

PSYC*6840, Course Outline: Winter 2018

General Information

Course Title: Program Evaluation

Course Description:

This course introduces students to key components of program evaluation. The course comprises readings, lectures, discussions, presentations, and in-class exercises. However, emphasis is placed on application of knowledge and development of evaluation skills, including methods of social program evaluation and the process of consultation with program staff. Students will engage in a project that involves working with an organization to design a plausible program evaluation plan.

Credit Weight: 0.5

Academic Department (or campus): Psychology

Semester Offering: W18

Class Schedule and Location: Thursdays, 2:30pm-5:20pm, Rozanski (ROZ) 109

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Andrew Taylor

Instructor Email: artaylo42@uoguelph.ca

Office location and office hours: TBA

GTA Information

TA name: Tom Beggs

TA email: r.thomas.beggs@gmail.com

Course Content

Specific Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the term, students should be able to:

1. Identify key characteristics of the following approaches to program evaluation: needs assessment, evaluability assessment, process evaluation, and outcome evaluation.
2. Identify methodologies and data analysis approaches (e.g., participatory, quantitative, qualitative methods) relevant to program evaluation.
3. Engage community stakeholders in mutually beneficial and respectful partnership (for the purpose of designing a program evaluation plan).
4. Assess evaluation needs, process, and outcome-related issues in the context of designing a program evaluation plan.
5. Create a program logic model.
6. Apply program evaluation knowledge and skills to design a program evaluation plan.
7. Evaluate existing programs (from the literature) and the nature of their evaluation process and findings.

Lecture Content:

Date	Topic	Readings
	Course Overview	
Jan 11	What is Program Evaluation, and Why Does it Matter?	N/a
Jan 18	Planning & Designing Evaluations; Evaluation Frameworks;	Ch. 1
Jan 25	Engaging with Stakeholders; Planning for Use;	Ch. 2
Feb 1	Theories of Change; logic models	Ch. 3
Feb 8	Exploratory evaluation; evaluability assessment Part 1 Due	Ch. 4
Feb 15	Performance Measurement: Formative evaluation	Ch. 5
Feb 22	Reading Week - No Class	
Mar 1	Outcome evaluation Part 2 Due	Ch. 17
Mar 8	Evaluation in context: Workshop at 10C	Ch. 26
Mar 15	Data analysis	Ch. 22 & 23
Mar 22	Communication of Findings	Ch. 27 & 29
Mar 29	Culture and context	Ch. 12
April 5	Course summary	
April 12	No class; Part 3 due	

Course Assignments:

Assignment	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
PE Project Part 1	Feb 8	25%	1-4, 6
PE Project Part 2	Mar 1	25%	1-6
PE Project Part 3	Apr 12	50%	1-4, 6, 7

Course Resources

Required Texts:

The following text is required:

Newcomer, K.E., Hatry, H.P., & Wholey, J.S. (Eds.) (2015). Handbook of Practical Program Evaluation (4th edition). San Francisco, CA: John Wiley & Sons.

Other required readings will be posted on Courselink. Slides from class and other documents and resources will be posted on Courselink to facilitate learning and application of skills for major project.

Course Policies

Course Updates and Announcements

Course updates and announcements will be posted on Courselink; please check this regularly.

Submission & Grading Policies

Please submit all assignments to the CourseLink Dropbox by 11:59pm on the due date. Please see the [Graduate Grade Interpretation](#) for the University grading policy.

Late Assignments & Extensions

Assignments submitted late will receive a deduction of 10% per calendar day. If you know you will be unable to complete an assignment by its due date, please let me know in advance. Extensions may be granted depending on circumstances. Proper documentation (e.g., medical note) may be required in the event of late assignments or extension requests.

Course Policy regarding use of electronic devices and recording of lectures:

Electronic recording of classes is expressly forbidden without consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted they are solely for the use of the authorized student and may not be reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the express written consent of the instructor.

University Policies

Academic Consideration

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for

Academic Consideration: [Grounds for Academic Consideration](#).

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the [Graduate Calendar](#).

Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact the [Student Accessibility Services](#) as soon as possible.

For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 54335 or email csdexams@uoguelph.ca or the [Student Accessibility Services Website](#)

Course Evaluation Information

Please refer to the [Course and Instructor Evaluation Website](#) .

Drop date

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is Friday, March 9, 2018. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the [Schedule of Dates in the Academic Calendar](#).