



1.0 BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

Psych 3726F Section 550 Personal Relationships Fall 2022

Instructor:	Dr. Irene Cheung
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Email address:	icheung5@uwo.ca
Scheduled class times:	Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:30 am-12:20 pm EST, W17
Office Hours:	Mondays 1:30-3:30 pm EST or by appointment
Course Website:	Access via https://owl.uwo.ca/portal using your Western ID and password

It is recommended that you check OWL and your Western email at least once a day to ensure that you do not miss any important class announcements, messages, or emails from the instructor.

2.0 CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course provides an overview of theory and research on personal relationships from a social psychological perspective. The course will examine topics on the formation, function, maintenance, and dissolution of relationships, with an emphasis on romantic relationships and friendships. The interplay between relationship dynamics and self-processes will also be considered.

Antirequisite(s): [Psychology 3724F/G](#), 3790G if taken in 2012/2013.

Prerequisite(s): At least 60% in [Psychology 2780E](#) or permission of the Department at Huron.

Extra Information: 4 lecture hours, 0.5 course. (Huron)

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course requirements. If you do not have the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from the Dean to enroll in this course, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

3.0 COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Develop an understanding of key theories, methods, and current findings in close relationships research.
- Evaluate literature in the area of close relationships.
- Participate in discussions to explore and understand complex topics in close relationships research.
- Learn how to articulate views and present thoughtful arguments.
- Develop skills to collaborate with others.
- Develop skills to moderate a group discussion.
- Reflect on the application of close relationships research in our everyday experiences.
- Communicate research findings to different audiences.

4.0 DESCRIPTION OF CLASS METHODS

This is a seminar course with multiple components. Students should be prepared to do the following:

1. Complete assigned readings prior to discussions.
2. Write a critical reflection on the assigned readings prior to discussions.
3. Participate in weekly discussions based on the assigned readings.
4. Facilitate one discussion during the course and reflect on the facilitation.
5. Present research findings to peers and a general audience at the CURL Fall Exhibition.

5.0 READINGS AND OTHER SOURCES

The reading list for the course will be posted on OWL and will be accessible through the library.

6.0 SCHEDULE OF DUE DATES FOR COURSE WORK

Course Component	Due Date	% of Final Mark
Participation	Weekly	15
Discussion facilitation	Once during the term	15
Facilitation reflection	One week after facilitation	15
Weekly reflections	Weekly, due Tuesdays at 12 pm, noon	25
Research Project	Nov 14, 2022	30

7.0 METHOD OF EVALUATION

Each method of evaluation will have a more detailed description and grading rubric posted on OWL.

1. **Participation (15%).** Each week, students will meet as a group to discuss the set of assigned readings to think more deeply about the methods, findings, and implications of the research. These discussions will encourage students to actively listen to others' viewpoints, articulate what they have learned in their own words, and share their own perspectives. Students can also learn to challenge each other's assumptions in a respectful manner.
2. **Discussion facilitation (15%).** Once during the term, students will be working in small groups to facilitate a class discussion. The discussions will take place during our Wednesday class meetings. Facilitators will be responsible for generating high quality questions to stimulate discourse among students. These questions should help reinforce key points from the readings, question the assumptions made by the researchers (i.e., playing devil's advocate), and help students make connections between the readings. Students may also bring in other content such as pop culture examples to engage the students.
3. **Facilitation reflection (15%).** Students will be asked to write a reflection following their facilitation (due one week after the facilitation). Students will write about their insights into the topic (based on the discussion), what they feel students learned from the discussion, and describe what they learned from facilitating the discussion.

4. **Weekly reflections (25%).** Each week, students will be required to write a short reflection paper (about 250 words) on the set of assigned readings. These reflections will be due on Tuesdays at 12 pm, noon, before discussions on Wednesdays. These reflections are not summaries of the readings, but rather an opportunity for students to write about their thoughts and reactions to the readings. For example, students can discuss connections with the readings and their own personal experiences or question their prior assumptions about the topic. Students should discuss an idea in depth rather than discussing many ideas in brief. Students who are facilitating a discussion will not need to write their weekly reflection as they will be writing a reflection following their facilitation. All weekly reflections must be submitted to the Forum section of the OWL page.
5. **Research project (30%).** Students will be working in small groups on a research project to answer a question that they would like to know about relationships. Students will then conduct a literature review and answer their relationship question using psychological research findings. Each group will create a database with the relevant articles (5%), write a review of the research used to answer their question (15%) and create an Instagram post (10%) to present at the Centre for Undergraduate Research Learning (CURL) Fall Exhibition. The goals of the post are to articulate research findings to a lay audience, generate social engagement, and respond to questions or comments from the audience. Students' grade on the project will be partially based on peer evaluations. More details will be posted on OWL.

