

# PSY329H5S – Social/Personality Laboratory IN-PERSON

Thursday 12:00pm – 3:00pm **ROOM: CC 2160**

## Course Delivery

**Winter 2022 Return to Campus Update:** In order to curb the spread of COVID-19 amid the emergence of the Omicron variant, most in-person learning has been **delayed until Jan 31, 2022**. Keep in mind this date is subject to change as per the Universities need to monitor any new developments and will be keeping with the latest evidence and public health guidelines.

### Delivery Method until January 31, 2022

**ONLINE VIA Zoom:** Please see the Quercus website for details about out how to attend the Zoom lectures which will be offered on the days and times specified above. We will try to make these lectures as interactive as possible. The lecture portion of class, but not the interactive portion, will be recorded. Be sure to register for a UTM Zoom account if you haven't already in order to access the online course and office hours (<https://utoronto.zoom.us>). Please see the following websites for useful information about online learning.

- **Learn Anywhere Guide for Students:** <https://library.utm.utoronto.ca/students/quercus/learn-anywhere>
- **University of Toronto tech requirements for online learning**

### Delivery Method after January 31, 2022

In-person teaching will take place in the CC2160 lab. If you are feeling ill or cannot attend class due to quarantine but want to attend class, please let me know and we can use Zoom to include you in the session.

## Contact Information

### Course Instructors:

**Dr. Erika Carlson (PRA9102)**

email: [erikan.carlson@utoronto.ca](mailto:erikan.carlson@utoronto.ca); Office: DH4024

### Teaching Assistant:

**Natalie Sisson**

[n.sisson@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:n.sisson@mail.utoronto.ca)

**Course communication:** Please post all course questions on the discussion board (Topic: Course Questions). Your questions are likely shared, so others benefit from seeing all Q&As. Email me directly to discuss personal matters and email Natalie to discuss grading issues or if you need additional help with your project.

**Office hours: Thursdays, 9-10am or by appointment; Virtual via Zoom**

Please see Quercus for the Zoom Office hours link.

## Course Description

Readings, laboratory exercises, and research projects designed to familiarize students with methodologies relevant to empirical research in social/personality psychology.

**Exclusion:** PSY329H1/PSYC11H3; **Prerequisite:** PSY(201H5, 202H5)/equivalent, 220H5/230H5, 309H5

## Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

1. Evaluate the validity and quality of social/personality research in academic journals and popular media to make the best decisions for your life.
2. Develop a research question and identify the appropriate design and statistical test for that question.
3. Effectively communicate your research ideas and findings in writing and in oral presentations.
4. Become comfortable analyzing data and interpreting the results.
5. Work respectfully and effectively with others and communicate ideas in a collaborative fashion.
6. Offer and receive constructive feedback.
7. Identify how your perspectives and social location influence your own research and your perception of others' work.

## Reading Material

There is no textbook for this course but there will be readings for some weeks posted in the course website. These readings are mandatory and will be discussed in class, so please read in advance of the class the reading is assigned to.

## Course Evaluation

This course is almost entirely experiential, or hands-on learning. You will learn how to conduct a research project from scratch using (or collecting) real data from actual participants. There are no tests or quizzes in this course. Instead, your final mark will be based on several forms of evaluation, including writing, oral presentations, and participation. All written assignments should be submitted via Quercus.

Approximately 31% of your grade comes from developing your idea, 14% comes from implementing your idea (e.g., making materials), 35% comes from synthesizing and communicating your findings, and 20% comes from participation. Here is the overall breakdown of your final marks with more detailed descriptions below. For each assignment, you will find a detailed rubric in Quercus.

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>% of final grade</u>
Pick a topic	1%
Evaluate a construct	15%
Proposal draft and presentation	15%
Ethics proposal	7%
Study materials	7%
Final presentation	10%
Final paper	25%
Participation	20%

### **Part 1: Developing your idea (31%)**

#### **Pick a topic (1%)**

The first step in conducting a research project is to identify a general topic area of interest. This assignment is meant to help you establish what area of study you would like to focus on this semester. Submit via Quercus.

#### **Evaluate a construct (15%)**

Once you've picked a topic, you'll have to think about how you can measure the construct of interest. This assignment will walk you through how to critically evaluate different operationalizations of your construct, and in the end, help you pick the best measure for your project. Submit via Quercus.

### **Proposal draft and presentation (15%)**

In class, we'll work on how to connect basic research questions to the right research design and statistics that help answer those questions. With this practice, you should be ready to propose a study on your topic. In a brief written template, you will outline your research question, explain how this question builds on the literature, how you will answer the question (methods), how you will analyze the data (statistical tests) and what expected results might look like (visualizing data). You will present this information in a 7-10-minute presentation to the class for feedback from your colleagues. \*Note: it is unclear if UTM will be in person when these presentations are scheduled. Given that preparing for an in-person presentation is different than preparing for an online presentation, I am making this presentation **online** to offer some certainty as to how to prepare.

