

The University of British Columbia
Psychology 349-449 Course Outline

Department/Program: Department of Psychology
Term: Winter 2007 Terms 1-2 (6 credits)
Course Title: Honours Seminar
Course Schedule: Tuesdays 12:30-2:00
Location: Social Work 124

Professor: Dr. Wilkie
Office location: Kenny 3507
Office phone: 604-822-4650
Office Hours: Tues 2:00-3:00 or by appointment
E-mail Address: dwilkie@psych.ubc.ca

Teaching Assistant: Amanda LaMarre
Office location: Kenny 2533
Office Hours: By appointment
E-mail address: amanda@psych.ubc.ca

Course Description: Orientation to psychological research, with special emphasis on ongoing research within the department; effective presentation of research findings, oral & written; critical evaluation of research. Students carry out a research project and report on its development during seminars. Students also discuss research by Departmental staff, with emphasis on choice of problems, research design and data analysis.

Prerequisites and/or Course Restrictions: Restricted to students in the Honours Programme in Psychology. See Professor Don Wilkie about applying to the Honours Programme..

Format of the course: The class involves placement in a laboratory in the Department of Psychology, where students conduct a research project. Class meetings are held in a seminar format, with the focus on practical research skills and interaction. This course involves exposure to a wide variety of research within psychology. Attendance at departmental colloquia and reading journal club articles are expected activities in preparation for class discussion.

Course Assignments, Due Dates and Grading:

Research Paper	60%
Presentation at the PSA conference	35%
Oral Presentation in Class	5%
Class attendance and general participation	5%

Research Paper: Students are required to produce a written product of their research. This should be an APA-style manuscript suitable for submission as a journal article. The paper is due on **April 21, 2008**. The paper must be typed and must be turned in as a hard copy; e-mail will not be accepted. The grade for the paper will be derived from three independent markers: Don,

Amanda, and the supervisor of your project. Note that there is an award given in the department each year for the best 449 Honours Paper (the Morris Belkin Prize).

PSA Conference Presentation: Students are required to produce a conference presentation of their research. The PSA Undergraduate Conference is held in the spring of each year. Third year students will produce a poster based on the research conducted for this course. Fourth year students will give a formal talk at the conference based on research conducted for this course. The grade for the presentation will be derived from evaluations by Don, Amanda, and the members of the class.

Class Presentation: At some point during the academic year, students are required to give a 10 minute talk in class. The primary purpose of this talk (other than developing presentation skills) is to explain the nature of their research project to the class, clearly and succinctly.

Course Policies

Students should retain a copy of all submitted assignments (in case of loss) and should also retain all their rough notes in case they wish to apply for a Review of Assigned Standing, or if the Instructor wants to see the originality of the work presented.

Academic Accommodation: The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with the Disability Resource Centre. The University accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and examinations. Please let me know in advance, preferably the first week of class, if you will require any accommodation on these grounds. Students who plan to be absent for varsity athletics, family obligations, or other similar commitments, can not assume they will be accommodated, and should discuss their commitments with the instructor before the drop date.

Late Assignments: Late assignments, except those accompanied by a physician's note documenting the student's incapacitating illness along with dates of incapacity, will lose 5 % per day.

Academic Dishonesty: Please review the UBC Calendar "Academic regulations" for the university policy on cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty. Also visit the following UBC resources on avoiding plagiarism: UBC Faculty of Arts: http://www.arts.ubc.ca/Plagiarism_Avoided.373.0.html; Criteria for Evaluating Internet Resources: <http://www.library.ubc.ca/home/evaluating/>; UBC Library Plagiarism Centre: <http://www.library.ubc.ca/home/plagiarism/welcome.html>

Attendance and Participation: Attendance and participation is expected of all students. This course involves active participation. During the class meetings, students will frequently engage in small discussion groups. Without attending class, you will miss out on much this course has to offer.

Last date for withdrawal without a "W" on your transcript: September 21, 2007

Last date for withdrawal with a "W" on your transcript: November 23, 2007