



PSYO 380T: Psychosocial Aspects of Homicide and Violence

Summer 2023 Course Syllabus, May 15 – June 22, 2023

Instructor: Cassidy Biener (Wallis), M.A. (UBCO), Hon. B.A. (MacEwan), You may call me Cassidy or Mrs. Biener (Bee-ner)

Classroom: Asynchronous online instruction. Lectures will be released at class time, and assignments will be due by the beginning of class time, Monday and Thursday, 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm (PST).

Office: Zoom

<https://ubc.zoom.us/j/61529307704?pwd=UVQ3OENVdkJqSzdBYSndJbnJhTmFLdz09>

Meeting ID: 615 2930 7704 Passcode: 622399

Contact: Students are asked to please email the instructor directly at wallisca@mail.ubc.ca. Responses are not guaranteed within 24 hours (48 hours over weekends and holidays). E-mail is preferred over Canvas messenger.

Office hours: Office hours are set in Pacific (Kelowna) time and will be available upon request.

Course Summary

There has always been a public fascination with homicide. How it happened, who did it and of course the often misunderstood and misattributed, why? This course will objectively examine the phenomenon of homicide and violence in order to determine its origin, nature, and impact. Students will gain a better understanding of the biological, psychological, and social factors which contribute to the commission of violent acts. The course will be broken up into four separate sections. First, placing homicide within context, next, we will discuss explanations for homicide and violence, followed by specific forms of homicide and related topics, and finally, there will be a focus on responding to and preventing homicide.

Learning Outcomes

After completing this course and all lectures, students should be able to:

- Outline the historical progress in understanding acts of violence through the lens of different disciplines.
- Explain the role of biological mechanisms, mental illness, personality disorders, and environment on acts of aggression.
- Summarize various typologies and classifications of violence and homicide.
- Evaluate real-world case examples of homicide and violence based on psychological and criminological research.



- Analyze and integrate academic research on homicide and violence in a class presentation.
- Critique current psychological and criminological theories and research as they are applied to violence and homicide.

Requirements FOR ONLINE DELIVERY

In order to take in this course, students must have access to a laptop or desktop computer and stable internet connection. Students will need to turn on their Canvas email notifications ([learn how](#)) OR check Canvas regularly as announcements will be the primary method of updating the class regularly.

Lecture format

Course lectures will be pre-recorded and will be posted on Canvas ahead of class time (i.e., by 1:00 pm on the Monday and Thursday of each week). Students are welcome to review the material at their own pace; however, it is required that students keep up with the weekly schedule so they can complete all assignments on time and are prepared for exams. Lectures will be recorded in small parts and will be broken up into various participatory activities. All participation activities will be due before the start of the next scheduled class time. These activities will each have a recommended time limit and will account for part of lecture time.

Further, a large part of this course will involve experiential learning. This will require students to conduct literature searches, synthesize information from multiple sources, and find case examples, among many other activities. This course will involve a pre-recorded presentation by each student, in which you will be required to integrate 3 academic resources, a case example, and provide your own testable multiple-choice questions. Come prepared to be an active participant in your learning.

The instructor will be available through Zoom-hosted office hours to answer student questions. Students who join office hours before their meeting time may be placed in a Zoom waiting room if another student is finishing up their meeting. If, for any reason, office hours are too busy to accommodate everybody, the instructor will add additional times. Students can also contact the instructor for an appointment outside of course time if these times are not feasible.

Privacy and respect in the Course

1. Throughout the course, students or instructors may choose to provide personal information (e.g., in recorded lectures, live office hours, posted discussion threads). It is important that everyone understands and agrees that for safety, the personal information of fellow students and instructors should not be divulged to persons outside the class. Doing so will be viewed as breach of privacy.
2. Given the nature of course content, some material will be sensitive. The instructor commits to always giving proper introduction and notice for topics of this kind.
3. It is to be anticipated that students will have diverse opinions, feelings, and ideas throughout this course. This course is conducted with the utmost respect for differing views, and students



are expected to discuss course content with the same respect. Bullying, foul language, or harassment of any kind in this online course will not be tolerated.

