



EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 2012 CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

A. Division: Academic Effective Date: January 2012

B. Department / Program Area: Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences/ Psychology Revision New Course

If Revision, Section(s) Revised:
Date of Previous Revision:
Date of Current Revision:

C: PSYC 4390 **D:** Honours Seminar **E:** 3

| Subject & Course No. | Descriptive Title | Semester Credits | | | | | | |
|--|---|------------------|--------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <p>F: Calendar Description:</p> <p>This seminar course is designed for students who wish to progress to postgraduate studies. Topics may include: developing research ideas, research ethics, graduate school application, and the peer review process. Students will have the opportunity to present and receive feedback on their Honours Thesis proposal.</p> | | | | | | | | |
| <p>G: Allocation of Contact Hours to Type of Instruction / Learning Settings</p> <p>Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings:</p> <p>Seminar</p> <p>Number of Contact Hours: (per week / semester for each descriptor)</p> <p>3</p> <p>Number of Weeks per Semester:</p> <p>15</p> | <p>H: Course Prerequisites:</p> <p>Admission to the Bachelor of Arts in Applied Psychology Honours Program or Department permission.</p> | | | | | | | |
| | <p>I: Course Corequisites:</p> <p>None</p> | | | | | | | |
| | <p>J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite</p> <p>None</p> | | | | | | | |
| | <p>K: Maximum Class Size:</p> <p>10</p> | | | | | | | |
| <p>L: PLEASE INDICATE:</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50px; text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Non-Credit</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>College Credit Non-Transfer</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>College Credit Transfer:</td> </tr> </table> <p>SEE BC TRANSFER GUIDE FOR TRANSFER DETAILS (www.bctransferguide.ca)</p> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | Non-Credit | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | College Credit Non-Transfer | <input type="checkbox"/> | College Credit Transfer: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Non-Credit | | | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | College Credit Non-Transfer | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | College Credit Transfer: | | | | | | | |

M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of the course the successful student will be able to:

1. Conduct a comprehensive literature review to address a specific research question
2. Show an understanding of the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans
3. Construct an ethics proposal for the Douglas College Ethics Board
4. Critically analyze and discuss a piece of academic work
5. Provide constructive feedback on the academic work of others
6. Demonstrate understanding of the application procedures for graduate school
7. Identify the differences between graduate schools/programs in Psychology and related disciplines
8. Establish ability to participate in the peer review process, including papers, posters and conference presentations
9. Use visual aids, such as Microsoft PowerPoint, to communicate ideas in a professional manner

N: Course Content:

1. Graduate school aptitude exams.
2. Applying for research funding (e.g. NSERC and SSHRC).
3. Evaluating and selecting graduate programs.
4. The graduate school application process.
5. How to generate, and evaluate research ideas.
6. Writing a literature review.
7. Planning and writing the academic research paper.
8. American Psychological Association guidelines for scholarly papers.
9. Standards for evaluating psychology papers.
10. Ethics in research and writing.
11. Presenting research through conferences and publications.

O: Methods of Instruction:

The course will involve a number of instructional methods, such as the following:

- Seminar
- Presentations
- Group Discussions
- Guest Lectures

P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students:

A textbook such as:

Sternberg, R.J., & Sternberg, K. (2010). *The psychologist's companion: A guide to writing scientific papers for students and researchers (5th ed.)*. Cambridge University Press.

Q: Means of Assessment:

This is a mastery/non-mastery course.

Evaluation will be carried out in accordance with Douglas College policy. Evaluation will be based on course objectives. The instructor will provide the students with a course outline listing the criteria for course evaluation.

- Draft Ethics Proposal
- Attendance at academic talks or seminars
- Critical analyses of research papers
- Presentation of Research Proposal
- Class Participation

R: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR

No.

Course Designer(s): Laura Dane, PhD

Education Council / Curriculum Committee Representative

Dean / Director: Catherine Carlson, PhD

Registrar

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