PSY 339H1F – Individual Differences Lab
Monday 10am-1pm SS560

Contact Information

Instructor:	Teaching Assistant(s):
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Office Hours: TBD	**Office Hours**: Friday 11am to 12noon https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/85413291513

Course Description, Goals, and Prerequisites

The course will introduce research methods and statistical techniques involved in individual differences research. You will learn by doing, with the opportunity to complete an individual research project from start to finish.

The aim is that by the end of this course, you will have:
1. Developed an understanding of the steps involved in a research project,
2. Gained an appreciation of open science practices,
3. Improved your ability to understand, critique, and extend original research,
4. Conducted an empirical test based on real data related to individual differences, and
5. Strengthened your scientific communication skills in both oral and written forms.

Note about prerequisites: It is your responsibility to ensure that you have met *all* prerequisites listed in the Psychology section of the A&S Calendar for this course. If you lack any prerequisites you WILL BE REMOVED. No waivers will be granted.

Reading Material/Textbook(s)

There is no required textbook in this course. The focus of the course is to guide you to complete an individual research project from start to finish. As such, you will build on your skills to comprehend, critique, and synthesize journal articles relevant to your project. Throughout this process, you will conduct a literature search and read at least 10 journal articles.

Course Evaluation/Marking Scheme

<u>Marking Scheme Overview</u>:

Homework 0:	01 point
Class participation:	08 points
Annotated Bibliography:	05 points
1-Page Proposal:	05 points
Preregistration (Draft + Revised):	05 points
Introduction and Method (Draft + Revised):	20 points
Peer Review:	04 points
Final presentation (Draft + Actual):	12 points
Final paper (1st + 2nd + 3rd drafts):	40 points

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                                          100 points

Homework 0 (1 point; Due by 10am on Sep 27, 2021)

Homework 0 is to simply meet with either the instructor or the TA for 10-15 minutes. This assignment aims to achieve at least 2 goals:
- To make sure you know how to get help and
- (if you are comfortable sharing) To get to know your interests, career goals, and background knowledge a bit more to tailor the course materials to you.

You may choose to attend the office hours or to schedule an appointment if the office hours do not work for you.

Class Participation (8 points)

Participation is fundamental to a small lab course. We learn from each other when we complete the weekly preparations, offer thoughtful comments and questions, and listen and respond to others' comments respectfully. Contributing regularly will help you feel more comfortable as the semester goes on. *I may ask you directly for your thoughts during class*.

Class participation will be graded from **Weeks 2 to 10**.

Individual Research Project (91 points; all components should be submitted on Quercus by their respective due dates)

Throughout the course, you will complete an individual research project. In the first week of class, I will introduce a list of research ideas related to subjective well-being. While I recommend that you choose from the list of ideas, you do have the option to propose your own research idea (which must be related to individual differences). If approved by the instructor, then you can use it for your individual research project.

Each of the component of the individual research project is meant to build on each other, and it is ok to reuse texts from an assignment in this course to another assignment in this course (e.g., using paragraphs from the 1-page proposal in the introduction of the manuscript).

    <u>Annotated Bibliography (5 points)</u>: The annotated bibliographies of 3, 6, and 10 journal articles are **due by 10am on Sep 27, Oct 12, and Oct 25**, respectively. In each submission, you will have written a concise summary of each entry in the bibliography.

1-page Proposal (5 points): You will write a 1-page proposal based on your individual research project (**due by 10am on Oct 4**). A workshop on how to write the proposal will be given in Week 3. This assignment is designed to mimic the application process of the Canada Graduate Scholarship. The proposal should be single-spaced, not including references. The references should be listed on a separate page.

Pre-registration (5 points): A pre-registration is a document that specifies your research question(s), data, and analytical approach(es). The draft pre-registration is **due by 10am on Oct 12**, and a confirmation of a time-stamped pre-registration is **due by 10 am on Oct 18**. A workshop on pre-registration will be given on Oct 4.