4. No course material, including lectures, assignments, and exams shall be copied or distributed.

No text required

Textbooks are not required for this course. Readings will be assigned instead. This course draws from chapters from multiple textbooks as well as readings. Please note that the assigned readings are in addition to the content covered in class.

Course Evaluation

Participation (25%)

Students will receive participation marks by completing the in-class activities. This will include mentee meters, padlets, and various other virtual discussion-based activities. In-class activities are meant to make the lecture material more engaging and learning more experiential. All in-class activities will be due before the start of the next scheduled class time, in Kelowna time (PST). Lectures and activities together are meant to take up class time, and suggested time limits for each activity will be noted. **Marks will not be given retroactively; students must complete their participation activities within the assigned time period or request [academic concession](#) as soon as possible.** There are 10 days of participation activities, so each is worth 2.5% of the total. They are marked as either complete or incomplete. If you do not follow directions, you will not receive marks.

Take-home writing assignment (Midterm Exam 20%)

The midterm exam will consist of a take-home writing assignment. It will involve the application of different theoretical perspectives to cases of violent offending. Students will be given 1 week to complete a 2-page (double-spaced, size 12 Times Font) writing assignment. This will take the place of an in-class midterm and so there will be no lecture released on June 1, 2022.

Students who do not hand in their writing assignment on time without justification and documentation will receive a grade of 0%. The take-home writing assignment will be due June 8th 1:00 pm PST, 2023.

Presentation (30%)

Presentations will be completed in partners, and you should make sure you are available to meet with them (online or in-person, your choice) to create/record it. Presentations will be 15 minutes in length and should include the integration of at least 4 academic articles. You may pick your own partner, or if you are having a difficult time identifying a partner, I can help you find one based on your interests. There is a list of possible presentation topics, but you may also suggest your own topic. Topics should be emailed to the professor ASAP as you will then be assigned a day to present. Topics will be due by Monday, May 22th, at 1:00 pm (PST) 2023. Presentations will begin on June 5rd and continue until June 22nd, 2023. Topics will begin with single victim homicide and move into multiple perpetrator homicides, serial homicide X2 days, mass murder,



and ending with some global perspectives. Presentations will be pre-recorded and uploaded to canvas by 12:00 am (midnight, PST) before the presentation date to then be posted by the professor. Presentations should include a thought activity, and a case example. You will also be required to create 4 multiple-choice questions from your presentation, with 4 response options. These will be due after your presentation and do not need to be done ahead of time.

Students who do not upload their pre-recorded presentations on time without justification and documentation will receive a grade of 0%. Due dates vary by topic and will be announced after May 22th. If you want a later topic, not the later topics and volunteer/suggest one of them.

Final Exam (25%)

The final exam will consist of a mix of multiple-choice questions and short answer questions. The final will be cumulative and questions will be drawn from all course content covered, including questions submitted by presenters. This is a non-proctored open-book quiz delivered on Canvas. The examination period for Term I of Summer 2023 is June 26 – June 30. The final exam will be scheduled by the Registrar’s office and will be held in Pacific Standard Time.

Extra marks: Sona credit (2%)

Students may also earn up to 2% of Sona credits towards their final course grade. Please see the last page of this syllabus for detailed and important instructions, including how you may make up SONA credits in the absence of participating in a study.

Standardized grading system

Final grades will be based on the evaluations listed above and the final grade will be assigned according to the standardized grading system outlined in the UBC Okanagan Calendar. Students will be able to view their final grades on Canvas and will have 72 hours to alert the instructor to any calculation errors before grades are submitted. The Barber School reserves the right to scale grades in order to maintain equity among sections and conformity to University, faculty, department, or the school norms. Students should therefore note that an unofficial grade given by an instructor might be changed by the faculty, department, or school. Click [here](#) for more information.

