

PSYC 4909/4910 A : PROJECT FOR B.A./B.SC. HONOURS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Instructor	Dr. Amanda McEvoy
Term	Fall 2026/Winter 2027
Course Delivery	In-Person
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Office Location	By appointment - virtual
Office Hours	By appointment - virtual

COURSE DESCRIPTION/INSTRUCTOR'S STATEMENT

The Honours Project in Psychology is a capstone course that provides students with an opportunity to deepen their expertise in a psychology topic of their choosing while refining research, critical thinking, and communication skills developed throughout their degree. Working with a single research topic throughout the year, students will learn to critically evaluate research, synthesize evidence, develop well-supported arguments, and communicate psychology research effectively to different audiences.

The course is designed to guide students through the process of researching, analyzing, and translating research into meaningful insights. In the fall term, students focus on building subject matter expertise and strengthening their academic reading, writing, and critical thinking skills, resulting in a persuasive research essay. In the winter term, the emphasis shifts to knowledge mobilization, helping students communicate research in accessible and practical ways through presentations, workshops, and conference-style posters.

Delivered as an interactive seminar, the course emphasizes discussion, peer feedback, presentations, and individualized guidance. Students are encouraged to pursue topics that align with their interests, career goals, and areas of concentration. By the end of the course, students will have developed advanced skills in research synthesis, evidence-based communication, and translating psychology research into practical applications.

EVALUATION (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Assignment	Weight
Annotated Bibliographies (5 submissions)	15%
Thesis Statement with Supporting Evidence	3%
Proposal Pitch	5%
Essay Outline	5%
Final Essay	20%
Fall Total	50%
Stakeholder Presentation	2%
Blog Post	10%
Workshop Presentation	20%
Research Poster (Poster, Pitch, and PURE Presentation)	20%
Winter Total	50%

TEXT

There is no required textbook for this course. Students will be expected to locate and engage with scholarly psychological research articles relevant to their chosen topic. Readings will primarily consist of peer-reviewed journal articles available through the Carleton University Library. Additional resources, including articles, videos, and instructional materials, may be assigned throughout the year.

Students are strongly encouraged to consult the most recent edition of the:

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.).

This resource will support students in applying APA style and formatting conventions throughout their major research assignments.