

## HURON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

### **Psychology 4880E Honors Thesis Fall-Winter 2021-22**

#### **1.0 CALENDAR DESCRIPTION**

Independent research under the direction of a faculty member.

**Antirequisite(s):** [Psychology 4850E](#) and the former Psychology 459.

**Prerequisite(s):** Registration in the fourth year of the Honors Specialization Psychology Program at Huron College.

1.0 course (Huron)

#### **2.0 COURSE INFORMATION**

Course Coordinator: Dr. Christine Tsang  
Office: V119  
Phone: (519) 438-7224 ext. 260  
E-mail: [ctsang33@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:ctsang33@huron.uwo.ca)  
Office hours: Mondays 2:00-3:00pm; Wednesday 10:00-11:00am or by appointment  
Class Meeting Time Monday 12:30-1:30 in Room V107

Course website: <http://owl.uwo.ca> {login & password = UWO login ID and password}

#### **3.0 TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS**

American Psychological Association. (2019). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. (Seventh Edition). Washington, D.C.: Author.

#### **4.0 COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- to conduct a year-long, independent research project under the guidance of an approved faculty member
- to produce a formal, APA-style monograph
- to defend the thesis in an oral examination

## 5.0 EVALUATION

The course grade will be determined as follows:

<u>Component</u>	<u>% of Grade</u>
Thesis Introduction Draft	15%
Written Thesis Presented at the Oral	75%
Oral Examination	10%

Further details of how these grades are awarded may be found on OWL.

## 6.0 POLICY ON GRADING STANDARDS

Students at Huron University College should consider a grade in the range from 80-89 to be evidence of satisfactory performance in the Thesis Course. Grades in the A+ (90-100%) range will only be awarded for performance that is demonstrably superior to the fourth-year honors standard.

## 7.0 ADDITIONAL NOTES

### 1.0 The Thesis Advisor

Although having an individual *thesis advisor* is not essential, it is strongly recommended. The duties of a thesis advisor are outlined in detail in the document on OWL entitled: **DUTIES OF THESIS ADVISORS**

It should be noted that individual faculty members here, and elsewhere, are entitled to be selective in whom they agree to supervise. Advisors need not be Psychologists but the Department must approve all advisors other than those in the Psychology Department at Huron University College, even if they are members of other Psychology departments.

### 2.0 The Thesis Committee

The *Thesis Committee* will consist of the Advisor and a Second Reader, a faculty member from the Department appointed by the Course Coordinator. The second reader will serve as Chair of the Thesis Committee. The second reader will be assigned by the Department and posted on OWL. The Committee will serve both at the Student's *Proposal Meeting* and at the Student's *Oral Defence of the Thesis*. In the case of a student who has no advisor, the Department will select two Readers to constitute the Thesis Committee and appoint one as Chair of the Committee. Once established, the names of students and the members of their thesis committee will be posted on OWL. The various roles of a thesis committee are outlined in relevant sections below and in relevant documents.

### 3.0 Access to the Participant Pool

Students taking Psychology 1100E are required to participate in four hours of departmentally approved research (or fulfill an alternative obligation). These students constitute the *Participant Pool* and all 4880E students have access to this pool. Note that 4880E students are not guaranteed participants for their research studies. However, 4880E students may supplement their sample with participants which they procure themselves (as long as the recruitment process has been ethically approved). Students in Psychology 4880E who desire a share of the Participant Pool must attend the Participant Pool meeting and also read the document “Rules for Using the Participant Pool at Huron”.

### 4.0 The Research Proposal

The first written submission is a *research proposal*. This proposal will allow the Thesis Committee to evaluate: (1) **the scientific merit of the proposed research project**; and (2) **the ethical adequacy of the research project**. No student will be allowed to collect data until ethical approval has been granted, either in the context of a *proposal meeting* (see below) or as the result of review by some outside agency. The collecting of data without formal ethical approval will result in non-acceptance of any thesis based on such data, hence course failure. Details of how to create a Research Proposal may be found in the document entitled **HOW TO PREPARE A RESEARCH PROPOSAL**.

### 5.0 The Proposal Meeting

The document entitled: **PROCEDURES FOR A PROPOSAL MEETING** outlines how to schedule a Proposal Meeting, how to prepare for it, and what will happen at the meeting. Note, that even in cases in which there has been prior *ethical approval* of the project by an outside agency, all students must submit a Research Proposal and have a Proposal Meeting with the Thesis Committee. Students cannot proceed with their research until the Thesis Committee has provided approval.

