

University of Waterloo, Department of Psychology
Psych 389, Sections 041 & 045
Research in Developmental Psychology (Social Science Advanced Research Methods Topics)
Fall 2020

Course Description

This course is designed to help you develop key skills used by researchers in developmental psychology and in psychology more broadly. Many of these skills are also useful in non-academic contexts. The course is designed to be driven by your own interests and you will gain experience asking research questions, designing studies, conducting literature searches, collecting and interpreting data, and presenting findings.

Instructor

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Teaching Assistants (TAs)

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To ask questions or to discuss issues relating to the course

- You can post any questions to the Q&A discussion board on LEARN (anonymous posting is available). Please check the previous questions before posting--perhaps your question has already been answered! Also feel free to email me with any questions.
- If you'd like to talk (e.g., by MS Teams), please email me or one of the TAs. If possible, mention the reason you'd like to talk in the email. Also, please propose at least 3 potential times in the email (e.g., Friday at 2:30pm). We will either confirm a time or propose other potential times.

General points about course assignments

- All assignments are due at 11:59pm EST. All assignments except one are due on Fridays (the first assignment is due on a Saturday).
- When submitting each assignment, please double-check that your file is uploaded correctly!
- Save your work often, e-mail it to yourself as an attachment as a backup, and please don't leave it until the night before or the due date. Hard-drives failures and computer crashes are not excuses.
- Unless you have an appropriate doctor's note, a death in your family (or equally severe situation), extensions for late assignments will not be given. Instead, late assignments will receive a maximum grade of 50%.

Assignments & related course requirements

A1 *introduce yourself* (due Sep 12, ungraded).

Record a brief video that tells everyone a bit about you.

Max time = 2 min

A2 *reflection on a youtube video* (due Sep 25, 5%).

Find a youtube video of young children in some natural activity (e.g., playing)

Write a brief reflection paper on it (400 words max).

A3 *methods & results presentation* (due Oct 2, 10%)

Present the methods and results of an experiment from a peer-reviewed journal article

Max time = 6 min

You will also comment on one another's presentations

A4 *article presentation* (due Oct 30, 20%)

Present and discuss a peer reviewed research article

Max time = 15 minutes

Tentatively choose an article by Oct 9

You will also watch others' presentations & record 2-3 questions about each one

A5, *final project* (45% overall). Design, conduct, & write-up an experiment.

1. Design an experiment to be run on members of the class (due Nov 6)

2. Participate in other people's experiments (final date is Nov 13)

3. First draft of your paper (due Nov 27)

4. Review others' rough drafts (due Dec 4; 5%)

5. Final draft (40%; due Dec 11)

Participation (20%).

Based on the quality and quantity of contributions to non-graded aspects of the assignments (e.g., feedback and questions on others' presentations), and on occasional informal quizzes and assignments (equivalent to in-class activities)

Course Schedule

Week 1 Sep8-Sep11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Familiarize yourself with course Start & submit A1 <i>introduce yourself</i> (due Sep 12)
Week 2 Sep14-Sep18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have time, watch others' videos from A1 to get sense of who is in the class; Basic terms, graphing, pivot tables. Start A2 <i>reflection on a youtube video</i>
Week 3 Sep21-Sep25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit A2 <i>reflection on a youtube video</i> (due Sep 25) Start A3 <i>methods & results presentation</i>
Week 4 Sep28-Oct2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experimental Design & Devil's advocates. Submit A3 <i>methods & results presentation</i> (due Oct 2) Introduce A4 <i>article presentation</i>
Week 5 Oct5-Oct9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch & give feedback on other people's methods & results presentations. Tentatively choose a paper for A4 <i>article presentation</i> (submit choice by Oct 9) Introduce A5 <i>final project</i>
Week 6 Oct11-Oct16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading Week
Week 7 Oct19-Oct23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structuring & writing papers
Week 8 Oct26-Oct30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit A4 <i>article presentation</i> (due Oct 30)
Week 9 Nov2-Nov6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch others' A4 <i>article presentations</i>; record 2-3 questions per presentation. Submit a link for your online experiment, i.e., Part 1 of A5 <i>final project</i> (due Nov 6)
Week 10 Nov9-Nov13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in others' experiments, i.e., Part 2 of A5 <i>final project</i> (all due on Nov 13)
Week 11 Nov16-Nov20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch others' A4 <i>article presentations</i>; record 2-3 questions per presentation. Work on your rough draft, i.e., Part 3 of Assignment 5, <i>final project</i>
Week 12 Nov23-Nov27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch others' A4 <i>article presentations</i>; record 2-3 questions per presentation. Submit your rough draft, i.e., Part 3 of A5 <i>final project</i> (due Nov 27)
Week 13 Nov30-Dec4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch others' A4 <i>paper presentations</i>; record 2-3 questions per presentation. Submit reviews other people's rough drafts, i.e., part 4 of A5 <i>final project</i> (due Dec 4)
Dec 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your final paper (i.e., part 5 of A5 <i>final project</i>) is due

Institutional-required statements for undergraduate course outlines approved by Senate Undergraduate Council, April 14, 2009

Academic Integrity

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. Check the [Office of Academic Integrity webpage](#) for more information.

Discipline

A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their actions. Check [the Office of Academic Integrity](#) for more information. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

Concerns about a Course Policy or Decision

Informal Stage. We in the Psychology Department take great pride in the high quality of our program and our instructors. Though infrequent, we know that students occasionally find themselves in situations of conflict with their instructors over course policies or grade assessments. If such a conflict arises, the Associate Chair for Undergraduate Affairs (Richard Eibach) is available for consultation and to mediate a resolution between the student and instructor: Email: reibach@uwaterloo.ca; Ph 519-888-4567 ext. 38790

Grievance

A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](#), Section 4. When in doubt, please be certain to contact Richard Eibach, the Associate Chair for Undergraduate Affairs who will provide further assistance; reibach@uwaterloo.ca.

Appeals

A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72 - Student Appeals](#).

Note for Students with Disabilities

The [AccessAbility Services](#) office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (NH 1401), collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the

beginning of each academic term.

Faculty of Arts-required statements for undergraduate course outlines

Cross-listed Course (if applicable)

Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science rubric.

Accommodation for course requirements for Psychology courses.

Policies of the Psychology department pertaining to course requirements are available on the [department website](#).

Mental Health Support

On Campus

Due to COVID-19 and campus closures, services are available only online or by phone.

- Counselling Services: counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca / 519-888-4567 ext. 32655
- **MATES**: one-to-one peer support program offered by the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA) and Counselling Services

Off campus, 24/7

- **Good2Talk**: Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454
- Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 519-749-4300 ext. 6880
- **Here 24/7**: Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
- **OK2BME**: set of support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning teens in Waterloo. Phone: 519-884-0000 extension 213

Full details can be found online on the Faculty of Arts [website](#)

Download [UWaterloo and regional mental health resources \(PDF\)](#)

Download the [WatSafe app](#) to your phone to quickly access mental health support information.