effie J. Pereira
Email: pereirae@queensu.ca

Course Website:
Access via Moodle

Required Text:
Goodwin, C. J. (2013). *Research in Psychology: Methods and Design* (7th Edition). New York: Wiley.

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

Course Objectives:
To develop an ability to think critically about research
To develop an understanding of how to design and conduct experiments
To develop an understanding of how to analyse experimental results
To develop an ability to clearly and concisely present scientific results

Evaluation:

Lab Assignment #1:	20%
Lab Assignment #2:	20%
Midterm Exam:	25%
Final Exam:	35%

Lecture Schedule:

Week	Dates	Topic	Reading Assignment
1	Jan. 6	Introduction to Course	None
2	Jan. 13	Scientific Thinking	Chapter 1
3	Jan. 20	Ethics in Psychological Research	Chapter 2
4	Jan. 27	Developing Ideas for Research	Chapter 3
5	Feb. 3	Measurement and Data Analysis	Chapter 4
6	Feb. 10	Introduction to Experimental Research	Chapter 5
7	Feb. 17	Reading week	None
8	Feb. 24	Class cancelled	None
9	Mar. 3	Control Problems in Experimental Research	Chapter 6
10	Mar. 10	Single-Factor Experimental Designs	Chapter 7
11	Mar. 17	Factorial Experimental Designs	Chapter 8
12	Mar. 24	Correlational Research	Chapter 9
13	Mar. 31	Quasi-Experimental Designs and Applied Research	Chapter 10

Psychology at Queen's Speaker Schedule:

Week	Dates	Speaker	Topic
1	Jan. 9	No Speaker	
2	Jan. 16	Caroline Pukall	Chronic Genital Pain
3	Jan. 23	Lee Fabrigar	Measuring Attitudes when People Won't Say or Don't Know
4	Jan. 30	Niko Troje	To be announced
5	Feb. 6	Barrie Frost	To be announced
6	Feb. 13	Meredith Chivers	Science of Women's Sexual Response
7	Feb. 20	Reading week	
8	Feb. 27	Midterm	Midterm
9	Mar. 6	Tom Hollenstein	Observing Social Interactions
10	Mar. 13	Stanka Fitneva	Children's Questions
11	Mar. 20	Tara MacDonald	Alcohol and Decision-Making
12	Mar. 27	No Speaker	
13	Apr. 3	No Speaker	

Laboratory Schedule:

Week	Dates	Topic
1	Jan. 6 – Jan. 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• *** No Lab ***
2	Jan. 13 – Jan. 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction• Literature Search Techniques and RefWorks
3	Jan. 20 – Jan. 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Structured Writing• Data Management in SPSS I
4	Jan. 27 – Jan. 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Management in SPSS II• Data Collection for Assignment 1
5	Feb. 3 – Feb. 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proper Citation• Data Analysis for Assignment 1
6	Feb. 10 – Feb. 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analyses using SPSS• Writing a Results Section• Assignment 1 Writing Tutorial
7	Feb. 17 – Feb. 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• *** Reading Week – No Lab ***
8	Feb. 24 – Feb. 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Collection for Assignment 2
9	Mar. 3 – Mar. 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial Data Analysis for Assignment 2
10	Mar. 10 – Mar. 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continued Data Analysis for Assignment 2
11	Mar. 17 – Mar. 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assignment 2 Writing Tutorial
12	Mar. 24 – Mar. 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Careers in Psychology and Review
13	Mar. 31 – Apr. 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To Be Announced

Lab Times:

Lab Section	Day	Time	Teaching Assistant
2	Tuesday	11:30-1:00	Nida
3	Tuesday	1:00-2:30	Kathie
4	Tuesday	2:30-4:00	Effie
5	Tuesday	4:00-5:30	Katherine
6	Tuesday	6:30-8:00	Katherine
8	Wednesday	10:00-11:30	Amanda
9	Wednesday	11:30-1:00	Amanda
10	Wednesday	1:00-2:30	Erin
11	Wednesday	2:30-4:00	Haykaz
7	Wednesday	4:00-5:30	Haykaz

You must attend the laboratory to which you are assigned.

