



PSY204H1S: Psychology Careers and Applications



Class meets **Thursdays 3-6pm** on **Zoom** (link/password on Quercus)

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Ashley Waggoner Denton (she/her/hers)
Email: a.waggoner@utoronto.ca
Office Hours: Tuesdays 4-5pm in my [virtual office](#) or book an appointment [here](#) (zoom or in-person)

Teaching Assistants: Jana Galley (jana.galley@mail.utoronto.ca)
Josh Koh (josh.koh@mail.utoronto.ca)
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The TAs will hold virtual office hours at certain points throughout the semester; these will be announced on Quercus

Course Description, Goals, and Prerequisites

Psychology has been identified as a “hub science”, a discipline whose research influences the work of scientists in many other fields. This course will provide you with a broad introduction to the application of the psychological sciences across various clinical, academic, and industry contexts. You will gain valuable insight into the broad range of careers that are relevant to psychology, while also investigating barriers to rigorous application of psychological science in applied settings. You will learn how different areas of psychology (e.g., clinical, social, neuroscience) are applied in practice, as well as how the skills and knowledge gained in an undergraduate psychology program can be applied to a broad range of careers and fields/sectors. You will gain significant exposure to career and education planning considerations within the psychological sciences and will participate in at least one experiential career exploration activity. Wherever possible, you will also be given the opportunity to interact with psychology alumni who are currently employed in these settings.

Prerequisites: PSY100H1 (or equivalent). At least one additional PSY course at the 200-level is recommended, but not required.

Distribution Requirement: Science

Breadth Requirement: Society and its Institutions (3)

Textbook

Norris, M. E. (Ed.). (2019). The Canadian Handbook for Careers in Psychological Science. Kingston, ON: eCampus Ontario. Licensed under CC BY NC 4.0. This is an open access (free!) textbook that can be read or downloaded (in a variety of formats) here: <https://ecampusontario.pressbooks.pub/psychologycareers/>

Any additional readings will be available/linked on Quercus.

Course Webpage/Quercus

The website associated with this course is accessible via <http://q.utoronto.ca>. This is where you will find all course materials, submit your assignments, etc. If you have any questions about using this site, please do not hesitate to ask me!

Course Learning Outcomes

Knowledge & Application

- You will learn to distinguish the methods and approaches used in different psychology domains.
- You will learn about various theories of career development and how you can apply them to your own thinking about careers.
- You will learn how the psychological sciences have been applied in a variety of settings.

Scientific Inquiry & Critical Thinking

- You will learn how to navigate information databases and other resources to find primary sources.
- You will learn to evaluate the credibility and informational value of academic and non-academic sources.

Communication

- You will demonstrate effective writing for different purposes.
- You will learn how to create an effective infographic that communicates critical information, including statistics, through a combination of text and visuals.

Personal & Professional Development

- You will learn how to apply psychological concepts and academic skills in pursuit of career goals.
- You will develop meaningful professional direction for life after graduation.
- You will gain practice giving and receiving performance feedback from others.
- You will engage in critical reflection by intentionally thinking deeply about your learning experiences, your reactions and responses, and what you will take from these experiences in order to inform future actions and improve outcomes.

Ethical & Social Responsibility

- You will learn how to apply ethical standards to evaluate psychological science and practice.
- You will learn how psychology can be applied to local, national, and global issues of concern (e.g., health and wellbeing, sustainability).

Course Evaluation/Marking Scheme

Professional Development Workshop & Reflection - 5%

Recommended due date: February 17th, 2022 (or during Reading Week)

Final deadline: Sunday, April 2nd, 2023



You will be able to complete any **workshop** offered by Career Exploration and Education during the Winter 2023 semester (please note that workshops completed outside of the Winter 2023 term will not count for course credit).

Find upcoming workshops and register via the *St. George Career Exploration & Education Events and Workshops Calendar*:

<https://clnx.utoronto.ca/home.htm>

NOTE: Career Exploration and Education offers a variety of programming through the CLNx Calendar; please be sure you complete a **workshop** (these are indicated in blue on the calendar). Examples of workshops include *Interview Strategies*, *Resumé and Cover Letters*, *Optimize Your LinkedIn*, etc.