PERCENTAGE (%)	LETTER GRADE
90-100	A+
85-89	A
80-84	A-
76-79	B+
72-75	B
68-71	B-
64-67	C+
60-63	C
55-59	C-
50-54	D



0-49

F

Conflicts, Late, or missed evaluations

The following is an overview of UBCO's campus-wide policy of academic concessions. Students are asked to familiarize themselves with full policy, available [here](#).

Students may request academic concession in circumstances that may adversely affect their attendance or performance in a course or program. Generally, such circumstances fall into one of two categories: conflicting responsibilities and unforeseen events.

Students with conflicting responsibilities have a duty to arrange their course schedules so as to avoid as much as possible any conflicts with course requirements. Students with such responsibilities are also required to discuss with their course instructor(s) at the start of each term, or as soon as a conflicting responsibility arises, any accommodation that may be requested. Instructors may not be able to comply with all such requests especially if the academic standards and integrity of the course or program could be compromised.

Students who, because of unforeseen events or, are absent during the term and are unable to complete tests or other graded work, should discuss with their instructors how they can make up for missed work. Documentation for absence will be required. Instructors are not required to make allowance for any missed test or incomplete work that is not satisfactorily accounted for. If ill health is an issue, students are encouraged to seek attention from a health professional. Campus Health and Counselling will normally provide documentation only to students who have been seen previously at these offices for treatment or counselling specific to conditions associated with their academic difficulties. Documentation provided for the instructor must be signed in ink. Students who, because of unforeseen events, experience a prolonged absence during a term or who miss a final or term-end examination, must report to their dean or director to request academic concession as close as possible to the time when attendance is adversely affected.

Students who feel that requests for consideration have not been dealt with fairly by their instructors may take their concerns first to the Head of the discipline, and if not resolved, to the Office of the Dean.

“Attendance” Policy

Students who neglect their academic work and assignments may be excluded from final examinations. Students who are unavoidably absent from the course because of illness or disability should report to their instructors on return to classes. Any request for [academic concession](#) must be clearly expressed.

Academic Integrity

The academic enterprise is founded on honesty, civility, and integrity. As members of this enterprise, all students are expected to know, understand, and follow the codes of conduct

regarding academic integrity. At the most basic level, this means submitting only original work done by you and acknowledging all sources of information or ideas and attributing them to others as required. This also means you should not cheat, copy, or mislead others about what is your work. Violations of academic integrity (i.e., misconduct) are subject to harsh sanctions, including an assigned mark of 0% in the evaluation, and more serious consequences if the matter is referred to the President’s Advisory Committee on Student Discipline. Careful records are kept in order to monitor and prevent recurrences. Information on academic integrity, including the University’s policies and procedures, may be found [here](#). University policy on student conduct during examinations can be found [here](#); students will be provided a reminder of these policies before the midterm and final exam.

Course Schedule

The schedule may be subject to change but students will be informed in advance. A version of lecture slides without images will be posted to Canvas in *addition* to the recorded lecture. Reading material not covered in class will still be included on the examinations.

Part	Lecture /Date	Topic	Readings
Part 1	May 15	Lecture 1 Introduction: Deconstructing Homicide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fridel, E. E., & Fox, J. A. (2018) Too few victims: Finding the optimal minimum victim threshold for defining serial murder. <i>Psychology of Violence</i>, 8 (4). P. 505 – 514 https://doi.org/10.1037/vio0000138 Miller, L. (2014). Serial killers: II. Development, dynamics, and forensics. <i>Aggression and Violent Behavior</i>, 19(1), 12-22. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.avb.2013.11.003
	May 18	Lecture 2 Biological Explanations for Aggression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Narvaes, R., & Martins de Almeida, R. M. (2014). Aggressive behavior and three neurotransmitters: Dopamine, GABA, and serotonin—A review of the last 10 years. <i>Psychology & Neuroscience</i>, 7(4), 601. http://dx.doi.org/10.3922/j.psns.2014.4.20 Reid, S. (2017). Developmental pathways to serial homicide: A critical review of the biological literature. <i>Aggression and Violent Behavior</i>, 35, 52-61. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.avb.2017.06.003
	May 22	Victoria Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Class
	May 25	Lecture 3 Psychopathology of Violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fox, B., & DeLisi, M. (2019). Psychopathic killers: a meta-analytic review of the psychopathy-homicide

