

Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology
PSYC 4001 6.0 A: HONOURS THESIS WORKSHOPS FOR SPECIALIZED HONOURS STUDENTS
Wednesdays 11:30 am – 2:30 pm
2021/2022

We will meet synchronously in person as well as over zoom. All workshops will be recorded and available on eClass, along with all class material.

Instructor and T.A. Information

Instructor: Dr. Jennifer Connolly

Office Hours: At your convenience, in person or on Zoom, arrange with me via email

Email: connolly@yorku.ca

T.A.	Natasha Baptist-Mohseni
Email	baptistn@yorku.ca
Office Hours	By request

Course Prerequisite(s): Course prerequisites are strictly enforced

- HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 (Introduction to Psychology), with a minimum grade of C.
- HH/PSYC 2020 6.00 (Statistical Methods I and II) or substitute
- HH/PSYC 2030 3.00 (Introduction to Research Methods) or substitutes
- HH/PSYC 3010 3.00 (Intermediate Research Methods)
- HH/PSYC 3031 3.00 (Intermediate Statistics Laboratory)
- Students must have been accepted into the Specialized Honours Program in Order to enrol in this course.
- Completed at least 84 earned credits

Course Credit Exclusions

Please refer to [York Courses Website](#) for a listing of any course credit exclusions.

Course website: [eClass](#)

Course Description

Throughout this course, each student will carry out an independent piece of psychological research, supervised by an individual faculty supervisor, resulting in a final written thesis. Students will also attend a seminar designed to provide additional resources and experience. Students will practice presenting their ideas and research results to others and will learn more about how to do so effectively. Students will also have the opportunity to learn more about how to broaden their interest in psychology through postgraduate studies and other career paths based on your undergraduate

degree. We will discuss how to create a strong graduate school application to increase the chances of being accepted and excelling in graduate school.

Importantly, a goal of this course is to create a community where students can learn from each other and become socialized regarding what it means to be a graduate student in psychology. The requirements of this seminar course are relatively minor; however, the opportunities for individualized learning are great. To some degree it is up to each student to make use of this seminar to fully reap the potential benefits. Students are encouraged to ask questions, make suggestions, and request material to be covered to ensure that their individual needs are met to the greatest extent possible.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Use data analytic software for analysis of psychological data.
2. Design, execute, analyse and interpret results from a study examining a specific research question.
3. Express in written form psychological findings using APA style.
4. Express in written form, a research study in psychology.
5. Recognize limits of conclusions based on inferential statistics.
6. Critically identify limitations of individual research endeavors.
7. Apply ethical principles of the CPA code of ethics to their own research.

Specific Learning Objectives

At the end of this seminar, students will demonstrate

1. Enhanced presentation skills
2. Increased research skills
3. Increased knowledge of how to excel in graduate school and other post-secondary endeavors

By the end of this course, students will have demonstrated the ability to conduct research, to present research findings (both verbally, in writing, and in a poster format), and to critically evaluate others' research ideas. In addition, students will demonstrate an advanced knowledge of what is required to create a strong graduate school application and ultimately to excel in a post-graduate studies.

Recommended Text: American Psychological Association (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.).

<https://doi.org/10.1037/0000165-000>

Your supervisor may be okay with your use of the 6th ed of the APA manual. You can see some of the differences in the reference styles between 6th edition (below) and 7th edition (above):



American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Other Texts to Consider:

1. Zinsser, W. (2006). *On writing well: The classic guide to writing nonfiction*. 30th Anniversary Edition. New York: Harper Collins.
2. Duarte, N. (2010). *Resonate: Present visual stories that transform audiences*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.
3. Duarte, N. (2008). *Slide:ology: The art and science of creating great presentations*. Sebastopol, CA: O'Reilly Media.
4. Reynolds, G. (2008). *Presentation Zen: Simple ideas on presentation design and delivery*. Berkeley, CA: New Riders.