### **Part 2: Running your study (14%)**

Once you have received the green light on your proposal, you're ready to get your materials together and run your study!

#### **Ethics (7%)**

One of the first steps is to submit your study to an ethics board who can evaluate whether your study poses any unnecessary risks to participants. Thus, we will complete and submit ethics proposals to the UTM board. This assignment is completed in class and should be ready to submit by the end of class.

#### **Study materials (7%)**

While we await approval from the board, we will make the necessary surveys and stimuli for your projects. These materials will be posted to an online study board for real participants to complete. This assignment is completed in class and should be completed by the end of class.

### **Part 3: Synthesizing and communicating your findings (35%)**

We will spend some time analyzing your results in class and then it's time to think more deeply about the theory data cycle. What do we know now that you have your results? Your final paper (25%) and oral presentation (10%) will summarize the results from your study and offer one detailed future direction study.

### **Participation (20%)**

A substantial portion of your time in this course is spent working in groups or discussing research methods issues. Your active participation is critical for the success of the course and for your learning. Thus, 10% of your grade is based on active and respectful participation in the class. Another 10% is based on your active involvement in group work. At the end of the term, you will outline your contribution to the group work and your peers will offer their experience of the group work as well.

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## **Course Webpage**

**The website associated with this course is accessible via <http://q.utoronto.ca>**

**Note:** You don't need to create a new login for Canvas; it already knows who you are. You just need your UTORid and password. This is the same login that gets you onto the wireless network with your laptop, and the same one that you use to check your email. If you're confused about your UTORid or don't remember your password, go to:

<https://www.utorid.utoronto.ca/>

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## **IMPORTANT COURSE POLICIES \*\*PLEASE READ\*\***

### **Extension of Time Special Consideration Request Process**

Students who seek to be granted more time to complete their term work beyond the due date without penalty, owing to circumstances beyond their control (e.g., illness, or an accident), must do so by submitting a request **directly to the Instructor** for the period up to and including the last day of the term. The decision as to whether or not to apply a penalty for the specified period rests with the Instructor.

Students who seek to be granted more time to complete term work **beyond the last day of the term** must submit their request **directly to the Department**. This request covers the period following the last day of classes and ends the last day of the exam period. This is done by submitting a request via the online Special Consideration Request form at <https://utmapp.utm.utoronto.ca/SpecialRequest>. You are advised to seek advising by the departmental Undergraduate Counsellor prior to the deadline.

### **Supporting Documentation**

The University is temporarily suspending the need for a doctor's note or medical certificate for any absence from academic participation. However, you are required to use the Absence Declaration tool on ACORN found in the Profile and Settings menu to formally declare an absence from academic participation. The tool is to be used if you require consideration for missed academic work based on the procedures specific to our campus/department.

### **Missed Final Exam or Extension of Time beyond exam period**

Missed final exams or for extensions of time beyond the examination period you must submit a petition through the Office of the Registrar. <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/registrar/current-students/petitions> and follow their procedures.

### **Penalties for Lateness**

A penalty of 10% per calendar day (i.e., including week-ends and holidays, during which students are not able to submit term work) up to and including the last day of classes, will be applied by the Instructor. After the last day of classes, the penalty of 10% per calendar day will be applied by the Undergraduate Counsellor on behalf of the Department. No penalty will be assigned if request for special consideration, described above, was successful.

### **Academic Guidelines**

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have met all prerequisites listed in the UTM Calendar for this course. If you lack any prerequisites you **WILL BE REMOVED** from the course up until the last day to add a course. Further information about academic regulations, course withdrawal dates and credits can be found in the University of Toronto Mississauga Calendar at: <http://www.erin.utoronto.ca/regcal/>.

You are encouraged to read this material. If you run into trouble and need advice about studying, preparing for exams, note taking or time management, free workshops and advice are available from the Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre at 905-828-5406.

### **AccessAbility Services**

The University provides academic accommodations for students with disabilities in accordance with the terms of the Ontario Human Rights Code. This occurs through a collaborative process that acknowledges a collective obligation to develop an accessible learning environment that both meets the needs of students and preserves the essential academic requirements of the University's courses and programs. Students requiring academic accommodations for learning, physical, sensory, or mental health disabilities or medical conditions should contact the AccessAbility Office (2037B DV), 905-828-3847. <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/accessability/>

### **Privacy and Copyright Disclaimer *Notice of video recording and sharing (Download and re-use prohibited)***

This course, including your participation, will be recorded on video and will be available to students in the course for viewing remotely and after each session. Course videos and materials belong to your instructor, the University, and/or other sources depending on the specific facts of each situation, and are protected by copyright. Do not download, copy, or share any course or student materials or videos without the explicit permission of the instructor. For questions about recording and use of videos in which you appear please contact your instructor.