		Guest Lecture (Katherine Rose)	<p>nexus. <i>Aggression and Violent Behavior</i>, 44, 67-79. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.avb.2018.11.005</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whiting, D., Lichtenstein, P., & Fazel, S. (2020). Violence and mental disorders: A structured review of associations by individual diagnoses, risk factors, and risk assessment. <i>The Lancet Psychiatry</i>, 8(2), 150-161. https://doi.org/10.1016/S2215-0366(20)30262-5
	May 29	Lecture 4 Social Construction of Criminality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marono, A. J., Reid, S., Yaksic, E., & Keatley, D. A. (2020). A behaviour sequence analysis of serial killers' lives: From childhood abuse to methods of murder. <i>Psychiatry, Psychology and Law</i>, 27(1), 126-137. https://doi.org/10.1080/13218719.2019.1695517 Parfitt, C. H., & Alleyne, E. (2020). Not the sum of its parts: A critical review of the MacDonald triad. <i>Trauma, Violence, & Abuse</i>, 21(2), 300-310. https://doi.org/10.1177/1524838018764164
	June 1	No Lecture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take home writing assignment Open office hours to discuss writing assignments or presentations.
Part 3	June 5	Lecture 5 Comparing serial homicide to single homicide Presentation Topic: Single Victim Homicide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sturup, J. (2018). Comparing serial homicides to single homicides: A study of prevalence, offender, and offence characteristics in Sweden. <i>Journal of Investigative Psychology and Offender Profiling</i>, 15(2), 75-89. https://doi.org/10.1002/jip.1500
	June 8	Lecture 6 Inframoralization and Groupthink Presentations Topic: Multiple Offenders and groupthink	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Juodis, M., Woodworth, M., Porter, S., & Ten Brinke, L. (2009). Partners in crime: A comparison of individual and multi-perpetrator homicides. <i>Criminal Justice and Behavior</i>, 36(8), 824-839. https://doi.org/10.1177/0093854809337822 Lantz, B. (2021). The consequences of crime in company: Co-offending, victim-offender relationship, and quality of violence. <i>Journal of Interpersonal Violence</i>, 36(7-8). https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260518786497
	June 12	Lecture 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miller, L. (2014). Serial killers: I. Subtypes, patterns, and motives. <i>Aggression and Violent</i>

		Serial Homicide Offender Typologies Presentation Topic: Serial Murder	<i>Behavior</i> , 19(1), 1-11. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.avb.2013.11.002
	June 15	Lecture 8 Criminal Profiling Presentation Topic: Serial Murder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ribeiro, R. A. B., & de Matos Soeiro, C. B. B. (2021). Analysing criminal profiling validity: Underlying problems and future directions. <i>International Journal of Law and Psychiatry</i>, 74, 101670. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijlp.2020.101670
	June 19	Lecture 9 Mass Murder Typologies Presentation Topic: Mass Murder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taylor, M. A. (2018). A comprehensive study of mass murder precipitants and motivations of offenders. <i>International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology</i>, 62(2), 427-449. https://doi.org/10.1177/0306624X16646805 Fridel, E. E. (2017). A multivariate comparison of family, felony, and public mass murders in the United States. <i>Journal of Interpersonal Violence</i>, 36(3-4), 1092 – 1118. https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260517739286
	June 22	Lecture 10 Presentation Topic: Global Perspectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global study on homicide: Executive Summary (2019). United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/gsh/Booklet1.pdf
Part 4	June 22	Lecture 10 Prevention and Investigation of Violent Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eck, J. E., & Rossmo, D. K. (2019). The new detective: Rethinking criminal investigations. <i>Criminology & Public Policy</i>, 18(3), 601-622. https://doi.org/10.1111/1745-9133.12450

Part 1: Placing Homicide in Context

This section will provide students with a basic understanding of homicide classifications and judicial responses. Students will be asked to consider inconsistencies and popular myths associated with homicide popularized by the media. Topics will include the role of homicide as a form of entertainment, the legal framework for homicide charges (comparing US and Canada), and common classifications and forms of homicide. After this unit students will be able to:



Compare US and Canadian judicial responses to homicide. Classify homicide cases based on victim count and time sequences. Identify specific cases of homicide which do not conform to traditional homicide charges.

