

PSYC*6670, Course Outline: Summer 2020

General Information

*****DUE to the COVID-19 pandemic, this course is offered in an alternative format. Classes will be held online through ZOOM video conferencing since all face-to-face offerings have been cancelled until Aug 15, 2020.*****

Course Title: Research Methods

Course Description:

Calendar description: "This course emphasizes those techniques most frequently used in applied and field settings. These include: quasi-experimental designs, survey research, interviewing, questionnaire design, observational techniques, and other more qualitative methods."

This course aims to familiarize students with the variety of research methodologies useful in the study and practice of Industrial/Organizational Psychology. As such, its goal is not to develop expertise in a particular methodology, but to provide students with general knowledge of the basic issues relevant to commonly used methodologies. Emphasis will be placed on the advantages and disadvantages of specific methods and on the factors that must be considered when choosing among them.

Credit Weight: 0.5

Academic Department (or campus): Psychology

Semester Offering: S20

Class Schedule and Location: Tuesdays and Thursday 1:00 pm - 3:50pm via Zoom

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Deborah Powell

Instructor Email: dpowell@uoguelph.ca

Office location and office hours: by appointment via Zoom

GTA Information

GTA Name: Jordan Ho

GTA Email: jho09@uoguelph.ca

GTA office location and office hours: by appointment

Course Content

Specific Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, the successful student will be able to:

1. Describe the advantages and disadvantages of specific research methods and on the factors that must be considered when choosing among them.
2. Choose an appropriate research method to answer a specific research question
3. Write a literature review to argue for the importance of a specific research question
4. Apply knowledge of survey research to designing an online survey
5. Understand the importance of data management in research
6. Plan a research project while considering the ethical considerations of the research
7. Apply research methods knowledge to writing critical reviews of others' research

Lecture Content:

Topic	Date
Research Questions and Tactics + Causal Inference	May 7
Construct Validity	May 12
Literature Reviews and Proposal Writing	May 14
Survey Research	May 19
Data Management Plans and Ethics in Research	May 21
Using M-Turk and Dealing with Dirty Data and Non-response	May 26
Comprehensive Reviews and Meta-Analysis	May 28
Quasi Experiments - Background	June 2
Quasi Experiments – Presentations	June 4
+ The Publishing Process	
Introduction to Qualitative Methods	June 9
Writing High Quality Reviews	June 11
Diary Studies and Policy Capturing	June 16

Course Assignments and Tests:

Assignment or Test	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Participation	Each Class	10%	1
Article Critique Assignment	May 21, 11:59pm	15%	7
Survey Assignment	June 2, 11:59pm	15%	4
Student Seminar Presentation	June 4 in class	20%	1, 7
Data Management Plan	June 9, 11:50pm	5%	5
Polished Draft of Research Proposal	June 16, 11:59pm	5%	2, 3, 6
Two Critical Reviews	June 30, 11:59pm	30%	7

Course Resources

Required Texts:

All course readings will be made available on CourseLink

Course Policies

[Graduate Grade interpretation](#)

Course Policy on Group Work: One assignment (Quasi-Experiment presentation) will be completed in groups. Each group member is responsible for contributing to these projects to the best of their ability. Each group member will receive the same grade for the presentation and report. Please come to see me as early as possible if you are having any problems with the equal distribution of work.

University Policies

Academic Consideration

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for

Academic Consideration:

[Grounds for Academic Consideration](#)

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the [Graduate Calendar](#):

Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) as soon as possible.

For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 54335 or email accessibility@uoguelph.ca or the [Student Accessibility Services Website](#)

Course Evaluation Information

Please refer to the [Course and Instructor Evaluation Website](#) .

Drop date

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is June 18, 2020 . For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the [Schedule of Dates in the Academic Calendar](#). Instructors must still [provide meaningful and constructive feedback to students prior to the 40th class](#) day. [Current Graduate Calendar](#)