### 7.0 Conduct of a Data Collection Session

The procedures for conducting a data collection session may be found in the document entitled: **PROCEDURES FOR A DATA COLLECTION SESSION**. Read this document carefully before attempting to collect data from human participants.

### 8.0 Format of the Thesis

The format of the thesis is outlined in the document entitled: **GUIDE FOR THE PREPARATION OF A THESIS IN PSYCHOLOGY** and must be followed scrupulously for both the Version for the Oral Examination and the Final Version. If a thesis provided to the examiners in anticipation of the thesis oral fails to conform to the appropriate format, it may be returned for revision. Those who fail to complete their oral examination by the last weekday of the Final Examination Period will receive an F in the

course unless an INCOMPLETE is granted based on medical grounds. In such a case, the revised thesis must be returned to the Course Coordinator by August 31, and if it is acceptable, a fall oral will then be scheduled.

## 9.0 The Oral Examination

Each student will have to defend his or her thesis in an oral examination, normally held during the final examination period. Each student must submit two (2) hard copies of the thesis to his/her Thesis Committee (one for each member) at least 7 days in advance of the scheduled thesis oral examination date. The document entitled: **PROCEDURES FOR A THESIS ORAL** outlines the procedures for scheduling an oral examination and also what happens during the Examination. The course cannot be passed without this oral examination and there will be no exemptions for any reason. The last possible date for an oral examination that will permit a June graduation is the last weekday of the Final Examination Period. Note, however, that scheduling an oral this late will leave little time for revisions, as the completed thesis, with all signatures included, is due in the hands of the Chair of the Department no later than noon, one-week after the end of the Final Examination period (with the last possible submission date on May 1, or the first business day after).

## 10.0 Submitting the Finished Thesis

The procedures for submitting the Final Thesis are also outlined in the document entitled **GUIDE TO THE PREPARATION OF A THESIS IN PSYCHOLOGY**. A final PDF version of the thesis with all revisions completed must be submitted to the Chair of the Department no later than May 1 (or the first business day after). The final thesis will be published on Scholarship @Huron, and will be catalogued by the Huron Library. If the student wishes to have one or more hard copies of the thesis bound, copies will be bound at the student's expense (cost will be determined by the library in January).

## 9.0 SCHEDULE OF DEADLINES\*

Deliverable	Deadline Date
Proposal Committee Meeting	October 15 (or first business day after)
Thesis Introduction Section**	November 10 (or first business day after)
Confirmed Date for Final Oral Exam	March 15 (or first business day after)
Draft of Complete Thesis to Advisor	March 30 (or first business day after)
Last Day to Submit FINAL THESIS**	May 1 (or the first business day after)

\* Note that these are **the last possible dates**. Earlier dates are possible and encouraged!

\*\* Draft of Thesis Introduction should be submitted to OWL site.

\*\*Students who do not submit the final thesis by this date will NOT graduate in the June

Convocation.

## 10.0 SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS\*

M Sep 13	Introduction to the Course
M Sep 20	Mock Proposal Committee Meeting
M Feb 28	What's a Thesis and How do I Write One

\*other class meetings will be determined as required and announced via OWL at least 2 weeks in advance of the meeting date.



### Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2021 - 2022

#### **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.

#### **Pandemic Contingency**

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, typically using a combination of synchronous instruction (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) and asynchronous material (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor. In the unlikely event that changes to the grading scheme are necessary, these changes will be clearly communicated as soon as possible.

#### **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>.

### **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:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/exam/attendance.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf).

### **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:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf). 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](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, 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**

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions

specified in the Senate policy at [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf) are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

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://academicssupport.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, and if the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported absences, 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) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email [hurousss@uwo.ca](mailto:hurousss@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 where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported. 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: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf). Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at [hurousss@uwo.ca](mailto:hurousss@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](mailto: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://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>

Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>

Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

### **Mental Health & Wellness Support 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. 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](mailto:huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca)

Community Safety Office: [safety@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:safety@huron.uwo.ca)

Chaplaincy: [gthorne@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:gthorne@huron.uwo.ca)

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.