Part 2: Explanations for Homicide

This section will provide students with an overview of the field of research on violence and homicide. Students will be asked to consider case examples in which psychological, biological or situational perspectives were theorized to influence the commission of violence or homicide. Topics will include positivistic and individualistic explanations for crime, the role of genetics, hormones, and environmental contaminants which impact aggressive behavior. The role of mental illness in violent behavior will be explored. Finally, social theories for criminality will be reviewed as well as, the MacDonald Triad, and the impact of childhood maltreatment on the development of criminality. After this unit students will be able to: Identify different biopsychosocial theories for violence, aggression, and criminality. Assess the impact of different variables on the development of violence. Critique various theories for violence and criminality.

Part 3: Specific Forms of Violence and Homicide

This section will investigate specific forms of homicide and offender characteristics. Students will be asked to identify exemplary case examples of specific types of homicide offenders based on offence characteristics. Topics will include sexual predators and criminal paraphilia, healthcare professionals as perpetrators, youth offenders, male and female homicide perpetrators, multi-perpetrator homicide cases, diffusion of responsibility, serial murder and mass murder. After this unit students will be able to: Distinguish between sexual offenders and sexual predators. Describe the progression of specific paraphilias. Distinguish between true cases of euthanasia and homicides committed by healthcare professionals. Evaluate seminal studies of juvenile serial homicide offenders. Compare male and female perpetrated violence and homicide. Differentiate between prevalent features of mass murder typologies. Describe implications of degree of relation between victims and perpetrators. Identify culturally significant types of homicide.

Part 4: Dealing with Homicide

This section will explore how to respond, investigate, and prevent homicide offences. Students will be asked to identify specific techniques for the investigation and prevention of homicide offences. Topics will include the steps to a homicide investigation, information gathered during investigations, the role of profiling and different types of profiling, biases in interviewing practices, sentencing decisions, and prevention strategies for common forms of homicide. After this unit students will be able to: Describe the steps in an investigation of homicide. Appraise different profiling techniques and their utility in the investigation of homicides. Describe factors which may hinder a homicide investigation. Evaluate different preventative techniques for specific forms of homicide.

Academic Integrity



The academic enterprise is founded on honesty, civility, and integrity. As members of this enterprise, all students are expected to know, understand, and follow the codes of conduct regarding academic integrity. At the most basic level, this means submitting only original work done by you and acknowledging all sources of information or ideas and attributing them to others as required. This also means you should not cheat, copy, or mislead others about what is your work. Violations of academic integrity (i.e., misconduct) lead to the breakdown of the academic enterprise, and therefore serious consequences arise and harsh sanctions are imposed. For example, incidences of plagiarism or cheating may result in a mark of zero on the assignment or exam and more serious consequences may apply if the matter is referred to the President's Advisory Committee on Student Discipline. Careful records are kept in order to monitor and prevent recurrences.

A more detailed description of academic integrity, including the University's policies and procedures, may be found in the [Academic Calendar](#).

Campus resources

UBC Okanagan Disability Resource Centre

The Disability Resource Centre ensures educational equity for students with disabilities, injuries or illness. If you are disabled, have an injury or illness and require academic accommodations to meet the course objectives, please contact Earlene Roberts, the Diversity Advisor for the Disability Resource Centre located in Commons Corner in the University Centre building (UNC 227).

- 250.807.8053 | drc.questions@ubc.ca | <https://students.ok.ubc.ca/academic-success/disability-resources/>

UBC Okanagan Ombuds Office

The Ombuds Office offers independent, impartial, and confidential support to students in navigating UBC policies, processes, and resources, as well as guidance in resolving concerns related to fairness. Located in UNC 227B.