Course Requirements and Assessment:

Assessment	Date of Evaluation (if known)	Weighting
Proposal presentation	November 2021	5%
Proposal (Intro & Methods)	December 20, 2021	10%
Draft poster presentation	March/April 2022	5%
Poster Day	April 11, 2022	10%
Second reader assessment	April 18, 2022	20%
Final thesis	April 28, 2022	50%
Total		100%

Description of Assignments

1. Proposal Presentations will be brief (5 minute) oral presentations via Zoom, just to introduce your topic and outline your experimental design.
2. Thesis Proposals will be submitted in December to your supervisor, and typically include your draft Introduction as well as your Method section (if possible).
3. Draft Poster presentations will be very short (2 minutes), and will be a practice session for Poster Day
4. Poster Day will be held in Vari Hall (public health guidelines permitting). More information will be provided as the course progresses.
5. Your final thesis will be submitted to your supervisor and to suzmac@yorku.ca, and will be stored in the departmental archive.

Grading as per Senate Policy

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 89, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar – [Grading Scheme for 2021-22](#)

Add/Drop Deadlines

For a list of all important dates please refer to: [Fall/Winter 2021-22 Important Dates](#)

	Fall (Term F)	Year (Term Y)	Winter (Term W)
Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sept. 21	Sept. 21	Jan. 23
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Oct. 5	Oct. 26	Feb. 7
Drop deadline: Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Nov. 12	Feb. 11	18-Mar
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of "W" on transcript – see note below)	Nov. 13 - Dec. 7	Feb. 12 - April 10	March 19 - April 10

Add and Drop Deadline Information

There are deadlines for adding and dropping courses, both academic and financial. Since, for the most part, the dates are **different**, be sure to read the information carefully so that you understand the differences between the sessional dates below and the [Refund Tables](#).

You are strongly advised to pay close attention to the "Last date to enrol without permission of course instructor" deadlines. These deadlines represent the last date students have unrestricted access to the registration and enrolment system.

After that date, you must contact the professor/department offering the course to arrange permission.

You can drop courses using the registration and enrolment system up until the last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (drop deadline).

You may [withdraw from a course](#) using the registration and enrolment system after the drop deadline until the last day of class for the term associated with the course. When you withdraw from a course, the course remains on your transcript without a grade and is notated as 'W'. The withdrawal will not affect your grade point average or count towards the credits required for your degree.

Academic Integrity for Students

York University takes academic integrity very seriously; please familiarize yourself with [Information about the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#).

It is recommended that you review Academic Integrity by completing the [Academic Integrity Tutorial](#) and [Academic Honesty Quiz](#)

Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

While all individuals are expected to satisfy the requirements of their program of study and to aspire to do so at a level of excellence, the university recognizes that persons with disabilities may require reasonable accommodation to enable them to do so. The university encourages students with disabilities to register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to discuss their accommodation needs as early as possible in the term to establish the recommended academic accommodations that will be communicated to Course Directors as necessary. Please let me know as early as possible in the term if you anticipate requiring academic accommodation so that we can discuss how to consider your accommodation needs within the context of this course.

<https://accessibility.students.yorku.ca/>

Excerpt from Senate Policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

1. Pursuant to its commitment to sustaining an inclusive, equitable community in which all members are treated with respect and dignity, and consistent with applicable accessibility legislation, York University shall make reasonable and appropriate accommodations in order to promote the ability of students with disabilities to fulfill the academic requirements of their programs. This policy aims to eliminate systemic barriers to participation in academic activities by students with disabilities.

All students are expected to satisfy the essential learning outcomes of courses. Accommodations shall be consistent with, support and preserve the academic integrity of the curriculum and the academic standards of courses and programs. For further information please refer to: [York University Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities Policy](#).

Course Materials Copyright Information

These course materials are designed for use as part of the PSYC 4001 6.0 course at York University and are the property of the instructor unless otherwise stated. Third party copyrighted materials (such as book chapters, journal articles, music, videos, etc.) have either been licensed for use in this course or fall under an exception or limitation in Canadian Copyright law.

Copying this material for distribution (e.g. uploading material to a commercial third-party website) may lead to a violation of Copyright law. [Intellectual Property Rights Statement](#).

Course Schedule

See the Short Syllabus (posted on eClass) for the weekly topics and schedule.