



Psychology Honours Thesis Information Session 2024

Contact Information

Honours Thesis Coordinators (Durham GTA):

- Drs. Nancie Im-Bolter, Jenny Eastabrook, Korri Bickle
- nimbolter@trentu.ca; jennifereastabrook@trentu.ca; korribickle@trentu.a

Psychology Department Coordinator:

- Laura McMaster
- lauramcmaster@trentu.ca

Associate Chair (Durham GTA):

- Dr. Nancie Im-Bolter
- nimbolter@trentu.ca

The Plan

- ▶ The Honours Thesis
- ▶ Admission Requirements
- ▶ Application Process
- ▶ Finding a Faculty Supervisor
- ▶ Timeline

The Honours Thesis

- ▶ Coursework vs. Thesis option for the Honours degree
- ▶ Honours thesis is more than just a ‘big paper’
- ▶ Workload is high!
 - ▶ PSYC 4020D = ~16 hours per week for two semesters

An Honours Thesis Student Must:

- ▶ Participate in thesis seminars throughout year
- ▶ Search for, read, and review relevant literature
- ▶ Plan a study
- ▶ Write a substantial thesis proposal
- ▶ Collect and analyze data
- ▶ Report results via written, oral, and poster presentations

PSYC 4010Y vs. 4020D

▶ PSYC 4010Y

- ▶ Joint Honours Thesis with PSYC and another program
 - ▶ 1 credit from PSYC
 - ▶ 1 from the other program
- ▶ Contact Laura McMaster if interested

- ▶ **Note:** Joint Honours Thesis not required if you are joint PSYC major
 - ▶ You can complete 4020D

The Honours Thesis (cont'd)

- ▶ A must if you're applying to a *graduate program* in psychology (or other social science-based programs)
- ▶ A good idea if you're *unsure* of future goals (keep options open)
- ▶ Not necessary for a professional program (but it depends)

Admission Requirements

- ▶ For PSYC 4020D
 - ▶ At least 75% in PSYC 3016H & PSYC 3017H (or PSYC 3015Y)
 - ▶ At least 0.5 credit from each of A2, B2, A3, B3 categories (see next slide)
 - ▶ 75% or higher in all PSYC courses
 - ▶ Permission of Psychology Department
- ▶ Some faculty have specific prerequisites for content courses, etc.

Page 421 of the Academic Calendar (2023-24 | August edition)

A2 Natural Science	A3 Natural Science	B2 Social Science	B3 Social Science
2200H	3210H	2300H	3300H
2210H	3220H	2310H	3500H
2400H	3230H	2550H	3510H
2600H	3240H	2700H	3530H*
	3420H		3550H
	3430H		3560H
	3440H		3590H
	3451H		3710H
	3460H		3725H
	3610H		3730H
			3740H
			3750H
			3760H
			3770H
			3780H

**no longer offered*

Application Process

- ▶ You must apply for the Psychology Honours Thesis Program
- ▶ Forms available from Psychology Office and online
- ▶ Limited space
- ▶ Application deadline: March 1st, 2024, by noon
- ▶ email to lauramcmaster@trentu.ca

Finding a Faculty Supervisor

- ▶ Identify who you might be interested in working with
- ▶ Look for ‘good fit’
- ▶ Search faculty research
<https://www.trentu.ca/psychology/faculty-research>
- ▶ Faculty who are still open for honours thesis supervision:
 - ▶ 2024-2025
 - ▶ Drs. Jeff Adams & Brenda Smith-Chant (OR check Peterborough faculty)
 - ▶ 2025-2026
 - ▶ Drs. Jeff Adams, Ben Bauer, Korri Bickle, Jennifer Eastabrook, Nancie Im-Bolter, & Raheleh Saryazdi

Finding a Faculty Supervisor

▶ Suggestions

- ▶ Be open to working with faculty whose research doesn't match your current interests
- ▶ Plan to do a research practicum with faculty before doing honours thesis

Timeline

- ▶ Find a faculty supervisor early!
- ▶ Application forms available online
<https://www.trentu.ca/psychology/programs/undergraduate/honours-thesis-information>
- ▶ Submit application by noon on March 1st (email to: lauramcmaster@trentu.ca)
- ▶ Notified in late May (when marks available to ensure you meet course requirements)