



# 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](mailto:a.waggoner@utoronto.ca)  
**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 4-5pm on zoom or book an appointment [here](#) (zoom or in-person)

**Teaching Assistants:** Katherine Bak ([katherine.bak@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:katherine.bak@mail.utoronto.ca))  
Silvia Margarian ([silvia.margarian@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:silvia.margarian@mail.utoronto.ca))  
Niro Mohanathas ([niro.mohanathas@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:niro.mohanathas@mail.utoronto.ca))  
(please email to schedule a meeting)

## 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)

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## 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.

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## 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!

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## 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

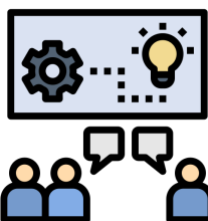
- You will learn how to apply ethical standards to evaluate psychological science and practice.
- You will learn how psychology can be applied to local, national, and global issues of concern (e.g., health and wellbeing, sustainability).

### Course Evaluation/Marking Scheme

#### Professional Development Workshop & Reflection - 6%

**Recommended due date: February 16<sup>th</sup> (or during Reading Week)**

*Final deadline: Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>*



You will be able to complete any **workshop** offered by Career Exploration and Education during the Winter 2024 semester (please note that workshops completed outside of the Winter 2024 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 (4%) before the final deadline. Please see Quercus for additional information.

#### Professional Development Portfolio - 20%

**Recommended due date: Feb 9<sup>th</sup>**

*Final deadline: Friday, Feb 16<sup>th</sup>*

This is something you will work on **throughout the first few weeks of the course** and you are encouraged to turned in for grading in early February. 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



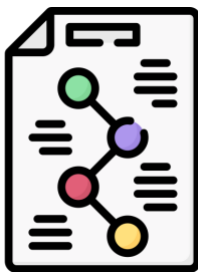
Full assignment instructions will be posted in a separate document on Quercus.

**Midterm Test (20%)****Date: February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (during normal class time)**

Will be a timed, 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](https://lsm.utoronto.ca/ats/info_for_students.html)**

**Psychology-Related Career Infographic Assignment (20%)****Draft for in-class peer review: Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup>****Final infographics due: Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**

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 April 4<sup>th</sup>**. Full assignment instructions are available on Quercus.

**Final Exam (34%)****Date: TBD (April Exam Period)**

Will be a timed online exam, scheduled during the April Exam Period. 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](https://lsm.utoronto.ca/ats/info_for_students.html)**

**Course Policies****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).

### **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.

### **Missed Midterm**

All students are expected to complete the online midterm during its scheduled time on Thursday, Feb 29<sup>th</sup>. If you are unable to complete the midterm due to circumstances beyond your control, please email me ([with a copy of your documentation, e.g., absence declaration or VOI](#)) no later than Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. Students who are confirmed as being excused from the midterm will be granted the opportunity for a make-up test or reweighting. If you miss the midterm and do not receive confirmation from me that you have been excused, 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!

### **Missed Final Exam**

If you miss the final exam, you will need to file a petition. Instructors are not allowed to schedule make-up exams or alternative exam times. For information on the petitioning process, please see <https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/faculty-registrar/petitions/deferred-exams> or contact your College Registrar’s Office.

### **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](mailto: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.

### **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>

### **Plagiarism Detection**

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to the University's plagiarism detection tool for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the tool's reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of this tool are described on the Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation web site (<https://uoft.me/pdt-faq>).

### **Generative AI Use**

The use of generative artificial intelligence tools and apps is strictly prohibited in all course assignments unless explicitly stated otherwise by the instructor in this course. This includes ChatGPT and other AI writing and coding assistants. The use of generative AI in this course may be considered the use of an unauthorized aid, which is a form of cheating. This course policy is designed to promote your learning and intellectual development and to help you reach course learning outcomes.

### **Copyright Notice**

All course materials (including recordings, slides, and other documents) prepared by the instructor are considered by the University to be an instructor's intellectual property covered by the *Copyright Act*, RSC 1985, c C-42. Course materials such as PowerPoint slides and lecture recordings are made available to you for your own study purposes. These materials cannot be shared outside of the class or "published" in any way. Posting or selling recordings, slides, assignments, quizzes, etc. to other websites without the express permission of the instructor will constitute copyright infringement, and in some cases, may also violate the University's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (see Academic Integrity notice below).

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## **Academic Resources and Accommodations**

### **Students with Disabilities or Accommodation Requirements**

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) at the beginning of the academic year by visiting <https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/department/accessibility-services/>. 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 situation, develop an accommodation plan with you, and support you in requesting accommodation for your course work. Remember that the process of accommodation is private: AS will not share details of your needs or 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).

