

# **PSYC\*6670, Course Outline: Winter 2016**

## **General Information**

**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: 0.50**

**Academic Department (or campus): Psychology**

**Semester Offering: Winter 2016**

**Class Schedule and Location: Tuesdays 8:30 – 11:20 MCKN 034A**

## **Instructor Information**

Instructor Name: Deborah Powell

Instructor Email: dpowell@uoguelph.ca

Office location and office hours: by appointment

## Course Content

### Specific Learning Outcomes:

- Develop novel hypotheses and design high quality research, by selecting an appropriate research method to test those hypotheses
- Generate ideas and question from the existing psychological literature
- Understand and interpret sophisticated empirical writing in psychology
- Write in a sophisticated manner, and edit own work and that of others
- Oral Communication: facilitate discussion of complex concepts
- Active listening, and reflecting upon and responding effectively to questions.
- Design and evaluate research congruent with ethical regulations
- Demonstrate personal accountability and responsibility
- Demonstrate skill in Qualtrics

### Lecture Content:

- Asking Research Questions
- Ethics in Research
- Internal Validity
- Randomized Experiments
- Generalizing results from lab settings
- Survey research
- Effective Academic Writing
- Construct Validity
- Issues in Multi-level research
- Qualitative Methods
- Comprehensive Reviews and Meta-Analysis
- The Publishing Process
- Completing Reviews

### Course Assignments and Tests:

Assignment or Test	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Participation	Weekly	10%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Oral communication</li><li>• Active Listening</li></ul>
Survey Assignment	January 26	15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate Skill in Qualtrics</li><li>• Generate ideas</li></ul>

Assignment or Test	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• and question from the existing psychological literature</li> </ul>
<b>Confound Assignment</b>	<b>February 2</b>	<b>15%</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand and interpret sophisticated empirical writing in psychology</li> <li>• Write in a sophisticated manner, and edit own work and that of others</li> </ul>
<b>Construct Presentation</b>	<b>February 9</b>	<b>15%</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oral Communication</li> <li>• Understand and interpret sophisticated empirical writing in psychology</li> </ul>
<b>Student Seminar</b>	<b>March 8 or March 15</b>	<b>20%</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oral Communication: facilitate discussion of complex concepts</li> <li>• Understand and interpret sophisticated empirical writing in psychology</li> </ul>
<b>Draft of Research Proposal</b>	<b>March 25</b>	<b>5%</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop novel hypotheses and design high quality research, by selecting an appropriate</li> </ul>

Assignment or Test	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
			<p>research method to test those hypotheses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generate ideas and question from the existing psychological literature</li> <li>• Understand and interpret sophisticated empirical writing in psychology</li> <li>• Write in a sophisticated manner, and edit own work and that of others</li> </ul>
<p><b>Critical Reviews</b></p>	<p><b>April 1</b></p>	<p><b>20%</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate personal accountability and responsibility</li> <li>• Understand and interpret sophisticated empirical writing in psychology</li> <li>• Write in a sophisticated manner, and edit own work and that of others</li> </ul>

## **Course Resources**

### **Required Texts:**

*All required readings will be posed on Courselink*

### **Other Resources:**

Videos are on the following [website](#):

<http://carma.wayne.edu/VideoLibrary.asp>

You will need to sign in to watch the videos. If you don't yet have an account, you can sign up for one using your uoguelph.ca email account (the University of Guelph library pays the membership for us).

## **Course Policies**

### **Grading Policies**

Please note that late assignments will not be accepted. The nature of this course does not allow for people to get behind in their assignments. If there is a compelling reason for an assignment to be handed in after the due date, then of course, no points will be deducted. But, if such a reason exists, you must contact me BEFORE the due date.

### **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:

[Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions](#)

**For GRADUATE:**

## [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 the Centre for Students with Disabilities as soon as possible.

For more information, contact CSD at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email [csd@uoguelph.ca](mailto: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 March 11 . For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Academic Calendar: [Current Graduate Calendar](#)