After completing the workshop, you must submit your proof of completion (2%) and a reflection on your experience (3%) before the final deadline. Please see Quercus for additional information.

Professional Development Portfolio - 15%

Recommended due date: March 9th, 2023

Final deadline: Sunday, March 19th, 2023

This is something you will work on **throughout the first half of the course** and you are encouraged to turned in for grading in early March. To earn full marks, your portfolio will include:

- Current goal statement and your elevator pitch
- Self-assessment of interests, personality, and skills, with corresponding reflective statements
- Occupation comparison, potential contacts, and informational interview prep
- Resumé and/or cv
- Evidence/artifacts demonstrating the development of (*at least three*) specific skills from the Skillful Psychology Student (with accompanying explanations) OR completion of a planning map (academic, co-curricular, extra-curricular, workplace, etc.) for how you plan to develop these specific skills in years to come



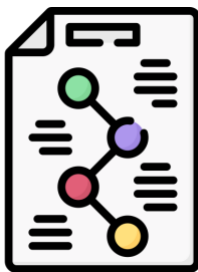
Full assignment instructions will be posted in a separate document on Quercus.

Midterm Test (20%)**Date: March 2nd, 2023 (during normal class time)**

Will be a timed (e.g., 90 minute) open-book test, conducted online (on Quercus). A mix of question types will assess not only your knowledge of course content (including readings, lectures, class activities, and guest sessions), but your ability to apply and reflect on the course material.



NOTE: If you receive extra time on tests as part of your accessibility accommodations, please use the information provided in this syllabus to make your request: https://lsm.utoronto.ca/ats/info_for_students.html

Psychology-Related Career Infographic Assignment (25%)**Draft for in-class peer review: March 23rd, 2023****Final infographics due: April 7th, 2023**

An infographic (information + graphic) is a visual representation of information, data, or knowledge. Infographics present complex information quickly and clearly to communicate concepts using texts, symbols, colors, and graphic visuals.

For this assignment, you will select a career that is relevant to psychology (guidance will be provided) and create an infographic for this career that would be **useful to other psychology students**. Readers of your infographic should be

able to learn all of the critical information they need to know about this career, **how it connects to their psychology studies**, and what steps they would need to take to prepare for this career. To aid you in this task, you are **strongly encouraged to participate in the in-class peer review activity on March 23rd**. Full assignment instructions are available on Quercus.

Final Assessment (35%)**Date: TBD (will be posted in the [final assessment schedule](#))**

Will be a timed, open-book assessment, conducted online (on Quercus). A mix of question types will assess not only your knowledge of course content (including readings, lectures, class activities, and guest sessions), but your ability to apply and reflect on the course material.

NOTE: If you receive extra time on tests as part of your accessibility accommodations, please use the information provided in this syllabus to make your request: https://lsm.utoronto.ca/ats/info_for_students.html

Course Policies**Due Dates and Extension Requests**

In general, assignments submitted after the final deadline will be subject to a 5% per day late penalty. If you need an extension on an assignment, please email me with a brief explanation at least 24 hours before the deadline (if possible).

Missed Midterm

All students are expected to complete the online midterm during its scheduled time

on Thursday, March 2nd. If you are unable to complete the midterm due to circumstances beyond your control, please complete the [missed midterm form](#) (form will open after the midterm) no later than Thursday, March 9th. A make-up midterm will be scheduled for students who are granted permission to take it. If you miss the midterm but do not fill out the form (or otherwise let me know) and/or do not receive confirmation from me that you have been excused from the midterm, you will receive a 0. The midterm is worth a large portion of your grade, please be sure to communicate with me if you miss it!