Introduction and Method (20 points): The introduction should outline the significance and motivation of your individual project, whereas the method should describe the data sources, measures, and analytical strategies. The draft introduction is **due by 10am on Oct 25**, the draft method is **due by 10am on Nov 1**, and the revised introduction and method is **due by 10am on Nov 8**. The introduction and method should be in APA format and 8-10 pages long (not including cover page and references). The introduction should be 5-7 pages in length, and the method should be 3-5 pages in length.

Peer Review (04 points; **due in class on Nov 22**): You will be asked to complete a peer review of a classmate's first draft on Nov 22.

Final presentation (12 points): The final presentation is a 10-minute summary of your individual research project, and it will take place in class on **Nov 29 and Dec 6**. To provide feedback, you will submit a presentation draft **by 10am on Nov 15**. The draft should include 10 slides that covers the introduction, method, results, and discussion of your project.

Final paper (40 points): You will submit the first, second, and third draft of your manuscript **by 10am on Nov 22, Dec 6, and Dec 15**, respectively. The manuscript should be in APA format and no more than 20 pages long (not including the cover page, abstract, references, tables, and figures).

Extra Credit (Due Dec 22)

If your final paper is *extremely* well-written and if the results are informative to the research question, the instructor will clearly indicate to you that you should submit the paper to a journal for publication. Then, if you submit the paper, you will get an extra credit of two-third of a point to your final grade. Please note that the submission process can take up to a few hours to complete.

To encourage a more collaborative learning environment, each submission to a journal gives everyone in the class an extra credit of one-third of a point.

Example:
If you submit the final paper to a journal for publication (~0.67%) and you are the only one in the class who submit (~0.33%), then you get 1% extra credit.

If you submit the paper to a journal and a total of 3 classmates (including you) complete the submission process, then you get (0.67 + 0.33*3 = 1.67%).

Course Webpage/Quercus

The website associated with this course is accessible via http://q.utoronto.ca

We will also make use of a Slack workspace for collaboration.

Course Policies

Penalties for Lateness
For each 24-hour period after the deadline, you will lose 3 points on the assignment.

Any term work that will be handed in **after** the final exam period is subject to a petition for extension of term work. This petition should be filed with the student's College Registrar's Office.

Plagiarism Detection Software
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).

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 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 (like a test, or in-class assignment) 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.

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 course work. 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.

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/ .

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/

Other 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)

Course Outline

Week	Date	Topic	Assignments
1	Sep 13	Introduction Replication Crisis Stages of a Research Program Well-being Science	
2	Sep 20	Research Design Secondary Data Analysis Evaluation of Research	Preparation: Read one of the Seed Articles
3	Sep 27	How to Write a Research Paper and a Research Proposal?	Preparation: CGS-M Website 'Homework 0' (1%) Annotated Bibliography of 3 Articles (1%)
4	Oct 4	Preregistration Review of statistical concepts	1-page Proposal (5%)
5	Oct 11	Thanksgiving (No class)	Annotated Bibliography of 6 articles (1%) Draft Preregistration (2.5%)
6	Oct 18	Regression Moderation	Confirmation of Pre-Registration (2.5%)
7	Oct 25	Longitudinal Analyses	Intro (5%) Annotated Bibliography of 10 articles (2%)
8	Nov 1	Data Presentation Data Interpretation	Method (5%)
	Nov 8	Reading Week (No class)	Revised Intro + Method (5%)
9*	Nov 15	Final Project Consultation	Presentation Draft (4%)
10*	Nov 22	Publication Process What is Peer Review? (5%)	First draft (10%)
11*	Nov 29	Final Presentation 1 (8%) Final Project Consultation	
12*	Dec 6	Final Presentation 2 (8%) Final Project Consultation	Second draft (10%)
	Dec 15		Third Draft (20%)

* Depending on the class's progress on the individual research projects, these weeks may include optional 'Students' Choice' lectures.

Possible Students' Choice topics:
- How to Pick a Journal
- Primary Data Collection
- Between- vs. within-person Design
- Casual Inference
- Basic Psychometrics
- The Academic Career Path
- Paper Sprint (a collaborative exercise to write a paper together in-class)