THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Land Acknowledgement

We respectfully acknowledge the Syilx Okanagan Nation and their peoples, in whose traditional, ancestral, unceded territory UBC Okanagan is situated. I invite us to learn more about the lands, and the original caretakers of the lands, where we live and have lived, and to reflect on the impact of colonization and the role that we can each play in reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

HES 492: Honours Program

Instructor: Jonathan Little

Duration: Fall 2023 and Winter 2024

Course Location: FIP 124

Class Hours: Tuesdays 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Course Format

This course takes place over two semesters. The faculty project Supervisor and student must agree on the topic of the research. Typically, students should expect to spend a minimum of 10-12 hours per week on their project, with potentially more time allocated during the data collection stage. However, the student and supervisor should discuss the time commitment, and expectations must be clarified before starting the project.

Ideally, the data collection phase of the project should be completed by the end of February. The months of March and April can then be devoted to analysis and writing. Importantly, the final grade does not necessarily depend upon confirming or refuting the hypothesis, or the experiment 'working' as predicted. Rather, the final grade reflects the student's intellectual involvement and commitment to performing the project, within the context of completing the course evaluation components.

This seminar class meets synchronously every other week (Tuesdays, 2:30-4:00). On the Tuesdays when we do not meet, asynchronous course activities and materials will be posted on Canvas (typically by 8:00am). These activities and materials may include short pre-recorded lectures, self-assessments, videos, readings, and short participation assignments. These activities will take less than an hour to complete. Students will be expected to complete the asynchronous activities in preparation for the following week's synchronous class meeting. On most week's there is a participation activity that you should complete and submit via Canvas prior to the next week's synchronous meeting.

Course Overview, Content and Objectives

The objective of this course is to provide students with a supervised experience of conducting a research project. HES 492 has both a research project component and an in-class seminar component. Together, the course components are designed to teach students the skills necessary to carry out independent research. Over the course of two terms, students will conduct research and acquire scientific skills under

the supervision of an HES Faculty member. During the seminar portion of the course, students will learn fundamentals of the research planning, implementation, and dissemination processes.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to…

1.	formulate a scientific hypothesis and/or research question
2.	design and conduct a project to test the hypothesis/answer the research question
3.	write all sections of a thesis document
4.	present a research proposal and defend project findings in a verbal presentation format

Assessments of Learning

The final mark is out of 100%, and is based on the following components:
a.   Performance in the research setting (e.g., lab work, field work): 20%
b.   A final thesis paper: 55% (due mid-late April as determined by the supervisor)
c.   Oral presentation of the thesis project: 15%
d.   Participation in seminars: 10%
a.   Performance in the Research Setting (20%; Assesses Learning Outcomes 1 and 2)
•   The project supervisor will grade the quality of the performance
b.   Final Thesis Paper (55%; Assesses Learning Outcomes 1, 2, and 3)
•   A final paper of 25-30 pages (double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, page margins of at least 2.5 cm) inclusive of references, tables, and figures. Appendices may be included and do not count toward the 25-30 pages.
•   A paper written in the format of a typical journal article with an Abstract, Introduction, Method, Results, Discussion, References, Tables, etc.
•   The project supervisor will grade the thesis paper
c.   Oral Presentation (15%; Assesses Learning Outcome 4)
•   A conference-style presentation of the thesis project
•   10-12 minutes duration followed by time for supervisor and audience questions
•   Presentations will be open to students, faculty, public, etc. at an event designed to showcase students' work (e.g., Undergraduate Thesis Day)
•   The supervisor and the course coordinator will grade the presentation (with each evaluator contributing equally to the final presentation mark)

d.   Participation in Seminars (10%; Assesses Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4)
•   Attendance and active participation in seminars are required
•   The seminar leader/professor will grade seminar participation
•   Students will have 8 opportunities to earn participation marks. If you complete 4 out of 8 participation activities you will earn 5%. If you complete less than 4 activities, you will receive 0%. Once you have completed 4 activities, all remaining activities are worth 2.5% each (to a maximum of 10%). Thus, completion of 6/8 activities will earn you the full 10%. There are no make-ups for missed seminar participation activities.

Late policy

Late participation-mark activities will not be accepted (see description of how participation marks are allocated, above). Please speak to your thesis supervisor or the seminar leader (Dr. Little) if you are concerned about meeting a course milestone/deadline.

Missed exam policy

This course does not have any exams.

Missed Activity Policy:

Late participation-mark activities will not be accepted (see description of how participation marks are allocated, above).

Passing criteria

50% is a passing mark.

Learning Materials
Required readings and videos will be uploaded into Canvas bi-weekly as asynchronous activities. Students will work with their supervisors to identify readings relevant to the research project.

