

PSYC 3500 A : DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY (HONOURS SEMINAR)

Instructor	Dr. Tina Daniels
Term	Fall/Winter 2023-2024
Course Delivery	In-person
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Office Location	Loeb Building B549
Office Hours	Live/Virtual: By appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION/INSTRUCTOR'S STATEMENT

This course is designed to help you prepare to complete an honours thesis in psychology. In order to acquire these skills, you will conduct a mini-thesis in an area of developmental psychology. You will engage in all the steps involved in the execution of a thesis but on a smaller more manageable project. This course will also provide the opportunity for an in-depth examination of some areas of developmental psychology focusing on social/emotional functioning. Time will also be spent discussing what might lie beyond your undergraduate degree including career opportunities and psychology graduate programmes.

Course Goals:

- 1) Satisfy your intellectual curiosity – Now is your chance to follow your passions, explore further, contribute some original ideas and conduct research in your chosen field.
- 2) Develop transferable skills - Whether you choose to stay in this field or not, the process of developing a feasible research project will hone skills that will serve you well in the future. After all, most jobs require some form of problem solving and oral and written communication.
- 3) Work closely with faculty & graduate student mentors - This course offers the opportunity to work one-on-one with a faculty member and a graduate level TA. Such mentors can enrich your intellectual development and serve as invaluable references for graduate school and employment.
- 4) Open windows into future professions - A mini-thesis will give you a taste of what it's like to conduct research. It might help you decide whether to pursue this in fourth year, grad school and beyond.
- 5) Have some fun - Asking your own research question and finding out the answer to your question can be a lot of fun.

This course will be predominately face-to-face. However, students should be prepared to meet for some class-time, online, via web conferencing. The specific dates will be

communicated in the course outline.

This course has a lab component (PSYC3500A1). Classes will be Wed mornings 8:35-11:25 and labs will be Thurs morning from 8:35-11:25. You must be available for and register for both the lecture and the lab time slot.

Prerequisites: Third-year standing in the Honours Psychology program with a CGPA of 9.0 or higher in the Major; PSYC 2001, PSYC 2002, PSYC 2500 and permission of the Department.

EVALUATION (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Evaluation in this course will be based on class & lab participation, class presentations, written assignments, and culminating in a “mini-thesis” research project. There are no tests.

TEXT

1. You will be provided with a reading list of articles from Developmental Psychology (and related) journals which you will be able to access on-line, through the Carleton University Library and/or Brightspace.
2. Bell, D., Foster, S., and Cone, J. (2020). *Dissertations and Theses from Start to Finish: Psychology and Related Fields (3rd ed.)*. American Psychological Association. <https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctv1chs1xq> ISBN: 978-1-4338-3064-8
3. American Psychological Association (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association 2020: the official guide to APA style (7th ed.)*. American Psychological Association. <https://doi.org/10.1037/0000165-000> ISBN: 978-1-4338-3216-1

