

PSYC*7050, Course Outline: Fall 2016

General Information

Course Title: Research Seminar in Industrial-Organizational Psychology

Course Description:

This course will expose graduate students to some of the major theories, issues, and methodologies driving research in the field of Industrial-Organizational psychology. Students will learn to critically evaluate presentations by researchers in this field, as well as to communicate the results of their own research in oral format. All I-O students are required to enroll in this course.

Credit Weight: 0.00

Academic Department (or campus): Psychology

Semester Offering: Fall 2016/Winter 2017

Class Schedule and Location:

Fall: Wednesdays 11:30am - 2:00pm, MCKN 232, biweekly starting September 21, 2016

Winter: Wednesdays 11:30am - 2:00pm, room TBA, biweekly starting January 18, 2017

Class days: September 21, October 5, 19, November 2, 16, 30, January 18, February 1, 15, March 8, 22, and April 5.

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Dr. Leanne Son Hing

Instructor Email: sonhing@uoguelph.ca

Office location and office hours: Mondays & Thursdays 4:00-5:00pm

Course Content

The purpose of the Research Seminar Series (aka Brown Bag Series) is to support the research culture of the I-O graduate program at Guelph. We do this in a number of ways. First, we improve the quality of the research conducted by our graduate students by providing input at various stages of the research process. Students will receive constructive, developmentally-appropriate feedback about how to improve the: theoretical foundations and hypotheses for

the project, the study design and methodology, plans for analyses, as well as how to frame and present the research. Thus, presenting in this seminar gives you the opportunity to develop your methodological and quantitative skills and to make your research better. Furthermore, students can learn how to think more critically about research by paying careful attention to the types of questions that others ask. Tip: you can prepare for your MA and PhD defences by recording faculty questions (we are pretty predictable).

Second, we improve students' communication skills. These skills are built by repeatedly preparing and delivering a talk each year, and by getting more experience handling a Q&A period. Students also learn a great deal by watching other students and faculty present and model good communication skills. Students will receive feedback on their performance in relation to the seven learning outcomes of this course (see below). You should set a meeting with your supervisor to go over this feedback and set personal goals soon after your presentation. Furthermore, by evaluating other speakers in regard to key indices for each learning outcome, students learn clear guidelines for good performance. Together, these experiences should lead students to think more deeply about how to deliver a clear presentation, how to actively listen, and how to effectively respond to questions.

Third, by providing a forum in which we all learn about each other's research, we create new opportunities for collaboration on research projects.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

1) Inquiry and Analysis: A systematic process of exploring issues, objects and works in psychology through the collection and analysis of evidence that result in informed conclusions or judgments. Students should be able to: ask and attempt to answer many questions from a critical perspective, develop novel hypotheses to explore further possibilities, and implement quality research.

2) Depth and Breadth of Understanding: Students should be able to: demonstrate mastery of a body of knowledge; gather, review, evaluate, and interpret information; compare the merits of alternate hypotheses in core areas of I-O psychology; and critically evaluate the limits of their own knowledge and how these limits influence analysis.

3) Oral Communication: Includes interpersonal skills, oral speaking and active listening as they apply to the research topic. Students should be able to demonstrate the ability to present information in ways that the receiving party can easily understand, exhibit confidence as a public speaker, facilitate discussion of complex concepts effectively, actively listen, reflect upon, and respond effectively to questions while acknowledging limitations to one's psychological knowledge.

4) Methodological Literacy: The ability to understand, evaluate, and design appropriate methodologies for rigorous psychological science. Students should be able to: design appropriate methodologies for novel psychological research situations, and tailor methodologies to particular populations and circumstances.

5) Quantitative Literacy: Includes numeracy, and competence in working with numerical data or competence in working with qualitative data. Students should demonstrate that they can evaluate the accuracy and quality of data generated and analyses used by others and by themselves. Additionally, they should be able to speak to the generalizability of their results given methodological and quantitative limitations.

6) Visual Literacy: The ability to effectively find, interpret, evaluate, use, and create images and visual media and content. Students should be able to create meaningful images and visual media, and use these effectively; and access and use visual materials ethically and legally.

7) Creativity: Involves the ability to adapt ideas and methods as needed, and to take intellectual risk. Students should demonstrate creative solutions to problems and creative ways of investigating topics.

Lecture Content:

Attendance is mandatory; however, if you are unable to attend (if you are ill, pulled away for emergencies, etc.), please let the course instructor know as soon as possible. The minimum expected attendance is 70%.

Class time will consist of two presentations. There are two possible formats for presentation. The longer talk format is 60 minutes (30 minute talk, 20 minute Q&A, 10 min feedback forms) and the shorter format is 50 minutes (20 minute talk, 20 minute Q&A, 10 min feedback forms).¹ There will be a 10-minute break in between talks. The timings of talks will be strictly enforced by a time keeper. This role will rotate among students. All first year MA students are expected to give a longer talk in the winter term. All other student can pick which term and which format they would like to use, as best meets their research needs.

¹ On the basis of feedback, we will no longer have 40 minute talks.

Typically talks will be independent presentations of students about one of their lines of research. In addition, if applicable, students can give a team presentation. Students can also present talks that mix research and practice. For instance, students may want practice translating research for a managerial audience (How might this research be translated into practice?). Students might want to present on how practical projects they have worked on might inspire a specific research question and specific methodology (How could this be pitched to the organization?). Students can also present on a research-related skills (e.g., what they learned at the CARMA workshop). Each year, we aim to have all students present. However, if you truly have nothing to present, then you can have a “buy” for one year (except for first year MAs)—not to be repeated in consecutive years. Each year, we aim to have one faculty member present their research and to have at least one external speaker.

One important element of a successful Q&A period is knowing how and when to exercise “class control.” If side conversations are occurring, if discussions are going off topic, or if a questioner is taking more time than is warranted, then effective communication requires that the discussion be moderated. We understand that this might be intimidating and a tall ask for students. So, we will take time at the beginning of the year to work on this skill.

The students and the faculty in the audience play a critical role in the Research Seminar Series. For the learning objectives to be met, everyone must pay attention (no off-topic phone/laptop activity) and participate. By asking each other good, tough questions, we help each other to learn and improve our research. Of course, this is only achieved in a respectful, supportive environment. An appropriate research culture is one in which people can strive for excellence, given their current level of development. Tip: It is a great idea to practice a talk for an outside audience in the Research Seminar Series.

Evaluations:

Student presenters will be evaluated on their capabilities in regard to: Inquiry and Analysis, Depth and Breadth of Understanding, Oral Communication, Methodological Literacy, Quantitative Literacy, Visual Literacy, and Creativity (see feedback form).

All audience members are required to provide accurate, respectful, constructive feedback for all students’ talks. Constructive feedback is: focused on description (not judgment), issue-focused (not person-focused), based on observations of behaviour (not interpretations of behaviour), and involves practical suggestions for improvement.

Course Resources

Please see [Courselink](https://courselink.uoguelph.ca/shared/login/login.html). <https://courselink.uoguelph.ca/shared/login/login.html>

Course Policies

Grading Policies

Students will pass the course if they responsibly complete evaluations of their peers over the course of the term. Evaluations are due by 6:00pm of the day of the presentation.

Course Policy regarding use of electronic devices and recording of lectures:

Electronic recording of classes is expressly forbidden without consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted they are solely for the use of the authorized student and may not be reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the express written consent of the instructor.

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:
[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. 56208 or email csd@uoguelph.ca or see the website: [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 Nov. 4, 2016. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Academic Calendar: [Current Graduate Calendar](#)