Re-Grading Policies

Please keep in mind that your TAs are human beings with very busy schedules, who have likely just spent many hours grading dozens of assignments. While they will be more than happy to fix any mistakes that they have made during the grading of your assignment, they will not respond to requests that are rude or bullying in nature. If you believe that an assessment has not been graded fairly, please do the following: (1) carefully review the rubric (if applicable) and instructions for the assignment, along with any feedback provided by your TA. Make sure that you truly believe the assignment was not graded appropriately, and that you are not just acting out of disappointment with the mark you received. (2) Contact your TA and *briefly but clearly* explain where you think something was overlooked (e.g., the section of the paper or part of the rubric where you feel the problem lies). Your TA will review the assignment, and will make any adjustments to the mark that they feel are appropriate. (3) If after communicating with your TA, you are still unsatisfied and would like an official regrading of your assignment, you may request that I regrade your assignment by emailing me at a.waggoner@utoronto.ca. Please understand that the mark that I give you will be *final*, and that your mark may go up, go down, or stay the same. Requests for regrades must be made within two weeks of the date the marks are returned.

Email Policy

Please check the syllabus and the class materials posted on Quercus before sending an email. You will find answers to most of your questions there. I am available to talk and answer questions after class, or you may use the link on the first page to book an appointment with me.

When sending email, **you must use your official utoronto email account**, otherwise your email may be marked as spam and never received! Please use a meaningful subject line and start it with PSY204 (e.g., "PSY204: question about career workshop"). Use a proper greeting (e.g., "Hi Dr. Waggoner Denton") and sign with your name (no need to add your student number or anything else!). State your concern clearly and succinctly. If the issue is something that would be better discussed in person, please book a meeting with me instead.

I will generally respond to your email within two business days, but please note that I do **not** check email on the weekends (i.e., an email sent on Friday may not be responded to until Monday).

Religious Accommodation

As a student at the University of Toronto, you are part of a diverse community that welcomes and includes students and faculty from a wide range of backgrounds, cultural traditions, and spiritual beliefs. For my part, I will make every reasonable effort to avoid scheduling compulsory activities on religious holy days not captured by statutory holidays. Further to University Policy, if you anticipate being absent from class or missing a major course activity due to a religious observance, please let me know as early in the course as possible, and with sufficient notice (at least two to three weeks), so that we can work together to make alternate arrangements.

Grading Policy

Please note that all course marks are tentative until approved by department chair and dean's office, and recorded in the office of the faculty registrar.

For more information on What Grades Mean at U of T, please see:

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/general/grading-policy>

Academic Resources

Accessibility Needs: Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. If you have an acute or ongoing disability issue or accommodation need, you should register with Accessibility Services (AS) (www.accessibility.utoronto.ca) at the beginning of the academic year. Without registration, you will not be able to verify your situation with your instructors, and instructors will not be advised about your accommodation needs. AS will assess your medical situation, develop an accommodation plan with you, and support you in requesting accommodation for your coursework. Remember that the process of accommodation is private: AS will not share details of your condition with any instructor, and your instructors will not reveal that you are registered with AS.

PLEASE NOTE: Because I believe that accessibility is an issue that should be addressed broadly, not only for specific individuals with appropriate documentation, I have tried my best to design a flexible course where every learner's needs can be met. For example, most assignments have both a recommended due date (which I certainly recommend you try your best to follow) and then a final deadline (i.e., automatic extension window granted to everyone who wants it). Of course, if you have specific needs that have not been met by default in the design or format of the course, please just let me know (either via email or booking an appointment with me - whatever is most comfortable for you).

Writing: As a student here at the University of Toronto, you are expected to write well. The university provides its students with a number of resources to help them achieve this. For more information on campus writing centres and writing courses, please visit <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/>.