- 250.807.9818 | ombuds.office.ok@ubc.ca | <https://ombudsoffice.ubc.ca/our-toolkits/>

UBC Okanagan Equity and Inclusion Office

UBC Okanagan is a place where every student, staff and faculty member should be able to study and work in an environment that is free from discrimination and harassment. UBC prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of the following grounds: age, ancestry, colour, family status, marital status, physical or mental disability, place of origin, political belief, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation or unrelated criminal conviction. If you require assistance related to an issue of equity, discrimination or harassment, please contact the Equity and Inclusion Office. Located in UNC 227C.

- 250.807.9291 | equity.ubco@ubc.ca | <https://equity.ok.ubc.ca/>



Health & Wellness

- UBCO Health and Wellness website: <https://students.ok.ubc.ca/health-wellness/>
- UBCO Counselling Services: please call 250-807-9270 or go to <https://students.ok.ubc.ca/health-wellness/counselling-mental-health/> to book an appointment.
- UBC Student Assistance Program: <https://students.ok.ubc.ca/health-wellness/student-assistance-program/#how-to-access>
- Covid-19 Mental Health Supports: <https://www.heretohelp.bc.ca/covid-19-mental-health-supports>
- Emergent situations: Please use one of the following telephone numbers
 - Health and Wellness 250-807-9270 (Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm)
 - Security 250-807-8111 (emergency)
 - Security 250-807-9236 (non-emergency)
 - Kelowna crisis line is available 24/7: 1 888 353 2273.
 - Suicide crisis line: 1 800 784 2433
 - Vets4warriors: 1 855 838 8255
 - 24 Hour Nurses Help Line 811

Safewalk

Don't want to walk alone at night? Not too sure how to get somewhere on campus? Call Safewalk at 250-807-8076. For more information: <https://security.ok.ubc.ca/safewalk/>

Thrive Thursdays Walk-in Wellness Clinic

A barrier-free wellness clinic, accessible without an appointment to students, staff, faculty and community members. Complete a brief meeting with a graduate clinician alongside a registered psychologist for 30 – 45 minutes to develop the right wellness plan for you. Services are free of charge. Thursdays 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Visit: <https://psych.ok.ubc.ca/psychology-clinic/walk-in-wellness/>

Sexual violence and prevention response office

A safe place for faculty, staff, and students who have experienced sexual assault regardless of identity, expression, orientation, regardless of when or where it took place. Visit their website at <https://svpro.ok.ubc.ca/> or telephone 250-807-9640.

Participating in SONA: Fast facts

Students earn Sona credit from participating in research activity. This can be either through direct participation in research through the Sona online volunteer subject pool (Option 1), by completing summaries of primary research articles (Option 2), or by a combination of the two types of activities.

SONA RESEARCH ACTIVITY



Students earn Sona credit points for their eligible courses from participating in research activity. This can be either through direct participation in research through the Sona online research system (Option 1), by completing summaries of primary research articles (Option 2), or by a combination of the two types of activities. First year courses (i.e., PSYO 111 and PSYO 121) include 4% as part of the final course grade for participating in Sona research activity, while second year and higher courses allow for a 2% bonus to be added to the final course grade for participating.

Research Participation In Online Research System (Option 1)

As a participant in one of the numerous research studies posted at <http://ubco.sona-systems.com/>, you will obtain 0.5% credit for each 0.5 hour of participation. Hence, studies requiring a 1-hour time commitment provides a credit of 1%, 1.5 hours provides a credit of 1.5%, and 2 hours provides a credit of 2.0%, etc.

Important Requirements

You may participate in more than one study in order to earn credits. It is important to sign up for studies early in the semester in order to increase the odds that a timeslot is available. If you wait until later in the semester, timeslots may no longer be available.

Logging On To The System

Sona is only open for those students who are registered in a psychology course offering Sona credit points. Please only use the request account option if you have never used the Sona system before. If you have used the Sona system before, please use the most recent login information you remember to log in.