Course Schedule

DATE	TOPIC
Sept 12	Welcome to HES 492 What to Expect When You're Doing a Thesis
September 26	Research Ethics: Why and How
October 10	Conducting Searches of the Scientific Literature (UBC Librarian)

October 24	Crafting the Introduction Section of Your Thesis
November 7	Preparing and Delivering an Effective Scientific Presentation
Nov 13-17	Mid-term break
November 28 (& possibly Dec 5)	Student Research Proposal Presentations
January 9	When Good Research Goes Bad: Avoiding and Managing Common Research Challenges
January 23	Writing the Methods Section of Your Thesis
February 6	TBA
Feb 19-23	Mid-term break
Feb 27	Analyzing your Data and Writing the Results
March 12	Workshop: Preparing an Abstract
March 26	Writing the Discussion Section of Your Thesis
April 2 (& possibly April 9)	Thesis Presentations

Other Course Policies

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 usually result in a failing grade or mark of zero on the assignment or in the course. Careful records are kept to monitor and prevent recidivism.

Chat GPT and other generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools: It is not permitted to use Chat GPT and other generative AI tools for writing a thesis, writing a scientific paper, or generating content for your Honours thesis (including the activities done for participation marks). If your thesis project specifically involves using such AI tools, please speak to me early on so that we can discuss the situation with your project supervisor. Please see UBC's policies on academic integrity specifically related to Chat GPT and other generative AI tools here: https://academicintegrity.ubc.ca/generative-ai/ and https://academicintegrity.ubc.ca/chatgpt-faq/

A more detailed description of academic integrity, including the University's policies and procedures, may be found in the Academic Calendar at:
http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/okanagan/index.cfm?tree=3,54,111,0

<u>**Grading Practices**</u>

Faculties, departments, and schools reserve the right to scale grades in order to maintain equity among sections and conformity to University, faculty, department, or school norms. Students should therefore note that an unofficial grade given by an instructor might be changed by the faculty, department, or school. Grades are not official until they appear on a student's academic record.
http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/okanagan/index.cfm?tree=3,41,90,1014

Student Service Resources: Below are common resources that are available to you

<u>UBC Okanagan Disability Resource Centre</u>

The Disability Resource Centre ensures educational equity for students with disabilities and chronic medical conditions. If you are disabled, have an injury or illness and require academic accommodations to meet the course objectives, please contact Earllene Roberts, the Manager for the Disability Resource Centre located in the University Centre building (UNC 214).

UNC 214   250.807.9263
email: earllene.roberts@ubc.ca
Web: www.students.ok.ubc.ca/drc

<u>UBC Okanagan Equity and Inclusion Office</u>

Through leadership, vision, and collaborative action, the Equity & Inclusion Office (EIO) develops action strategies in support of efforts to embed equity and inclusion in the daily operations across the campus. The EIO provides education and training from cultivating respectful, inclusive spaces and communities to understanding unconscious/implicit bias and its operation within in campus environments. UBC Policy 3 prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of BC's Human Rights Code. If you require assistance related to an issue of equity, educational programs, discrimination or harassment please contact the EIO.

UNC 216   250.807.9291

email: equity.ubco@ubc.ca
Web: www.equity.ok.ubc.ca

Health and Wellness

At UBC Okanagan health services to students are provided by Health and Wellness. Nurses, physicians and counsellors provide health care and counselling related to physical health, emotional/mental health and sexual/reproductive health concerns. As well, health promotion, education and research activities are provided to the campus community. If you require assistance with your health, please contact Health and Wellness for more information or to book an appointment.

UNC 337   250.807.9270
email: healthwellness.okanagan@ubc.ca

Web: www.students.ok.ubc.ca/health-wellness

Student Learning Hub

The Student Learning Hub (LIB 237) is your go-to resource for free math, science, writing, and language learning support. The Hub welcomes undergraduate students from all disciplines and year levels to access a range of supports that include **tutoring in math, sciences, languages, and writing, as well as help with study skills and learning strategies**. For more information, please visit the Hub's website (https://students.ok.ubc.ca/student-learning-hub/) or call 250-807-9185.

Global Engagement Office

The Global Engagement Office provides advising and resources to assist International students in navigating immigration, health insurance, and settlement matters, as well as opportunities for intercultural learning, and resources for Go Global experiences available to all UBC Okanagan students, and more. Come and see us – we are here to help! You may also contact geo.ubco@ubc.ca

© Copyright Statement

All materials of this course (course handouts, lecture slides, assessments, course readings, etc.) are the intellectual property of the Course Instructor or licensed to be used in this course by the copyright owner. Redistribution of these materials by any means without permission of the copyright holder(s) constitutes a breach of copyright and may lead to academic discipline.

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, see: www.security.ok.ubc.ca