

**The University of Hong Kong
Department of Psychology
An Overview of Internship in Psychology (PSYC7311)**

Course Description

Students will have an opportunity to actively participate in empirical research projects and learn to do research as an intern under a teacher's supervision in the Department of Psychology. Students spend 10-12 hours per week assisting various research activities. The internship includes participating in lab meetings/discussions and/or meeting individually with the supervisor, reading relevant theoretical and empirical articles, assisting in ongoing empirical research projects, and writing an internship report. Information about laboratories offering internship placements and application procedure will be available in the Psychology Department webpage. Please note that this information may vary by lab and semester.

Objectives

The internship is designed to offer students an opportunity to observe research in psychological science and gain hands-on research experience by working as a member in an active research team.

Course Learning Outcomes

On completing the course, students will be able to:

1. critically evaluate psychological research methodology
2. implement research designs
3. understand how to apply psychological theories and concepts to research design to study ill-defined problems in everyday life
4. Conduct research in a responsible and ethical manner and critically evaluate the ethical soundness of a psychological research study
5. Critically evaluate their own assumptions and biases in conducting research including collecting and coding data
6. Enable students to apply academic knowledge (including models, theories and/or concepts), critical thinking, and analytical skills acquired at the University to analyze real-life situations
7. Develop work ethics, self-initiative, adaptation to the organisational culture, and communication skills for successful workplace performance

Course Content and Topics

Specific course content and topics vary across research laboratories. Generally, they cover:

1. Application of psychological theories, prior research, and pilot data to research design in studying ill-defined problems in everyday life.
2. Demonstrating how to conduct research in a professional, responsible, and ethical manner.
3. Gaining hands-on experience in implementing research studies such as preparation of research materials, data collection, processing, and coding.

Required/Recommended Readings and Online Materials

Readings and online materials are subjected to individual supervisor's recommendation / requirement.

Course Assessment

Each intern will be graded by the supervisor on performance as a research assistant (10 to 12 hours per week), participation and contribution in lab or supervision meetings, and quality of internship report. The internship report will be a 6- to 10-page double-spaced paper. It should include a discussion of theories and empirical research relevant to the projects that the intern has worked on (based on assigned readings), what the intern has done and learned in the projects, what the challenges were, and how they were dealt with. Suggested weightings for performance as a research assistant, participation in lab/supervision meetings, and internship report are 50:20:30.

Application Procedure

1. For research internship opportunities offered by lecturers, please click the lecturer's name "<https://psychology.hku.hk/faculty-members/>" and read the details under "Research Internship Opportunities".

Select the research project which you are interested in, and contact the lecturer for further information.

2. Fill in the application form and sent it to the General Office of the Psychology Department (mpsych@hku.hk) before the deadline. The form should be endorsed by the lecturer or attached with an email confirmation of acceptance.

3. Enroll the course(s) through Student Portal.