

PSY327H5S – Psychology of Intimate Relationships

Monday 12:00pm – 3:00pm

Online Synchronous

Course Delivery

ONLINE VIA QUERCUS: The course will be taught online via Zoom during class hours (12:00 to 3:00 pm on Mondays). Link posted on Quercus. You **need to login through your utoronto.zoom.us account** (if you do not do this, you will not be able to access the course since the course will only let in authenticated users, e.g., users with utoronto.ca or utoronto.mail.ca email addresses). We will use Tophat for course participation (see information on Tophat below). Assignments for this course will be submitted in Quercus under Assignments, and tests will be administered in Quercus under Quizzes.

Learn Anywhere Guide for Students

<https://library.utm.utoronto.ca/students/quercus/learn-anywhere>

Contact Information

Dr. Emily Impett

email: emily.impett@utoronto.ca

Office hours: Virtual via Zoom

Wednesdays 2 :00 to 3:00 pm

Prof. Impett will meet with students via zoom (see Quercus for link and password) which includes a « virtual waiting room » so that students can each have private meetings with the instructor.

Teaching Assistants:

Natalie Sisson

n.sisson@mail.utoronto.ca

Nathan Leonhardt

nathan.leonhardt@mail.utoronto.ca

Students can schedule (via email) individual office hours (also to be held via zoom) with the TAs.

Emailing your instructors: As your first contact on matters regarding accessibility concerns, comments or concerns about the class, or related matters, you can email your instructor at emily.impett@utoronto.ca. We would be happy to review material and clarify content in office hours. E-mail should **not** be seen as an alternative to attending office hours with your TAs or instructor, and questions that could benefit others should be asked in class. When emailing us, please include **"PSY327H5S"** and the topic of your email in the subject line. We will try to respond to all emails within 2 business days. All email must come from an official utoronto.ca account.

Course Description

The objective of this course is to review what relationship science can tell us about close relationships, with a particular focus on romantic relationships. We will explore questions such as: Why do we want to be in relationships, what informs our choice of relationship partners, what predicts satisfaction and stability in relationships, and what is the role of sexuality in relationships? These and other questions will be examined from a variety of theoretical perspectives and will be applied to better understand real-world relationship functioning. General topics include theory and methods of relationships, attraction, attachment, social cognition, commitment, sexuality, social support, conflict, and breaking up.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of core theories and processes in relationship science
- Critically evaluate research findings in relationship science
- Describe the results of scientific studies in a clear, concise, and accessible manner in written form
- Describe and explain limits to generalizability of research findings in relationship science
- Connect foundational principles of relationship science to modern-day, real-world applications

Reading Material

Bradbury, T. N., & Karney, B. R. (2019). *Intimate Relationships (3rd edition)*. New York, NY: Norton.

We will be using the **Top Hat** (www.tophat.com) classroom response system. You will be able to submit answers to in-class questions using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops, or through text message.

- You can visit the Top Hat Overview (<https://success.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Top-Hat-Overview-and-Getting-Started-Guide>) within the Top Hat Success Center which outlines how you will register for a Top Hat account, as well as providing a brief overview to get you up and running on the system.
- An email invitation will be sent to you by email, but if don't receive this email, you can register by simply visiting our course website: <https://app.tophat.com/e/220219>
Note: our Course Join Code is 220219
- Top Hat will require a paid subscription, and a full breakdown of all subscription options available can be found here: www.tophat.com/pricing.
- Should you require assistance with Top Hat at any time, due to the fact that they require specific user information to troubleshoot these issues, please contact their Support Team directly by way of email (support@tophat.com), the in app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491.

Course Evaluation

There are **five** pieces of assessment for this course: (1) Participation using TopHat (5%), (2) Relationships Blog Report (15%), Midterm Test (25%), Research Proposal (30%), and Final Test (25%).

1. **Participation using Tophat (5%).** Full credit comes from participating in 7 out of the 8 lectures in which we will use Tophat.
2. **Relationships Blog Report (15%).** Answer a question you have about relationships using academic research. Your assignment will follow the style of posts on www.luvze.com: short, to the point, and grounded in academic research. Think of a question you have about relationships; find 2-3 academic research articles that answer this question; write a short post (about 400-600 words) answering this question using the research you found. The assignment is due at the beginning of class on **February 8**. The assignment will be marked by the teaching assistants.
3. **Midterm Test (25%).** The midterm test, held on **February 22**, will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. The exam will cover information presented in the first half of the course,

as well as Chapters 1-8 (some of the chapters only have selected pages) in the textbook and will take place during class hours and will be 2 hours long (we will not have a lecture following the test).

