

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: PSYC-290: Independent Studies

CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM: Fall 2021

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face to face and online D2L

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

For COVID-19 information please visit <https://legacy.camosun.ca/covid19/index.html>.

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Dr. Michael Pollock

EMAIL: pollockm@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Fisher 308B

HOURS: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Fridays at 11:30-12:20

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course involves a plan of psychological study not available through regular courses, developed in consultation with a supervising instructor. The plan involves either in-depth library research, or a combination of library and field research or study. This course is available to individual students or a group of students.

PREREQUISITE(S):

All of:

- C in PSYC 110
- C in two other PSYC courses

CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

In Psychology, students are encouraged to come up with their own ideas for independent study. As such, the evaluation and meeting framework are varied and set by individual faculty members and their student(s). Although this criteria varies widely, faculty ensure that both the course work and level of difficulty are consistent with other second-year level studies in Psychology.

In general, upon completion of this, a student will be able to:

1. Explain and describe critical concepts in the core subject area.
2. Apply the concepts in the core subject area to a case study, community or research project.
3. Present the results of his/her independent study in one or more of the following formats:
 - * Orally;
 - * Project - this may be an application in the community of concepts learned during the independent study;
 - * Written - a reflective journal outlining his/her experiences during a field study, an academic literature review, independent research, a series of small written assignments, a powerpoint presentation.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

Not Applicable

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

DATE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC
2021-09-06	COLLEGE CLOSED - Labour Day
2021-09-13	Research problem & rationale
2021-09-20	Literature review & references
2021-09-27	Research methods
2021-10-04	Data collection
2021-10-11	COLLEGE CLOSED - Thanksgiving Day
2021-10-18	Data collection
2021-10-25	Data collection
2021-11-01	Data analysis

2021-11-08	Data analysis
2021-11-15	Data analysis
2021-11-22	Discussion of results
2021-11-29	Discussion of results
2021-12-06	Final report due this week

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

COMPONENT	WEIGHT
Research problem & rationale	10%
Literature review & references	40%
Research methods	25%
Data collection & analysis	10%
Discussion of results	15%
TOTAL	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](#) policy for more information.

<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

In order for you to gain first-hand experience in conducting psychological research, you will develop and write in stages throughout the semester a psychological research project involving a cross-sectional online study of BC paramedics that will investigate how their shift work patterns are related to their levels of fatigue, sleep quality, mental health, medical error, and safety. You will meet with me in weekly one-on-one meetings throughout the semester to discuss your progress in the research project and receive feedback from me on what revisions are needed. The following hard deadlines will need to be met in order to successfully complete the research project within the Fall 2021 semester:

- Ethics approval applications for this research project will need to be submitted to the Camosun Research Ethics Board (REB) and to the British Columbia Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) Research Evaluation Committee early enough to allow time to still fully carry out the planned research methods after receiving their ethics approval.
- While the Camosun REB states on their website (<https://camosun.ca/innovates/applied-research/ethics-approval>) that they meet six times per year and that the application deadlines appear in the Camosun Calendar of Events and in CamNews, the application deadlines for the Fall 2021 semester have not yet been released there. However, in recent years the Fall application deadlines have always been in mid-September and mid-November. Therefore, in order to have enough time to

collect data, the ethics approval application should aimed to be submitted to them by mid-September.

- The BCEHS Research Evaluation Committee states on their website (<http://www.bcehs.ca/our-research/researcher-resources>) that they meet regularly but do not list the specific dates of their meetings. They also state that their reviews can take six weeks or longer.
- Although not required, it would be good scientific practice to also preregister the methods proposal before conducting the study - see <https://www.psychologicalscience.org/observer/research-preregistration-101>

Since each stage builds on the work of previous stages, you must correctly complete each stage in order to receive marks on subsequent stages, with opportunities given throughout the semester for revisions of previous stages. , until the last week of classes has passed. You may revise and resubmit for marks your research assignments throughout the semester, without late penalties, until the last week of classes has passed. Research assignments not completed by this final deadline will receive a score of zero.

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

Camosun Psychology Club Information - During the Fall and Winter semesters, the Psyc Club meets each Friday at 1:30pm. Please contact Dr. Michael Pollock if interested in attending: PollockM@camosun.bc.ca

Journal of Camosun Psychology Research – Contact your Psychology Instructor to discover how to publish research in it. <https://cc.arcabc.ca/islandora/object/cc%3Apsycjournal>

American Psychological Association - The hub of our discipline. <https://www.apa.org>

Canadian Psychological Association - The Canadian hub of our discipline. <https://cpa.ca/>

Co-operative Education & Career Services - Learn about how to access a co-op experience for your career. <https://camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services/contact-co-operative-education-and-career>

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising

<http://camosun.ca/advising>

Accessible Learning

<http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning>

Counselling

<http://camosun.ca/counselling>

Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds
Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the “Attendance” section under “Registration Policies and Procedures” (<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun’s Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student’s right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun’s Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College’s Student Misconduct Policy at

<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Changes to this syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.