PSYC 3007 WI801: *Science of Mind Reading*

Instructor: Dr. Darren Campbell

Online Synchronous Seminar Sessions via Blackboard Collaborate

Seminars: Wednesdays @2 - 4:50 pm - attendance is very beneficial, but not required

Office Hour: Tues. 1:45 - 2:45 pm, Q&A Forum, Email: darrenc@nipissingu.ca

Course Materials

Assigned readings, videos, instructions, etc. will be available through Blackboard (BB). Other resources will be available through Nipissing Library, Google Scholar, and other databases.

Course Objectives and Content

In this course you evaluate the psychological factors that support accurately inferring people's thoughts and feelings, general tendencies, and truthful or deceptive intent.

During class you will discuss, present, and write about verbal, non-verbal, and environmental signals that people use to infer others' personality traits, thoughts, emotional states, and truthfulness or deception.

With the successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. describe and evaluate modern models of the science of mind reading,
2. evaluate verbal, non-verbal, and text-based measures of people's mental states, and
3. develop a written review and evaluation for a specific mind-reading research focus including a proposal for your own mind-reading measure which builds upon other pre-existing measures.

Evaluation

(Pre-) Class Assignments	25%	(reading-related assignments)
Group Lead of Paper Discussion	20%	(5 Groups)
Peer-Review	10%	(Guided term-paper feedback for a partner)
Term-Paper Draft	10%	(Focused Literature Review & Proposed Measure)
Term Paper	35%	(Focused Literature Review & Proposed Measure)

Pre-Class Participation (25%)

Your grade will be based on 6 pre-class assignments. Before select classes, you will need to provide written responses (answers) to questions based on weekly readings. During class, we will review the readings and discuss relevant student responses to evaluate key features and aspects of the science of mind reading.

Group Discussion Lead & Methods Demo (20%)

Groups will lead a class discussion for an assigned paper. **Before class**, **each** member will **submit** their **planned comments** on their section(s) of the paper (6%), and **one group** member will submit the **group presentation slides** (2%). **During class**, each member will summarize, comment on, and guide one-part of the discussion (6%). As a group, you will **demonstrate** the key **mind-reading assessment** process and engage your classmates in the process (6%). Details will follow.

Peer-Review (10%)

Your grade will be based on completing a focused review of a classmate's term-paper draft.

Review & Measurement Paper (Draft 10% + Final 35%)
In this term paper, you will conduct a focused review (description and evaluation) of a set of empirical studies on one of the three course topics (trait detection, deception/truth detection, or empathic accuracy). You will submit both a draft and a final version (see dates below). More details will follow.

Schedule and Important Dates

Dates Reading and Discussion Topic

* The assignments, term-paper draft, and peer review are each **due** on **Tuesday** at **Noon** for the given week.



Jan 12 Admin, Approach, & General Content
Jan 18/19 Pre-C. Asg. 1 / Trait Detection
Jan 25/26 Pre-C. Asg. 2 / Trait Detection
Feb 1/2 **Group 1** Trait Detection +
Feb 8/9 Pre-C. Asg. 3 / Deception Detection
Feb 15/16 Pre-C. Asg. 4 / Deception Detection
Feb 21-25 *Family Day & Study Week*
Mar 1/2 **Group 2** Deception Detection +
Mar 8/9 Pre-C. Asg. 5 / Empathic Accuracy
Mar 15/16 Pre-C. Asg. 6 / Empathic Accuracy
Mar 22/23 **Group 3** Empathic Accuracy +
Mar 29/30 **Term-Paper** Draft **Due** (10%) / Optional Topic -> **Group 4**
Apr 5/6 **Peer Review Due** (10%) / Optional Topic -> **Group 5**
Apr 15 Final **Term-Paper Due** (35%) @ Noon

Fair Behaviour and Respect for Others
We all prefer a positive (online) environment that supports learning and fair evaluations. Disruptive or negative behaviour is not helpful.
Please read this Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

Intellectual Property
Please read this link.

Student Development Services
A wide range of academic and mental health supports are available to students. For more information or support, visit https://www.nipisssingu.ca/sds or email sds@nipissingu.ca

+ **Student Retention Alert** is a referral system to identify academic progress or well-being concerns and connect students to support services on campus. For more information: www.nipissingu.ca/nusuccess or email nusuccess@nipissingu.ca