4. **Research Proposal (Total 30%).** For the research proposal assignment (max 8 double-spaced pages, not including title page and references), I will give you a set of topics from which to choose (sacrifice, gratitude, communal relationships, sexual motivation, partner regulation, self-expansion). For whichever topic you choose, I will provide you with three foundational articles on the topic (available on Quercus). You should read these articles and then develop your own research question that extends the research on one of these topics. You will be graded based on the thoroughness of your literature review, novelty of your research idea, appropriateness of your research design, potential impact of your predicted results, and the overall quality of your writing (i.e., organization, logical flow). The assignment is due at the beginning of class on **March 29**. The assignment will be marked by the teaching assistants.
5. **Final Test (25%).** The final test, held on , will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. This test will cover information presented in the second half of the course, as well as Chapters 9-12 and Ch. 6 (pages 193-215) in the textbook (it is NOT cumulative) and will take place during class hours (NOT during the final examination period) on **April 5** and will be 2 hours long.

TURNITIN

Normally, students will required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.

Course Webpage

The website associated with this course is accessible via <http://q.utoronto.ca>

Note: You don't need to create a new login for Quercus; it already knows who you are. You just need your UTORid and password. This is the same login that gets you onto the wireless network with your laptop, and the same one that you use to check your email. If you're confused about your UTORid or don't remember your password, go to: <https://www.utorid.utoronto.ca/>

In order to access course material, monitor course information, and view your grades you must log into Quercus. If you have any general questions regarding Quercus, please visit the following help site: <https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/46670/pages/student-quercus-guide>

IMPORTANT COURSE POLICIES **PLEASE READ**

Missed Test Special Consideration Request Process

Students who miss a test due to circumstances beyond their control (e.g. illness or an accident) can request that the Department grant them special consideration. Students must present their case to the Department (NOT the Instructor) by submitting a request via the online Special Consideration Request form at: <https://utmapp.utm.utoronto.ca/SpecialRequest>.

Important note: Once the test/exam is available online and you're unable to write or have an approved request to miss, **DO NOT** at any point attempt to access the test/exam. If at any time you

access the test/exam, you will **NOT** be able to submit a special consideration and/or your request will be refused.

If your request is approved by the department, a make-up test will be offered. You will receive an email when a make-up date has been arranged. The department will try to give 2-3 days notice of make-up date, however this is sometimes not possible. Be prepared for the make-up.

Extension of Time Special Consideration Request Process

Students who seek to be granted more time to complete their term work beyond the due date without penalty, owing to circumstances beyond their control (e.g., illness, or an accident), must do so by submitting a request **directly to the Instructor** for the period up to and including the last day of the term. The decision as to whether or not to apply a penalty for the specified period rests with the Instructor.

Students who seek to be granted more time to complete term work beyond the last day of the term must submit their request directly to the Department. This request covers the period following the last day of classes and ends the last day of the exam period. This is done by submitting a request via the online Special Consideration Request form at <https://utmapp.utm.utoronto.ca/SpecialRequest>. You are advised to seek advising by the departmental Undergraduate Counsellor prior to the deadline.

Supporting Documentation

The University is temporarily suspending the need for a doctor's note or medical certificate for any absence from academic participation. However, you are required to use the Absence Declaration tool on ACORN found in the Profile and Settings menu to formally declare an absence from academic participation. The tool is to be used if you require consideration for missed academic work based on the procedures specific to our campus/department.

Missed Final Exam or Extension of Time beyond exam period

Missed final exams or for extensions of time beyond the examination period you must submit a petition through the Office of the Registrar. <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/registrar/current-students/petitions> and follow their procedures.

Penalties for Lateness

A penalty of 10% per calendar day (i.e., including week-ends and holidays, during which students are not able to submit term work) up to and including the last day of classes, will be applied by the Instructor. After the last day of classes, the penalty of 10% per calendar day will be applied by the Undergraduate Counsellor on behalf of the Department. No penalty will be assigned if request for special consideration, described above, was successful.

Academic Guidelines

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have met all prerequisites listed in the UTM Calendar for this course. If you lack any prerequisites you **WILL BE REMOVED** from the course up until the last day to add a course. Further information about academic regulations, course withdrawal dates and credits can be found in the University of Toronto Mississauga Calendar at: <http://www.erin.utoronto.ca/regcal/>.

You are encouraged to read this material. If you run into trouble and need advice about studying, preparing for exams, note taking or time management, free workshops and advice are available from the Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre at 905-828-5406.

AccessAbility Services

The University provides academic accommodations for students with disabilities in accordance with the terms of the Ontario Human Rights Code. This occurs through a collaborative process that acknowledges a collective obligation to develop an accessible learning environment that both meets the needs of students and preserves the essential academic requirements of the University's courses and programs. Students requiring academic accommodations for learning, physical, sensory, or mental health disabilities or medical conditions should contact the AccessAbility Office (2037B Davis Building), 905-828-3847. <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/accessability/>

Privacy and Copyright Disclaimer

Notice of video recording and sharing (Download and re-use prohibited)

This course, including your participation, will be recorded on video and will be available to students in the course for viewing remotely and after each session. Course videos and materials belong to your instructor, the University, and/or other sources depending on the specific facts of each situation, and are protected by copyright. Do not download, copy, or share any course or student materials or videos without the explicit permission of the instructor. For questions about recording and use of videos in which you appear please contact your instructor.