English Language Learners (ELL) Program:

<http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/advising/ell>

ELL offers a range of programs/workshops/resources to assist all Arts & Science students who wish to improve their English language skills (including reading,

listening, speaking, and writing). Please see their website for more information about these resources.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: All students, faculty and staff are expected to follow the University's guidelines and policies on academic integrity. For students, this means following the standards of academic honesty when writing assignments, collaborating with fellow students, and writing tests and exams. Ensure that the work you submit for grading represents your own honest efforts. Plagiarism—representing someone else's work as your own or submitting work that you have previously submitted for marks in another class or program—is a serious offence that can result in sanctions. Speak to me or your TA for advice on anything that you find unclear. To learn more about how to cite and use source material appropriately and for other writing support, see the U of T writing support website at www.writing.utoronto.ca/. Consult the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters for a complete outline of the University's policy and expectations. For more information, please see <http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/osai> and <http://academicintegrity.utoronto.ca/>

Mental Health: Everyone feels stressed or anxious now and then – it's a normal part of university life. In the most recent National College Health Assessment (published in 2017), however, 64% of UofT students surveyed reported experiencing overwhelming anxiety in the past 12 months and 45% reported having felt so depressed it was hard to function. If you are ever experiencing anxiety, depression, or any other symptoms that are preventing you from completing your work and/or benefiting from your university experience, I encourage you to investigate U of T's various resources: <https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/department/health-wellness/>. If you are experiencing more acute distress, please visit: <http://safety.utoronto.ca/>.

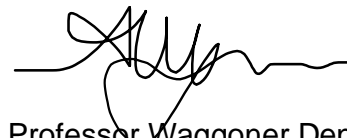
Additional Resources

Student Life Programs and Services (<http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/>)

Academic Success Services (<http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/asc>)

Counselling and Psychological Services (<http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/hwc>)

Never hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or concerns. I'm looking forward to a fantastic semester with you!



Professor Waggoner Denton
(she/her/hers)

Course Schedule

**Subject to change at instructors' discretion with appropriate notice*

Date	Topic (Topics in parentheses indicate the focus of invited guest speakers and are subject to change)	Reading
Week 1 January 12	The Skillful Psychology Student	Chapter 1
Week 2 January 19	The Psychology of Networking and Mentorship	<p>Identity and Professional Networking (Raj et al., 2017) https://doi.org/10.1177/0146167217697299</p> <p>It's not what you say, it's how you say it: Conversational flow as a predictor of networking success (Truong et al., 2020): https://doi.org/10.1016/j.obhdp.2020.02.004</p> <p>Giannone, Z. A. ., Gagnon, M. M. ., & Ko, H. C. . (2018). Mentorship as a Career Intervention: An Evaluation of a Peer-Mentoring Program with Canadian University Psychology Students. <i>Canadian Journal of Career Development</i>, 17(2), 4–24. https://cjcdrdc.ceric.ca/index.php/cjcd/article/view/76/95</p>
Week 3 January 26	Consuming & Conducting Research in Psychology (<i>Graduate School in Psychology</i>)	Chapter 2
Week 4 February 2	Career Development (<i>Introduction to U of T's Career Exploration and Education</i>)	Chapter 4
Week 5 February 9	Clinical and Counselling Psychology (<i>Registered Psychotherapy</i>)	Chapter 5 and Chapter 6
Week 6 February 16	Developmental Psychology Careers and Applications (<i>School Psychology</i>)	Chapter 8
Week 7	READING WEEK (no class)	
Week 8 March 2	Midterm Test (online, during regular class time)	No class/reading this week

Week 8 March 9	Social Psychology Careers and Applications (<i>Market Research, Police Research & Crime Analysis</i>)	Chapter 7 Professional Development Portfolio Due
Week 10 March 16	Neuroscience-Related Careers and Applications; Industrial-Organizational Psychology and Human Factors (<i>I-O Psychology</i>)	Chapter 9 and Chapter 10
Week 11 March 23	Psychology and the Law (<i>Family Law</i>)	Chapter 11 *In-class Infographic Peer Review – bring your drafts!
Week 12 March 30	Psychology and Social Justice: Environmental Psychology, Community Psychology and Advocacy Work (<i>Urban Planning</i>)	Chapter 13 and Chapter 14
Week 13 April 6	Psychology-Related Careers Showcase & Course Wrap-Up (<i>Physiotherapy, Nursing, Speech & Language Pathology</i>)	Details TBD Infographics due (Friday)
<i>TBD</i>	Online final exam during the April Final Exam/Assessment Period (https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/faculty-registrar/exams-assessments/exam-assessment-schedule)	