**NOTE: If you receive extra time on tests as part of your accommodations, please use the dates provided in this syllabus to make the necessary requests: [https://ism.utoronto.ca/ats/info\\_for\\_students.html](https://ism.utoronto.ca/ats/info_for_students.html)**

### **Specific Medical Circumstances**

If you become ill and it affects your ability to do your academic work, consult me right away. Normally, I will ask you for documentation in support of your specific medical circumstances. This documentation can be an Absence Declaration (via ACORN) or the University's Verification of Student Illness or Injury (VOI) form. The VOI indicates the impact and severity of the illness, while protecting your privacy about the details of the nature of the illness. If you cannot submit a VOI due to limits on terms of use, you can submit a different form (like a letter from a doctor), as long as it is an original document, and it contains the same information as the VOI (including dates, academic impact, practitioner's signature, phone and registration number). For more information on the VOI, please see <http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca>. For information on Absence Declaration Tool for A&S students, please see <https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/absence>. If you get a concussion, break your hand, or suffer some other acute injury, you should register with Accessibility Services as soon as possible.

### **Accommodation for Personal Reasons**

There may be times when you are unable to complete course work on time due to non-medical reasons. If you have concerns, speak to me or to an advisor in your College Registrar's office; they can help you to decide if you want to request an extension or other forms of academic consideration. They may be able to email your instructors directly to provide a College Registrar's letter of support and connect you with other helpful resources on campus.

### **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 cultural and

religious traditions. For my part, I will make every reasonable effort to avoid scheduling tests, examinations, or other 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 (such as a test) 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.

### **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**

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the [Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters \(https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/secretariat/policies/code-behaviour-academic-matters-july-1-2019\)](https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/secretariat/policies/code-behaviour-academic-matters-july-1-2019). If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, please reach out to me. Note that you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from me or from other institutional resources. For example, 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 <http://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 [A&S Student Academic Integrity \(https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/academic-advising-and-support/student-academic-integrity\)](https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/academic-advising-and-support/student-academic-integrity) and the [University of Toronto Website on Academic Integrity \(https://www.academicintegrity.utoronto.ca\)](https://www.academicintegrity.utoronto.ca).

### **Mental Health and Well-being**

As a student, you may experience challenges that can interfere with learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, substance use, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation, financial concerns, family worries and so forth. These factors may affect your academic performance and/or reduce your ability to participate fully in daily activities. Everyone feels stressed now and then – it is a normal part of university life. Some days are better than others, and there is no wrong time to reach out. There are resources for every situation and every level of stress.

There are many helpful resources available through your College Registrar or through Student Life (<http://studentlife.utoronto.ca> and <http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/feeling-distressed>). An important part of the University experience is learning how and when to ask for help. Please take the time to inform yourself of available resources.





Looking for help, but not sure where to begin?

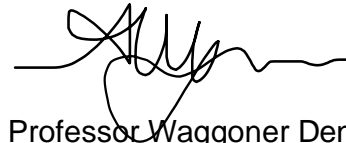
[Navi can help!](#)

**Other Resources:**

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

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

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 <b>January 11</b>	The Skillful Psychology Student	Chapter 1
Week 2 <b>January 18</b>	The Psychology of Networking and Mentorship	Identity and Professional Networking (Raj et al., 2017) <a href="https://doi.org/10.1177/0146167217697299">https://doi.org/10.1177/0146167217697299</a>  It's not what you say, it's how you say it: Conversational flow as a predictor of networking success (Truong et al., 2020): <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.obhdp.2020.02.004">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.obhdp.2020.02.004</a>
Week 3 <b>January 25</b>	Consuming & Conducting Research in Psychology	Chapter 3
Week 4 <b>February 1</b>	Career Development	Chapter 2  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. <a href="https://cicd-rcdc.ceric.ca/index.php/cicd/article/view/76/95">https://cicd-rcdc.ceric.ca/index.php/cicd/article/view/76/95</a>
Week 5 <b>February 8</b>	Clinical and Counselling Psychology	Chapter 5 & Chapter 6
Week 6 <b>February 15</b>	Developmental Psychology Careers and Applications	Chapter 8 <b>Professional Development Portfolio Due February 16</b>
Week 7	<b>READING WEEK</b> <i>(no class – good week to complete your CEE workshop!)</i>	
Week 8 <b>February 29</b>	<b>Midterm Test</b> (online, during regular class time)	No class/reading this week
Week 9 <b>March 7</b>	Social Psychology Careers and Applications	Chapter 7

Week 10 <b>March 14</b>	Industrial-Organizational Psychology	Chapter 10
Week 11 <b>March 21</b>	Psychology and Social Justice: Environmental & Community Psychology	Chapter 13 & 14
Week 12 <b>March 28</b>	Psychology and the Law	Chapter 11 Workshop Proof & Reflection Due April 1
Week 13 <b>April 4</b>	Neuroscience-Related Careers and Applications <i>In-class peer review of infographics</i>	Chapter 9  Infographics Due April 5
<i>TBD</i>	Online final exam during the April Final Exam Period ( <a href="https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/faculty-registrar/final-exams">https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/faculty-registrar/final-exams</a> )	