8.0 SUBMISSION OF WORK AND LATE PENALTIES

Submission of work. Please note that ALL written work must be submitted electronically through the course website, which allows TurnItIn to conduct a plagiarism check (you do not need to go to the TurnItIn website). Please allow ample time for your submission—this means that you should avoid submitting your work last minute. The TurnItIn report can sometimes take a while to generate so submit your paper as early as possible. If you are having issues with your electronic submission, you must contact the instructor BEFORE the deadline. Do NOT submit your paper as an email attachment to the instructor and expect to use that as a record of when you submitted your paper as this submission will not contain a TurnItIn report. *Again, you must submit your written work via the course website, and a TurnItIn report must be included with your submission.*

Late penalties: An electronic copy of written work is due at 11:55 pm EST. Work submitted after the due date and time will be penalized 2% per day (including weekends). Late penalties will be calculated based on the date and time the work was submitted on OWL. Any extension for legitimate reasons (see Appendix) should be requested prior to the due date. The last day to submit written work is December 31st, 2022. Work submitted after this date without accommodation will receive a grade of zero.

9.0 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF TOPICS

The reading list for each topic will be posted on OWL. Any changes to the readings or topic dates will be announced in class. In general, Mondays will be allocated to work on the research project and Wednesdays will be allocated to the discussion of the assigned readings.

Week	Topics
Sep 12	Introduction to Relationship Science

Sep 19	Influential Theories
Sep 26	Attraction and Mate Selection
Oct 3	Communication
Oct 10	<i>No class on Thanksgiving Monday.</i>
Oct 17	Intimacy and Responsiveness
Oct 24	Diversity in Relationships
Oct 31	<i>Fall Reading Week – no classes.</i>
Nov 7	Conflict
Nov 14	Infidelity and Aggression
Nov 21	Relationship Dissolution
Nov 28	Stress and Context
Dec 5	Course Wrap-Up; Participation in CURL Fall Exhibition

8.0 POLICY ON GRADING STANDARDS

Students at Huron University College should consider a grade in the range from 76-80 to be evidence of good performance in a 3000-level Honors Psychology course. Grades in the A (80-90%) range will only be awarded for performance that is demonstrably superior to the third and fourth-year major or minor standard. A grade of A+ (90-100%) will only be awarded rarely and only for work that is exceptional.

9.0 OTHER POLICIES AND INFORMATION

- The Senate policies in force for this course (i.e., academic accommodation, accessibility, academic misconduct, course drop dates, and other related university policies) may be found posted on the 1100E OWL course site.
- Students requiring due date extensions for written work (e.g., Research Report) should follow the guidelines for accommodation for absences https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf. If accommodation is recommended, the accommodation will be in the form of a revised due date for the assignment (see also section 10.0).

10.0 STATEMENT REGARDING ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION IN PSYCHOLOGY AT HURON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

In the Department of Psychology at Huron, courses are structured to allow students as much flexibility as possible. In the event of an acute medical illness or other personal emergency, students must request academic consideration as per Western Academic Senate Policy. The instructor must indicate on the course outline how accommodations are granted and arranged.

Student requests for academic consideration/accommodation for missed work must be submitted in a timely manner, typically no more than 48 hours after the missed evaluation. Requests submitted more than 48 hours after the missed evaluation will normally require a formal recommendation from an Academic Advisor.

For missed coursework worth less than 10% of the overall grade in a course, students should contact the instructor in writing as soon as possible to arrange for accommodation. In cases where accommodation is granted, the instructor will inform the student in writing what accommodation will be granted (e.g., makeup test, reweighting missed evaluation, accept late assignment).

For missed coursework worth 10% or more of the overall grade in a course, students must contact their home faculty Academic Advising office with appropriate documentation (at Huron, this is Huron's Academic Advising Office; if you are a student at a different campus, contact your academic advisor at your home campus).

In the Department of Psychology, if accommodation is granted, students will typically be granted an extension of 48 hours for written essays and reports from the time when accommodation is granted in writing from the Academic Advising office, unless otherwise discussed with the course instructor. The typical accommodation for missed tests will be reweighting of the course grade, unless otherwise discussed with the course instructor. Instructors may request further documentation to approve accommodations.

Students should refer to the following for more information regarding academic consideration and accommodation:

Western Senate Policy regarding Accommodation for Medical Illness

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Huron Academic Advising

<https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/faq/>



Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations Fall/Winter 2022

Pandemic Contingency

Huron will continue to follow the guidance of public health and government officials. It is anticipated that there will be no further disruptions to in-person instruction. This is subject to change.

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#) . The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf.

Turnitin.com

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, tablets, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence

- (a) Consideration on **Medical Grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade:
Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

b) Medical Grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go Directly to Academic Advising

University Senate policy, which can be found at [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#) requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the “home faculty” is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Dean.

c) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email huronsss@uwo.ca.

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: [accommodation medical.pdf \(uwo.ca\)](#). Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at huronsss@uwo.ca for any further questions or information.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron’s Student Support Services at

huronsss@uwo.ca. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions

about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at:
<https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here:
<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/> Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>
Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1> Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academic-support.uwo.ca/>
Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>
Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

Wellness and Health Supports at Huron and Western

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. All Huron staff and faculty have received training on responding to disclosures of Gender-Based Sexual Violence (GBSV); students should know that the Community Safety Office is a resource for survivors, providing support and, if desired, guidance while referring them to the further supports that they may require. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services:
huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca Community
Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca
Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.

Western Calendar - Policy Pages -

[Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)