

**PSYCH 4D06 /4DD6 /4D09  
2009-2010**

**Instructor:**

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**Website:**

<http://www.science.mcmaster.ca/psychology/undergraduate/courses/155-psych-4d064dd64d09.html>

**TAs:**

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Katie Corrigall   | <a href="mailto:corrigka@mcmaster.ca">corrigka@mcmaster.ca</a> |
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**Office Hours:** by appointment

**Format:**

- In Term 1, each student attends class 2 hours per week. September classes will be Tuesdays 2:30 - 4:30 in PB 155. As of October 6<sup>th</sup>, we divide into 3 groups and will meet on Tuesdays 2:30 - 4:30 in one of three break-out rooms
- In Term 2, we have only a few classes and they are all together in PB 155 on Tuesdays.

**Suggested Text:** R.J. Sternberg, The Psychologist's Companion (4<sup>th</sup> Edition)

**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%--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 4D9:**

- Thesis: 80% (graded by your supervisor)
- Poster Presentation 10% (graded by 3 independent judges)
- Class meetings: 10% (graded by your TA in consultation with Dr. Lewis)
  - Summary of thesis topic 1% (due October 6<sup>th</sup>—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% (graded by 3 independent judges)

Class meetings: 10% (graded by your TA in consultation with Dr. Lewis)

- Summary of thesis topic 1% (due October 6<sup>th</sup>)
- Presentation 4%
- Participation 4%
- Library project 1%

### **Summary of thesis topic (1%--due before 2:30 p.m. October 6<sup>th</sup>)**

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 13<sup>th</sup> and the end of November. 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 (e.g., note from physician) to your Faculty/Program office. It is your responsibility to follow-up with your TA. No credit will be given for the missed session unless the Faculty/Program office gives its approval.

### **Library Project (1%)**

There will be a library assignment testing your library skills. The project will be assigned September 29<sup>th</sup> and will be due before 2:30 p.m. by e-mail to your tutorial leader on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **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.

### **Academic Integrity:**

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences including the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty") and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at <http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism (e.g., the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained).
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

At certain points in the course it may make good sense to modify the schedule outlined below. The instructor reserves the right to modify elements of the course and will notify students accordingly (in class and post any changes to the course website).

## Term 1

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| September 15 | Course outline & Meet the TAs in Room 155<br>Ethics I: Dr. Kim in PC 155  |
| September 22 | Ethics II: Dr. Lewis in PC 155  |
| September 29 | Library & search tools: Shawn McCann in PC 155  |
| October 6    | Designing an Oral Presentation: meet in tutorial rooms<br>Library assignment due before 2:30<br>Written summary of thesis topic due before 2:30 |
| October 13   | Student Presentations   |
| October 20   | Student Presentations   |
| October 27   | Student Presentations   |
| November 3   | Student Presentations   |
| November 10  | Student Presentations   |
| November 17  | Student Presentations   |
| November 24  | Student Presentations   |
| December 1   | Student Presentations (if necessary)  |

## Term 2 (Tuesdays in PC 155)

|                      |                                  |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| January 5            | No class                         |
| January 12           | Content of a written thesis      |
| January 19           | Statistics: Dr. Beston           |
| January 26           | No class                         |
| February 2 & 9       | No class                         |
| February 16          | No class: Spring Break           |
| February 23          | Poster Preparation               |
| March 2, 9, 16, & 23 | No class                         |
| March 30             | Poster Session in Student Centre |
| April 6              | No class                         |
| Thurs April 15, 5 pm | Thesis due                       |