

PSYC 203: Research Methods in Psychology
Winter Session, 2019
Syllabus

Instructor: Daryl Wilson
Office: Humphrey Hall, room 347
Email: daryl.wilson@queensu.ca
Office Hours: Wednesday 1:00pm-2:30pm

Class Time: Tuesday 8:30am-10:00am
Class Location: Dunning Auditorium

Psychology at Queen's Speaker Time: Friday 10:00am-11:30am
Psychology at Queen's Speaker Location: Dunning Auditorium

Lab Location: Humphrey Hall, room 219

Teaching Assistant Coordinator: Geoffrey Harrison
Teaching Assistant Email: gh34@queensu.ca

Course Website: Access via OnQ.

Required Text:

Goodwin, K. A., & Goodwin, C. J. (2017). *Research in Psychology: Methods and Design* (8th 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 analyze experimental results
- To develop an ability to clearly and concisely present scientific results

Evaluation:

Lab Assignment #1:	15%
Lab Assignment #2:	20%
Critical Thinking Assignment:	5%
Midterm Exam:	25%
Final Exam:	35%
Participant Pool Bonus:	2%

Lecture Schedule:

Week	Dates	Topic	Reading
1	Jan. 8	Introduction to Course	None
2	Jan. 15	Scientific Thinking	Chapter 1
3	Jan. 22	Ethics in Psychological Research	Chapter 2
4	Jan. 29	Developing Ideas for Research	Chapter 3
5	Feb. 5	Measurement and Data Analysis	Chapter 4
6	Feb. 12	** Midterm **	None
7	Feb. 26	Introduction to Experimental Research	Chapter 5
8	Mar. 5	Control Problems in Experimental Research	Chapter 6
9	Mar. 12	Single-Factor Experimental Designs	Chapter 7
10	Mar. 19	Factorial Experimental Designs	Chapter 8
11	Mar. 26	Correlational Research	Chapter 9
12	Apr. 2	Quasi-Experimental Designs and Applied Research	Chapter 11

***Psychology at Queen's* Speaker Schedule:**

Week	Dates	Speaker	Topic
1	Jan. 11	No Speaker	
2	Jan. 18	No Speaker	
3	Jan. 25	To Be Announced	To Be Announced
4	Feb. 1	To Be Announced	To Be Announced
5	Feb. 8	To Be Announced	To Be Announced
6	Feb. 15	No Speaker	
7	Mar. 1	No Speaker	
8	Mar. 8	To Be Announced	To Be Announced
9	Mar. 15	No Speaker	
10	Mar. 22	To Be Announced	To Be Announced
11	Mar. 29	Daryl Wilson	Attention and Memory
12	Apr. 5	No Speaker	

Laboratory Schedule:

Week	Dates	Topic
1	Jan. 7 – Jan. 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• *** No Lab ***
2	Jan. 14 – Jan. 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction• Literature Search Techniques and Mendeley
3	Jan. 21 – Jan. 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Structured Writing, Proper Citation, Plagiarism
4	Jan. 28 – Feb. 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Management in SPSS I• Turnitin Registration• Data Collection for Assignment 1
5	Feb. 4 – Feb. 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Management in SPSS II• Data Analysis for Assignment 1
6	Feb. 11 – Feb. 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Management in SPSS III• Data Analysis and Writing for Assignment 1
7	Feb. 25 – Mar. 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Collection for Assignment 2
8	Mar. 4 – Mar. 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Analysis for Assignment 2
9	Mar. 11 – Mar. 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Analysis and Writing for Assignment 2
10	Mar. 18 – Mar. 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Careers in Psychology
11	Mar. 25 – Mar. 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Critical Thinking Workshop
12	Apr. 1 – Apr. 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be announced

Lab Times:

Lab Section	Day	Time	Teaching Assistant
002	Thursday	11:30 – 1:00	Pelin
003	Wednesday	7:00 – 8:30	Matt
004	Thursday	8:30 – 10:00	Maddie
005	Thursday	10:00 – 11:30	Maddie
006	Wednesday	5:30 – 7:00	Matt
007	Thursday	1:00 – 2:30	Pelin
008	Thursday	2:30 – 4:00	James
009	Wednesday	2:30 – 4:00	James
010	Friday	8:30 – 10:00	Charlie
012	Friday	11:30 – 1:00	Charlie

****You must attend the laboratory to which you are assigned.**

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 week 7.
- 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 week 10.
- 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.

Critical Thinking Assignment:

- Submit at the beginning of your lab during week 12.
- More details to be provided later.

Assignment Submission:

- Instructions on how to submit assignments will be provided in one of the labs.
- There will be a **late penalty of 10%** for each day late including weekend days.

Midterm Exam:

- Tuesday, February 12 (week 6) 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 and short answer 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.
- If a make-up exam is needed for the final exam it will be conducted on the Psychology Exam make-up date set by the department (not determined yet).

Participant Pool Bonus:

The Psychology Department Participant Pool has been expanded this year to include students enrolled in certain PSYC 200-level courses including this course. For every half hour of research completed, you can increase your final mark in this course by 0.5% up to a maximum of 2%. If you are enrolled in more than one eligible course, you will select the course toward which your research participation will be credited when you sign up for a study. This way you can complete studies toward each course. However, you cannot apply the same study credit to more than one course, and research credit cannot be used to improve a failing mark to a passing mark. Also, the penalty for missed experiments is the same as the one in PSYC 100. For more details, please see the information posted at the Psychology Participant Pool page on the Department website: <http://www.queensu.ca/psychology/undergraduate/participant-pool-information>.

As with PSYC 100, studies will be listed on SONA, and you will receive an email with the information you need to register your account on SONA after the end of the drop/add period. Expect the email around the middle of the third week of the semester. In addition, during the first week of the semester, you will be emailed a link to an online prescreening questionnaire that will be due by the end of the drop/add period (second Friday of the term). If you complete the larger prescreening questionnaire online, you may become eligible for additional studies, and those researchers will contact you directly to find a time to participate.

Participation in research is entirely voluntary. If you want to earn credit but don't want to participate in a particular study, you can complete an alternative assignment instead. For the alternative assignment, researchers either will offer a walk-through of their experiment, or they will have you to read an article or blog post, listen to a short podcast, or watch a short video and then answer questions about it. Researchers of the particular study for which you wish to get credit will administer the alternative assignment (NOT your course instructor -- course instructors are not involved in the crediting for studies or alternative assignments). You must contact the researcher of a particular study (see the study's contact information on SONA) before the last week of classes for the semester to complete the alternative assignment option. Although the length of studies will vary, the alternative assignment will take less time (approximately 30 minutes), so you will earn 0.5% for each alternative assignment that you complete.

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 OnQ.
- There are Question and Answer forums set up on OnQ.
- There is a FAQ section on OnQ.
- 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 one and a half 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.
- Try not to 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/>

Copyright of Course Material:

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