Missed Appointments & Penalties

Missed appointments (i.e., failure to cancel the appointment at least 3 hours prior to the session) will be tracked. The consequence will be that you will not receive credit for participation in the study and you will be assigned an unexcused no-show. The unexcused no-show designation will cause you to lose the credit value of the study from the total possible credit points you can earn for your course. For example, if you are in PSYO 111 (or 121), you can earn up to 4.0 credits. If you miss an hour-long session that you signed up for (i.e., 1.0 credit) and don't cancel it in



advance, the maximum credits that you can now earn for your course is 3.0, regardless of how many studies you complete.

If, after consenting to participate and starting a session (or survey), you decide to withdraw your consent, to avoid receiving an unexcused no-show on Sona, you must do one of the following:

- if it is an online study, you must cancel your Sona sign-up and/or contact Shirley (psyc.ubco.research@ubc.ca) if you are unable to cancel your sign-up;
- if it is an in-person study, you must let the researcher know directly. Their email can be found on the main description page for the study (little envelope icon). Depending upon the study, they will either cancel your session or assign you an excused no-show (meaning that you will not be penalized).

Your ability to withdraw your data will depend upon the study. Instructions for withdrawing your data (including limitations) will be described in the study's consent form.

Please email psyc.ubco.research@ubc.ca with any questions or concerns that you may have regarding the Sona system. Your professor or instructor does NOT have access to this information.

Research Summary Assignment (Option 2)

As an alternative to participating in research studies, you may obtain Sona credit points by completing library-writing projects to a satisfactory level. Each library-writing project is worth a total of two credits.

Important Requirements

1. This project consists of reading and summarizing (in written form) a recent, peer-reviewed, primary research article.

- A “recent” article has been published within the past 12 months.
- A “peer reviewed” article is one that has been reviewed by other scholars before it is accepted – for example, it **cannot** be a news item, an article from a popular magazine, a notice, or a letter to the editor.
- A “primary” research article describes an experiment or study where data are collected by the authors. In other words, the article you choose to review **cannot** be a book review, literature review, or summary article.



2. You must choose an article published by one of the following agencies:

- The American Psychological Society - *Psychological Science*, *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, *Psychological Science in the Public Interest*, or *Perspectives on Psychological Science*.
- The American Psychological Association - www.apa.org/journals/by_title.html has a full listing.
- The Canadian Psychological Association - *Canadian Psychology*, *Canadian Journal of Behavioural Science*, or *Canadian Journal of Experimental Psychology*.
- The Psychonomic Society - *Behavior Research Methods, Cognitive, Affective, & Behavioral Neuroscience*, *Learning & Behavior*, *Memory & Cognition*, *Perception & Psychophysics*, or *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*.

3. Other Assignment Guidelines

The summary should be about 300-500 words in length. The source must be cited and referenced in accordance with the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. The review will be graded on a pass – fail basis (2% or 0%). At least **14 days before the end of classes** each term, submit the following to the course instructor:

- the article summary
- a copy of the article
- a cover page that specifies your name, student number, email address, and word count of the summary.
- the course title and number

Submitting the assignment 14 days in advance is necessary to ensure that you have an opportunity to make corrections, if required. If you do not check your email frequently, provide a phone number on the cover page.



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Diagrams and figures included in lecture presentations adhere to Copyright Guidelines for UBC Faculty, Staff and Students <http://copyright.ubc.ca/requirements/copyright-guidelines/> and UBC Fair Dealing Requirements for Faculty and Staff <http://copyright.ubc.ca/requirements/fair-dealing/>. Some of these figures and images are subject to copyright and will not be posted to Connect. All material uploaded to Connect that contain diagrams and figures are used with permission of the publisher; are in the public domain; are licensed by Creative Commons; meet the permitted terms of use of UBC's library license agreements for electronic items; and/or adhere to the UBC Fair Dealing Requirements for Faculty and Staff.

Access to the Canvas course site is limited to students currently registered in this course. Under no circumstance are students permitted to provide any other person with means to access this material. Anyone violating these restrictions may be subject to legal action. Permission to electronically record any course materials must be granted by the instructor. Distribution of this material to a third party is forbidden.