

# McMASTER UNIVERSITY

## Department of Kinesiology

### Kinesiology 3RP3 Research Practicum Course Fall 2017

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#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Kinesiology Research Practicum course provides students the opportunity to gain exposure to research and gain practical experience working in a lab setting. Students are responsible for securing their own research placement working with a faculty member in the Department of Kinesiology and must complete the course application/approval form prior to the deadlines set by the Department. The learning contract must be completed, signed and submitted to the professor prior to the start of the academic term. This course serves as an excellent preparation for Level IV Thesis or Independent study experience.

#### COURSE STRUCTURE

Students will meet for a 50 min class each week for the first three weeks of the term (Sept 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>) to discuss the theories around experiential learning and to develop appropriate learning objectives specific to their placement. For the weekly class, students are expected to come fully prepared to contribute to the class discussion.

Students are required to spend a minimum of 60 contact hours in their placement, excluding travel time. All practicum hours must be completed in the term that you are registered in this course. There are no exceptions.

The class will reconvene during week 5 (Oct 4<sup>th</sup>), week 9 (Nov 1<sup>st</sup>) and week 12 (Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>) for students to provide a placement update and redefine learning. Additional classes will be announced during the term, so students are expected to be available during the designated time class time slot (Wednesdays 3:30-4:20pm).

#### PREREQUISITE

Registration in Level III/IV of an Honours Kinesiology program.

#### EVALUATION

Final grade in this course will be determined from the following evaluation scheme (reflection papers will be graded by the TA assigned to the course and/or the course instructor; final paper as well as the midterm and final performance evaluations will be graded by the supervisor):

Mid-Term Reflection (10%) - Due October 18<sup>h</sup>, 2017

Mid-term Performance Evaluation (20%) – Due October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Final Reflection (15%) - Due November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Final Performance Evaluation (20%) - Due December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Final Paper (25%) – Due December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Attendance/Participation/Weekly Logs (10%)

## EXPECTATIONS

### Reflection Papers:

At mid-term and at the end of the placement students will prepare a two-three page (double spaced) critical reflective assessment of their placement experience. The reflective writing aims to capture the student's appraisal of their performance in the placement and their progress toward achieving the learning objectives identified in their learning contract. Moreover, the reflection also aims to capture the student's understanding of the placement environment and how the placement is generating new knowledge for them. The reflection should be given to the immediate supervisor for their review, and comments prior to the date of submission. Finally, your total hours completed in your placement to date must be noted on the bottom of your reflection paper and signed off by your supervisor.

### Performance Evaluations:

Both at mid-term and at the end of the placement, the supervisor will submit an evaluation of the student's performance in the research practicum. The supervisor will be provided a generic evaluation form (Supervisor Evaluation Report) by their student at the beginning of the placement and will be responsible for completing the evaluation, reviewing the results with the student and returning it to the student at mid-term and at the end of the placement. The supervisor is encouraged to set up a meeting to discuss the evaluation with the student and use the final evaluation as an exit interview at the conclusion of the placement.

### Final Paper:

A final paper will be submitted to the supervisor for evaluation during the final week of the course. The topic for this paper is to be determined jointly by the student and the supervisor and should be related to a topic specific to the research practicum experience. The paper should be ~2500 words in length and will be graded by your Supervisor. The rubric for this assignment should be provided by the supervisor.

### Attendance/Participation/Weekly log sheets:

Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and to participate in group and class discussions. Attendance will be taken at the start of each class and feedback will be given to the supervisor, which will be considered when determining the student's participation mark. Weekly log sheets must be completed and signed by the student and their supervisor (faculty or delegate) at the end of each week and must be submitted to the TA at midterm and the end of the placement.

## **LEARNING CONTRACT**

**Academic Component (jointly determined by the Student and the Academic Supervisor)** Identify one or more learning objectives in **each** of the following categories, with methods of evaluation and target completion date for each objective.

- a. **Academic Learning & Application:** related to the ideas, concepts or theories of your field of study
- b. **Skill development:** oral and written communication, problem-solving, decision-making, teamwork
- c. **Personal development:** career exploration, self-confidence, time-management

	<b>Learning Objective</b>	<b>Tasks &amp; Strategies (how I'm going to learn)</b>	<b>Evidence of Accomplishment</b>	<b>Methods of Evaluation</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
<b>Academic Learning &amp; Application</b>					
<b>Skill Development</b>					
<b>Personal Development</b>					

## TURNITIN.COM

In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal plagiarism. Students will be expected to submit their final paper electronically to Turnitin.com and in hard copy so that it can be checked for academic dishonesty. Students who do not wish to submit their work to Turnitin.com must still submit a copy to the instructor and their supervisor. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to Turnitin.com. (e.g., on-line search, etc.). To see the Turnitin.com Policy, please go to [www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity](http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity)

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences (e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript reading "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 kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3, located at: <http://www.mcmaster.ca/univsec/policy/AcademicIntegrity.pdf>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

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

## ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140, ext. 2865 or e-mail [sas@mcmaster.ca](mailto:sas@mcmaster.ca). For further information, consult McMaster University's Policy for Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities.

## ON-LINE LEARNING RESOURCES - AVENUE TO LEARN (A2L)

In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. 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.

All announcements will be posted on A2L and students are responsible for checking the news widget on a timely basis.

## MISSED STUDENT ABSENT FORM (MSAF)

If you are absent from the university for a minor medical reason, lasting fewer than 3 days, you may report your absence, without documentation, using the McMaster Student Absence Form. Absences for a longer duration or for other reasons (eg. Religious, personal) must be reported to your Faculty/Program office, with documentation, and relief from term work may not necessarily be granted. When using the MSAF, report your absence to [cupidoc@mcmaster.ca](mailto:cupidoc@mcmaster.ca). Then contact the instructor/lab TA immediately (normally within 2

working days) by email/telephone/in person to learn what relief may be granted for the work you have missed, and relevant details such as revised deadlines, or time and location of a make-up exam.

### MODIFICATIONS TO COURSE

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

### FEEDBACK

It really helps us improve our services when we hear from our students, faculty and staff about what we can do better. A feedback process brings to our attention situations in which we may not have adequately considered accessibility and allows us to better plan for accessibility in the future.