Lectures and course materials prepared by the instructor are considered by the University to be an instructor's intellectual property covered by the Copyright Act, RSC 1985, c C-42. Course materials such as PowerPoint slides and lecture recordings are made available to you for your own study purposes. These materials cannot be shared outside of the class or "published" in any way. Posting recordings or slides to other websites without the express permission of the instructor will constitute copyright infringement.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto Mississauga is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, UTM treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously.

The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters outlines behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the process for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments:

1. Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
2. Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
3. Making up sources or facts.
4. Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.

On tests and exams:

1. Using or possessing unauthorized aids.
2. Looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test.
3. Misrepresenting your identity.

In academic work:

1. Falsifying institutional documents or grades.
2. Falsifying or altering any documentation required, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes.

With regard to remote learning and online courses, UTM wishes to remind students that they are expected to adhere to **the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters** regardless of the course delivery method. By offering students the opportunity to learn remotely, UTM expects that students will maintain the same academic honesty and integrity that they would in a classroom setting. Potential academic offences in a digital context include, but are not limited to:

Remote assessments:

1. Accessing unauthorized resources (search engines, chat rooms, Reddit, etc.) for assessments.
2. Using technological aids (e.g. software) beyond what is listed as permitted in an assessment.
3. Posting test, essay, or exam questions to message boards or social media.
4. Creating, accessing, and sharing assessment questions and answers in virtual "course groups."
5. Working collaboratively, in-person or online, with others on assessments that are expected to be completed individually.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources.

Academic Rights

You, as a student at UTM, have the right to:

- Receive a syllabus by the first day of class.
- Rely upon a syllabus once a course is started. An instructor may only change marks' assignments by following the University Assessment and Grading Practices Policy provision 1.3.
- Refuse to use turnitin.com (you must be offered an alternative form of submission).
- Have access to your instructor for consultation during a course or follow up with the department chair if the instructor is unavailable.
- Ask the person who marked your term work for a re-evaluation if you feel it was not fairly graded. You have up to one month from the date of return of the item to inquire about the mark. If you are not satisfied with a re-evaluation, you may appeal to the instructor in charge of the course if the instructor did not mark the work. If your work is remarked, you must accept the resulting mark. You may only appeal a mark beyond the instructor if the term work was worth at least 20% of the course mark.
- Receive at least one significant mark (15% for H courses, 25% for Y courses) before the last day you can drop a course for H courses, and the last day of classes in the first week of January for Y courses taught in the Fall/Winter terms.
- Submit handwritten essays so long as they are neatly written.
- Have no assignment worth 100% of your final grade.
- Not have a term test worth more than 25% in the last two weeks of class.
- Retain intellectual property rights to your research.
- Receive all your assignments once graded.
- View your final exams. To see a final exam, you must submit an online Exam Reproduction Request within 6 months of the exam. There is a small non-refundable fee.
- Privacy of your final grades.
- Arrange for representation from Downtown Legal Services (DLS), a representative from the UTM Students' Union (UTMSU), and/or other forms of support if you are charged with an academic offence.

Equity Statement

The University of Toronto is committed to equity and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect. As a course instructor, I will neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity or self-esteem of any individual in this course and wish to be alerted to any attempt to create an intimidating or hostile environment. It is our collective responsibility to create a space that is inclusive and welcomes discussion. Discrimination, harassment and hate speech will not be tolerated. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns you may contact the UTM Equity and Diversity officer at edo.utm@utoronto.ca or the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union Vice President Equity at vpequity@utmsu.ca. **Please note that this outline is subject to change depending on the needs of the class (we may need additional time to cover a topic). Any changes to the syllabus will be announced in class one week before.**

Course Outline

Date	Topic	Readings
Jan 11	What are Intimate Relationships and Why Should We Care?	Ch. 1
Jan 18	Relationship Research as a Science; Attachment in Childhood and Adulthood	Ch. 2 (pages 35-54), Ch. 3 Ch. 6 (pages 213-222)
Jan 25	Attraction and Selecting a Partner	Ch. 7
Feb 1	Commitment Gender & Sexual Orientation (Guest Lecture: Rebecca Horne)	Ch. 2 (pages 55-62) Chs. 4 & 5
Feb 8	Social Support and Capitalization RELATIONSHIPS BLOG REPORT DUE	Ch. 8 (pages 272-277).
Feb 15	No Class- Family Day	
Feb 22	MIDTERM TEST	
Mar 1	Sexuality, Infidelity, & Non-Monogamy	Ch. 9 Ch. 11 (pages 353-368)
Mar 8	Interpreting Relationship Experiences	Ch. 12
Mar 15	Conflict & Interpersonal Violence	Ch. 10 Ch. 11 (pages 369-386)
Mar 22	Personality & Relationships (Guest lecture: Natalie Sisson) Religion & Relationships (Guest lecture: Nathan Leonhardt)	Ch. 6 (pages 193-213)
Mar 29	Breaking Up & Being Single RESEARCH PROPOSAL DUE	No reading
Apr 5	FINAL TEST	