

“The mission of Tyndale Seminary is to provide Christ-centred graduate theological education for leaders in the church and society whose lives are marked by intellectual maturity, spiritual vigour and moral integrity, and whose witness will faithfully engage culture with the Gospel.”

Course	RESEARCH THESIS IN COUNSELLING AND PSYCHOTHERAPY COUN 0793 1B
Date, Time, and Delivery Format	SEPTEMBER 11 – DECEMBER 8, 2023 BLENDED FORMAT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-Person only: Sep 12, 19, 26; Oct 3, 10; Nov 28, Dec 5. • Synchronous only: Oct 17, 31; Nov 7, 14, 21
Instructor	HELEN NOH, PH.D Email: hnoh@tyndale.ca
Class Information	The classes will be livestreamed / in-person on Tuesdays from 2:15 AM – 5:05 PM, according to the schedule above. Office Hours: by appointment.
Course Material	Access course material at classes.tyndale.ca or other services at Tyndale One . Course emails will be sent to your @MyTyndale.ca e-mail account only.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students complete a major research proposal in the field of Counselling and Psychotherapy that demonstrates their ability to formulate a research question, use existing peer reviewed research studies to develop a well-structured literature review and methodology section, and draft an ethics proposal.

Prerequisite: COUN 0680 Research Methods in Counselling, COUN0601 & 0602 Pre-Internship Skills Lab I & II; COUN0772 & 0774 Theories and Methods I & II.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, the student will be able to:

- Develop an original testable research question
- Write a comprehensive literature review
- Complete a Research Ethics Board (REB) ethics approval process
- Design a proposed methodology section that is scientifically sound
- Prepare an APA formatted research proposal including: Introduction, Methods, proposed Data Analysis and Discussion sections
- Provide a critical reflection on the integration of the research topic with a Christian framework
- Present an analysis of the importance and contribution of the research topic to the field of Marriage and Family Therapy and Psychotherapy

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. REQUIRED READING

1. Bui, Y. (2020). *How to write a Master's thesis* (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
2. American Psychological Association (2019). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). American Psychological Association.
3. Required readings consist of both peer reviewed research articles and book chapters pertaining to each individual student's research topic

B. SUPPLEMENTARY READING

1. Durdella, N. (2023). *Conducting research with human participants: An IRB guide for students and faculty*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
2. Hempel, S. (2020). *Conducting your literature review*. American Psychological Association.
3. McLeod, J. (2022). *Doing research in counselling and psychotherapy*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

C. INTERACTIVE LIVESTREAM AND/OR BLENDED COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Livestream attendance for the entire duration of the class at announced times
- Headphones (preferred), built-in microphone, and web-camera
- Well-lit and quiet room
- Stable high-speed internet connection, preferably using an Ethernet cable over Wi-Fi

- Full name displayed on Zoom and Microsoft Teams for attendance purposes*
 - A commitment to having the camera on to foster community building*
- *exceptions with permission from professor

D. GUIDELINES FOR INTERACTIONS

Tyndale University prides itself in being a trans-denominational community. We anticipate our students to have varied viewpoints which will enrich the discussions in our learning community. Therefore, we ask our students to be charitable and respectful in their interactions with each other, and to remain focused on the topic of discussion, out of respect to others who have committed to being a part of this learning community. Please refer to “Guidelines for Interactions” on your course resource page at classes.tyndale.ca.

E. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

1. Peer Group Participation and Research Portfolio: 5% of final grade

The student is required to attend all mandatory peer group meetings and meetings with the professor, which will consist of discussion and assessment of the assignments, feedback and peer review. As the student conducts the research project, all weekly activities/goals/accomplishments, hours spent for the research project, and feedback reflections from meetings with peers and professor must be carefully and thoroughly logged and documented in a binder labeled “Research Portfolio.”

2. Annotated Bibliography: 10% of final grade

The student will submit an annotated bibliography consisting of a minimum of 30 sources that will be used to develop the literature review section of the thesis project. Each source will include the citation (in proper APA style) and a brief annotation of the study.

3. Draft Assignments: Literature Review Draft (10%), Methodology Draft (10%)

The drafts for the Introduction (Literature Review, Research Question, and Hypotheses) and Methods Sections (Methodology) should strictly follow APA style for in-text citations, references, figures, tables, etc., as well as demonstrate a strong grasp of the research process and topic. The student is required to hand in a soft copy of the drafts at the determined dates throughout the semester for discussion and feedback with the supervisor. Failure to submit the assignments on their due dates will result in deductions to the final grade.

4. Research Ethics Board (REB) Application: 5% of final grade

The student will prepare a full ethics application for the Tyndale Research Ethics Board which will be reviewed by the professor for accuracy and pre-approval.

5. Final Research Report: 50% of final grade

The student will hand in a final version of the research project that clearly articulates the research question, the relevant literature review, a sound methodology, and proposed data analysis following the guidelines of APA. In addition, a discussion section will be included that provides a critical integration of the research topic with a Christian framework as well as reflections on the implications of this project in the field of psychotherapy research. The final research thesis project will be 25-30 pages, double spaced, 12-font (not including cover page and reference section).

6. Research Project Presentation: 10% of final grade

Students will present their research project.

F. EQUITY OF ACCESS

Students with permanent or temporary disabilities who need academic accommodations must [contact](#) the [Accessibility Services](#) at the [Centre for Academic Excellence](#) to [register](#) and discuss their specific needs. *New students* must self-identify and register with the Accessibility Office at the beginning of the semester or as early as possible to access appropriate services. *Current students* must renew their plans as early as possible to have active accommodations in place.

G. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Peer Group Participation and Research Portfolio	5%
Annotated Bibliography	10%
Draft Sections (2 @ 10% each)	20%
Research Ethics Board Application	5%
Final Research Report	50%
Project Presentation	10%
TOTAL GRADE	100 %

H. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

Academic Integrity

Integrity in academic work is required of all our students. Academic dishonesty is any breach of this integrity, and includes such practices as cheating (the use of unauthorized material on tests and examinations), submitting the same work for different classes without permission of the instructors; using false information (including false references to secondary sources) in an assignment; improper or unacknowledged collaboration with other students, and plagiarism (including improper use of artificial intelligence programs). Tyndale University takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty. Please refer to the [Academic Integrity website](#) for further details.

Students are encouraged to consult [Writing Services](#). Citation and other [tip sheets](#).

Students should also consult the current [Academic Calendar](#) for academic policies on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments, and Grading System.

Research Ethics

All course-based assignments involving human participants requires ethical review and may require approval by the [Tyndale Research Ethics Board \(REB\)](#). Check with the Seminary Dean’s Office (aa@tyndale.ca) before proceeding.

IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT AND REQUIRED READINGS

WEEK & FORMAT	TOPIC	LECTURE CONTENT	ASSIGNMENTS, READINGS, & REQUIREMENTS
1 Sept 12 IN-PERSON ONLY	Overview of the Master’s Thesis Project and Selecting a Research Topic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Syllabus and course overview General overview of a master’s research thesis Selecting a research topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bui, Chps 1-3 Identify 2-3 research topics of interest and read a minimum of 5 research studies for each topic
2 Sept 19 IN-PERSON ONLY	Introduction Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of the Introduction Section Ethical considerations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bui, Chps 4-5 Read minimum 15 relevant research studies for research topic and start annotated bibliography
3 Sept 26	Literature Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducting the literature review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bui, Chp 6 Read minimum 15 relevant research studies, add to the annotated bibliography, begin

IN-PERSON ONLY		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal of literature review • Devising a literature map 	<p>to narrow down a few research questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will share summary of key studies in peer groups
4 Oct 3 IN-PERSON ONLY	Literature Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing the literature review section 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read minimum 15 research studies, add to annotated bibliography, identify research questions, rationale for current study, limitations of previous research • PRESENTATION OF LITERATURE MAP: Students will present literature map of research topic
5 Oct 10 IN-PERSON ONLY	Methodology Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instrumentation, sampling, data collection, procedure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bui, Chp 7 • Identify possible instruments to be used for research study and verify their validity and reliability • PRESENTATION OF LITERATURE MAP: Students will present literature map of research topic
6 Oct 17 ONLINE ONLY	INDIVIDUAL SUPERVISION WITH PROFESSOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the overall flow of the literature review 	DUE: Annotated Bibliography (latest by 11:55pm)
7 Oct 24	READING BREAK (NO MEETINGS)		
8 Oct 31	INDIVIDUAL SUPERVISION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss any outstanding questions with 	DUE: DRAFT of Literature Review Section (latest by 11:55pm)

ONLINE ONLY	WITH PROFESSOR	Introduction and/or Literature Review sections	
9 Nov 7 ONLINE ONLY	Ethics in Research, Discussion, & Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethical issues in conducting research with human participants Clinical implications of study Theological integration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bui, Chps 8-10 Review Tyndale's Research Ethics Board (REB) Application Read a minimum of 5-7 relevant research studies on possible areas of theological integration with research study
10 Nov 14 ONLINE ONLY	INDIVIDUAL SUPERVISION WITH PROFESSOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss any outstanding issues with Methodology section and/or REB Application 	DUE: DRAFT of Methodology Section (latest by 11:55pm)
11 Nov 21 ONLINE ONLY	INDIVIDUAL SUPERVISION WITH PROFESSOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss any outstanding issues with overall project presentation 	DUE: Research Ethics Board Application (latest by 11:55pm)
12 Nov 28 IN-PERSON ONLY	Student Project Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students to present research project 	DUE: Project Presentations
13 Dec 5	Student Project Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students to present 	DUE: Project Presentations

IN-PERSON ONLY		research project	
DECEMBER 15: FINAL RESEARCH PROJECT AND PORTFOLIO DUE (latest by 11:55pm)			

V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

([Tyndale Library](#) supports this course with [e-journals](#), [e-books](#), and the [mail delivery of books](#) and circulating materials. See the [Library FAQ page](#).)

Beins, B. C. (2012). *Research Methods: A Tool for Life* (3rd Edition). Pearson Education, Inc.

Bordens, K. S., & Abbott, B. B. (2011). *Research design and methods: A process approach*. (8th ed.). Boston: McGraw Hill. Oct 2018

Creswell, J. W. (2014). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches* (4th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Gravetter, F. J., & Forzano, L. B. (2012). *Research methods for the behavioral sciences* (4th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Jackson, S. L. (2006). *Research methods and statistics: A critical thinking approach* (2nd ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Locke, L.F., Spirduso, W.W., & Silverman, S. J. (2010). *Reading and understanding research*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage

Sheperis, C. J., Daniels, M. H., & Young J. S. (2010). *Counseling research: Quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods*. Pearson.

Williams, L., Patterson, J., & Edwards, T.M. (2014). *Clinician's guide to research methods in family therapy: Foundations of evidence-based practice*. New York: The Guilford Press.

Wright, R. J. (2013). *Research methods for counseling*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.