TA office hours:

Lab Section	Day	Time	Teaching Assistant
10	Monday	10:00-12:00	Erin
5,6	Monday	1:00-3:00	Katherine
3	Tuesday	8:30-10:30	Kathie
8,9	Tuesday	2:00-4:00	Amanda
4	Wednesday	1:00-3:00	Effie
7,11	Thursday	11:00-1:00	Haykaz
2	Thursday	1:30-3:30	Nida

You are encouraged to attend the office hours of your own TA.

Psychology at Queen's Speakers:

- The goal is to introduce you to the diversity of psychological research and the breadth of research techniques used here at Queen's. It is hoped that this knowledge will help you with course selections for third and fourth year and help you determine which areas you might like to specialize, and which areas you might like to conduct research.

Lab Assignment #1:

- Submit at the beginning of your lab during the week of February 24.
- You will submit a lab report consisting of a title page, abstract, introduction, method section, results section, discussion section, and references.
- The data will be collected within your lab session under the supervision of your lab instructor.

Lab Assignment #2:

- Submit at the beginning of your lab during the week of March 24.
- You will submit a lab report consisting of a title page, abstract, introduction, method section, results section, discussion section, and references.
- The data will be collected within your lab session under the supervision of your lab instructor.

Assignment Submission:

- Both assignments must be submitted with the Turnitin software. Instructions on how to submit assignments via Turnitin will be provided in one of the labs.
- For both assignments, there will be a **late penalty of 10%** for each day that it is late including weekend days.

Midterm Exam:

- Thursday, February 27 during class time.
- Rooms to be announced.
- It will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions.

Final Exam:

- To be held during the final examination period.
- This exam is cumulative covering material from the entire course including concepts presented by the *Psychology at Queen's* speakers.
- It will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions.

Re-Marking Policy:

- Students who are dissatisfied with their marks on exams or assignments should first discuss the marking with the appropriate teaching assistant. If a re-mark is formally requested, the teaching assistant coordinator will do the re-marking under my supervision.
- The re-mark will stand as the final mark, even if it is lower than the original mark.

Missing Exams or Assignments:

- If you are unable to write the midterm exam, final exam, or complete an assignment, appropriate documentation of your reason for not writing will be required. Missing an exam or missing an assignment must be approved by the instructor prior to the exam or assignment due date.
- There will be no make-up for the midterm or assignments. Rather, if missing the midterm or an assignment is approved by the instructor, then the final exam will be reweighted to make up for the missed component.
- The make-up exam date for the final exam is Monday, April 28th.

Grading Scheme:

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

Communication and Meeting Policy:

- Announcements will be posted on Moodle.
- The teaching assistants will do their best to make sure they are available to answer your questions. However, because this is a very large course and because of the lab component, be aware that the volume of e-mails and meetings can become exceedingly large.

Meeting guidelines:

- Each teaching assistant will be available for two office hours each week.
- If you can't attend your teaching assistant's office hours, you may request a meeting with them. Be aware that the teaching assistants are graduate students that have duties and responsibilities outside this course. They will do their best to meet with you, but it may not always be possible.
- Do not wait until the last minute to request a meeting. You are strongly encouraged to meet with your teaching assistant well in advance of due dates for assignments.
- I will be available for two office hours each week.

Email guidelines:

- If you have a complicated question, don't ask the question via email. Complicated questions should be asked during office hours.
- Do not send e-mails asking for information that is available in the syllabus or on the course website.
- We will do our best to answer your e-mail questions within 24 hours Monday-Friday.

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/regulations/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.

Disability Accommodations:

Queen's University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Disability Services Office (DSO) and register as early as possible. For more information, including important deadlines, please visit the DSO website at: <http://www.queensu.ca/hcds/ds/>

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