Instructor: Dr. Karin Humphreys  
Email: krh@mcmaster.ca (preferred contact method);  
You MUST email me from your McMaster email account, otherwise it will likely be spam filtered and I will never even see it.  
Phone: 905 525-9140 x23011  
Office: PC-410  
Office Hours: By appointment.  

Course Coordinator: Sally Presutti  
Email: pthesis@mcmaster.ca  
Phone: 905 525-9140 x23026  
Office: PC-102  

TAs: Sandra Monteiro, monteisd@mcmaster.ca; Adam Reddon reddonar@mcmaster.ca; Melaina Vinski, vinskimt@mcmaster.ca.  

Office Hours: By appointment; Most questions can best be answered before or after lectures, in the tutorials, or via Avenue  

Classes: This class has reserved Tuesdays and Wednesdays 2:30pm-4:20pm in Term 1, and Tuesdays 2:30-4:20 in Term 2.  
HOWEVER, students will only be required to attend TWO hours of class per week.  
Term 1: Week 1-6, all students will be together in lectures in PC-155 during the Tuesday class time.  
Week 7-12, students will be in a small tutorial group, on EITHER Tuesday, OR Wednesday. Assignment to tutorial groups will be done at the beginning of term.  
Term 2: There are only a few scheduled lectures in PC-155 during the Tuesday class time.  
See schedule below for weekly details  

Avenue: In this course we will be using Avenue. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.  
The course website is available to registered students by logging into Avenue http://avenue.mcmaster.ca  
You will need to learn how to use Avenue to access the course content, announcements, and discussions. All Powerpoint slides from the lectures will be made available on Avenue only after the lectures, as pdfs. It is your responsibility to keep up to date with class announcements made on Avenue.
Course objectives and content:
In this course you will be proposing an honours PNB thesis, undertaking the research for it, making a research poster, and writing your thesis. In the lectures, you will receive additional information intended to help guide your thesis work, and in the tutorials, you will be making presentations about your research proposal.

Recommended Text:

This text is not required, but is strongly recommended as a guide and reference throughout your thesis process.

Assessment:
80% of your grade comes from your final thesis write-up, as determined by your supervisor.

Changes in course requirements: Details of the course requirements may be subject to change. If requirements are altered, a revised course outline will be posted on the webpage and announced in class. The instructor reserves the right to assign grade cutoffs.

Special Needs: If you have special needs please contact the instructor so accommodations can be made.

Academic Integrity Policy Please be aware of the University Academic Integrity Policy. Cases of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to: copying or the use of unauthorized aids in tests, examinations and laboratory reports; plagiarism, i.e., the submission of work that is not one's own; aiding and abetting another student's dishonesty giving false information for the purposes of gaining admission or credit; giving false information for the purposes of obtaining deferred examinations or extension of deadlines; and/or forging or falsifying McMaster University documents. Students who infringe on the resolutions of the University Academic Integrity policy will be treated according to the published policy.

Missed Assessment: If an absence for assessment has been registered, please contact the instructor as soon as possible to arrange for makeup assessment to take place.

Evaluation:
The final grade for the thesis will be determined by the grade provided by your supervisor (worth 80% or 90%) and the grade that you earn in thesis class (worth the remaining 20% or 10%--dependent on the course you are in -- see below). Your supervisor’s grade is based on an overall evaluation of your laboratory work and of your written thesis document. The grades submitted by your supervisor and from thesis class are completely independent. Therefore, your supervisor does not know what your final thesis grade will be.

Marking Scheme for 4D09:
- Thesis: 80% (graded by your supervisor)
- Poster Presentation 10% (held on Tuesday April 2nd, 2013 and graded by 3 independent judges)
- Class meetings: 10% (graded by your TA/Dr Humphreys)
  - Summary of thesis topic 1% (due October 4th—see Format)
  - Presentation 4%
  - Participation 4%
  - Library project 1%
Marking Scheme for 4D06 and 4DD6:

- Thesis: 80% or 90% (graded by your supervisor)
- Poster Presentation (optional) 10% (held on Tuesday April 3rd, 2012 and graded by 3 independent judges)
- Class meetings: 10% (graded by your TA /Dr Humphreys)
  - Summary of thesis topic 1% (due October 2)
  - Presentation 4%
  - Participation 4%
  - Library project 1%

Summary of thesis topic (1%-- hard copy due before 2:30 p.m. October 2)
The goal of this assignment is to verify that you and your supervisor have agreed on a thesis topic for you and that you understand the purpose of your proposed study. Your job is to write something resembling an abstract of a journal article that is no more than 200 words giving a tentative title for your thesis, and a brief background, purpose, and method for your proposed study. Your submission must be signed by you and your supervisor. The signatures verify that you and your supervisor have agreed on the topic for your thesis.

Oral Presentation (4%)
Students will give an individual PowerPoint presentation on their proposed thesis research on a date to be assigned between October 23 and the end of semester. Your grade will be based on scholarly merit of the presentation, delivery, clarity of slides, and on ability to answer questions.

Participation (4%)
You are expected to attend all scheduled classes and student presentations. Your grade for participation will be determined primarily by your attendance at, and involvement in, the student presentation sessions. To get credit for a missed session, you must submit appropriate documentation to me for missed work. It is your responsibility to follow-up with your TA immediately after your return to classes.

Library Project (1%)
There will be a library assignment testing your library skills. The project will be assigned September 18 and will be submitted via Avenue no later than 2:30 p.m. on October 2.

Thesis Submission and Deadline
A copy of the thesis must be e-mailed, in one PDF file, to the Psychology Department at pthesis@mcmaster.ca and to the supervisor no later than Wednesday, April 10, at 5 p.m. If this file is not received, by 5 p.m. on that day, a grade of F will be recorded for 4D06, 4DD6, or 4D09.

Extensions of the deadline are rarely granted. If the supervisor thinks an extension is warranted, he/she can request that the student obtain a “Request for Incomplete” form from the course coordinator. This form is completed and signed by the student, the supervisor, and the Chair of the Department of Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour. This form must be returned to the student’s Faculty Office and a copy must be sent to the Associate Dean of Science, if the student is not registered in the Faculty of Science. However, please remember that an incomplete grade on the thesis likely will delay graduation.
For Students Conducting Research in a Hospital Setting

Hospitals have their own requirements, many of which must be completed before research begins. For example, the requirements for doing research at Hamilton Health Sciences are:

- Immunization clearance
- Police clearance for placements with the McMaster Children’s Hospital at Chedoke
- Signed confidentiality agreement
- Signed learner undertaking and agreement form (expectations for the placement)
- Completion of WHMIS learning package and quiz
- Completion of fire learning package and quiz
- Completion of Student Orientation Handbook.

If documentation of completion of ALL of these requirements has not been received by the time the final grades are due, then the student will receive an INC until these are completed.

Tentative Outline of Topics, Fall Term

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<td>Week 3</td>
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