Lectures and course materials prepared by the instructor are considered by the University to be an instructor's intellectual property covered by the Copyright Act, RSC 1985, c C-42. Course materials such as PowerPoint slides and lecture recordings are made available to you for your own study purposes. These materials cannot be shared outside of the class or "published" in any way. Posting recordings or slides to other websites without the express permission of the instructor will constitute copyright infringement.

### **Academic Honesty and Plagiarism**

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto Mississauga is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, UTM treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously.

The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters outlines behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the process for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

#### In papers and assignments:

1. Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
2. Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
3. Making up sources or facts.
4. Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.

#### On tests and exams:

1. Using or possessing unauthorized aids.
2. Looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test.
3. Misrepresenting your identity.

#### In academic work:

1. Falsifying institutional documents or grades.
2. Falsifying or altering any documentation required, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes.

With regard to remote learning and online courses, UTM wishes to remind students that they are expected to adhere to **the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters** regardless of the course delivery method. By offering students the opportunity to learn remotely, UTM expects that students will maintain the same academic honesty and integrity that they would in a classroom setting. Potential academic offences in a digital context include, but are not limited to:

#### Remote assessments:

1. Accessing unauthorized resources (search engines, chat rooms, Reddit, etc.) for assessments.
2. Using technological aids (e.g. software) beyond what is listed as permitted in an assessment.
3. Posting test, essay, or exam questions to message boards or social media.
4. Creating, accessing, and sharing assessment questions and answers in virtual "course groups."
5. Working collaboratively, in-person or online, with others on assessments that are expected to be completed individually.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources.

### **Academic Rights**

You, as a student at UTM, have the right to:

- Receive a syllabus by the first day of class.
- Rely upon a syllabus once a course is started. An instructor may only change marks' assignments by following the University Assessment and Grading Practices Policy provision 1.3.
- Refuse to use University of Toronto's Detection Toll (you must be offered an alternative form of submission).
- Have access to your instructor for consultation during a course or follow up with the department chair if the instructor is unavailable.
- Ask the person who marked your term work for a re-evaluation if you feel it was not fairly graded. You have up to one month from the date of return of the item to inquire about the mark. If you are not satisfied with a re-evaluation, you may appeal to the instructor in charge of the course if the instructor did not mark the work. If your work is remarked, you must accept the resulting mark. You may only appeal a mark beyond the instructor if the term work was worth at least 20% of the course mark.
- Receive at least one significant mark (15% for H courses, 25% for Y courses) before the last day you can drop a course for H courses, and the last day of classes in the first week of January for Y courses taught in the Fall/Winter terms.
- Submit handwritten essays so long as they are neatly written.
- Have no assignment worth 100% of your final grade.
- Not have a term test worth more than 25% in the last two weeks of class.
- Retain intellectual property rights to your research.
- Receive all your assignments once graded.
- View your final exams. To see a final exam, you must submit an online Exam Reproduction Request within 6 months of the exam. There is a small non-refundable fee.
- Privacy of your final grades.
- Arrange for representation from Downtown Legal Services (DLS), a representative from the UTM Students' Union (UTMSU), and/or other forms of support if you are charged with an academic offence.

### **Equity Statement**

The University of Toronto is committed to equity and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect. As a course instructor, I will neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity or self-esteem of any individual in this course and wish to be alerted to any attempt to create an intimidating or hostile environment. It is our collective responsibility to create a space that is inclusive and welcomes discussion. Discrimination, harassment and hate speech will not be tolerated. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns you may contact the UTM Equity and Diversity officer at [edo.utm@utoronto.ca](mailto:edo.utm@utoronto.ca) or the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union Vice President Equity at [vpequity@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpequity@utmsu.ca).

*Please note that this outline is subject to change depending on the needs of the class (we may need additional time to cover a topic). Any changes to the syllabus will be announced in class one week before.*

## Course Outline

Date	Topic	Deadlines
January 13	Introductions, Picking a Topic	
January 20	Construct Validity: Review and Scale Development	Pick a Topic
January 27	Develop Your Question, Identify Your Design: Correlational designs	Evaluate a Construct
February 3	Develop Your Question, Identify Your Design: Experimental designs	
February 10	<b>Presentations: Proposal (Online)</b>	Proposal Draft
February 17	Ethics	Ethics
February 24	Reading Week – No Class	
March 3	Develop Materials	Materials
March 10	Analyse Data: cleaning and visualizing data	
March 17	Analyse Data: main analyses	
March 24	Theory-Data Cycle/prepping final presentations	
March 31	<b>Presentations: Final Project</b>	Group Participation
April 7	<b>Presentations: Final Project</b>	Final Paper

All assignments are due at 11:59pm. Note: it is unclear if we will be online or in person when the final presentation days arrive. I realize preparing for an in-person versus online presentation is likely very different. Thus, we will decide as a class how to meet for these last two days if UTM remains closed past the current date.