

Research in Developmental Psychology
Social Science Advanced Research Methods Topics
Psych 389 (Section 001, Class # 4044)
Mondays & Wednesdays 1:00-2:20 pm, QNC 1507
Department of Psychology, University of Waterloo

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. You will gain experience asking research questions, designing studies, conducting literature searches, collecting and interpreting data, and presenting findings. The course also allows you to pursue and develop your own interests.

Instructor

Ori Friedman, friedman@uwaterloo.ca

Teaching Assistant (TA)

Claudia Sehl, claudia.sehl@uwaterloo.ca

To ask questions or to discuss issues relating to the course

- **Office hours:** If you'd like to talk about anything, either in person or on MS Teams, email me or Claudia to set up a meeting. In the email, please propose at least 3 potential meeting times (e.g., Friday at 2:30pm). We will confirm one time or propose others. Also, it can help if your email says a bit about what you'd like to meet about.
- You can also post questions to the Q&A discussion board on LEARN (anonymous posting is available). Please check previous questions before posting--perhaps your question has already been answered!

General points about course assignments

- All uploaded assignments are due @11:59pm EST.
- When submitting assignments, please double-check your file 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 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* (upload by Sep 11, ungraded but mandatory).

Create a 1 page PDF showing things about yourself
On Sep12, you'll use it to introduce yourself to the class

A2 *reflection on children doing things* (due Sep 18, 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* (upload on Sep 25, present on Sep 26 & 28, 10%)

Present methods & results of an experiment from a journal article
Max time = 4-6 min per presentation + extra time for questions

A4 *poster proposing an experiment* (present on Oct 17 & 19, 10%)

Propose an experiment following-up on a published experiment
Present it as a poster
Can be done in groups of 2-3

A5 *article presentation* (various dates, 20%)

Present and discuss a peer reviewed research article
Max time = 15 minutes
Choose an article (and preferred presentation dates) by Oct 23

A6 *final project* (45% overall). Propose, design, conduct, & write-up an experiment.

1. Design an experiment to be run on members of the class
2. Participate in other people's experiments (Nov 14 & 16)
3. First draft of your paper (due Nov 27)
4. Review others' rough drafts (due Dec 4; 5%)
5. Final draft (40%; due Dec 9) Max length: 10 pages (Times New Roman font, 12 pt, double-spaced with 1 inch margins. Not including: title page, references, figures, tables, appendix, or Abstract (which isn't needed at all).

Participation (10%).

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 any informal quizzes and assignments (equivalent to in-class activities)

Course Schedule

date	in-class	due later in week
Sep7	Intro to course; Assign A1 <i>introduce self</i> ; Assign A2 <i>reflection</i>	upload A1 pdf Sun Sep 11
Sep12	present A1	
Sep 14	Writing & topics; terms, graphing & pivot tables.	A2 due Sun Sep 18
Sep19	Assign A3 <i>methods&results presentation</i> ; writing/graphing	
Sep21	Experimental design & devil's advocates	upload A3 presentation Sun Sep 25
Sep26	A3 presentations	
Sep28	A3 presentations	

Oct3	Assign A4 <i>poster</i> ; more on design/writing	
Oct5	Assign A5 <i>article presentation</i> ;	
Reading Week		
Oct17	A4 posters	
Oct19	A4 posters	choose A5 article & pref date Sun Oct 23
Oct24	Introduce A6 final project ; structuring & writing papers	
Oct26	More on structuring&writing papers; tips for A6 experiments	
Oct31	More on tips for A6 experiments [possible check-in day]	
Nov2	A5 presentations 1/8	
Nov7	A5 presentations 2/8	
Nov9	A5 presentations 3/8	
Nov14	Everyone administers experiments on everyone else	
Nov16	Everyone administers experiments on everyone else	
Nov21	A5 presentations 4/8	
Nov23	A5 presentations 5/8	1st draft of A6 paper due Sun Nov 27
Nov28	A5 presentations 6/8	
Nov30	A5 presentations 7/8	A6 anonymous reviews due Sun Dec 4
Dec 5	A5 presentations 8/8	A6 final draft due Fri Dec 9

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](#).*

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

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their 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 the department’s administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity to avoid committing an academic offence, 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 instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate associate dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71, Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties, check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

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: [AccessAbility Services](#), located in Needles Hall, Room 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 AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term.

Turnitin.com: Text matching software (Turnitin®) may be used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin in this course.

It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor if they, in the first week of term or at the time assignment details are provided, wish to submit alternate assignments.