

McGill University, Department of Psychiatry
Special Topics in Psychiatry (PSYT 696)
Summer 2020

Course coordinator: Naguib Mechawar, PhD
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Instructors: Open to all professors in the department of Psychiatry.

General description: Supervised reading and discussion of selected issues and topics in contemporary psychiatry. Students will be responsible for assigned readings and for preparation of a graded paper.

Registration : Students must do the following in order to obtain the permission to register:

- 1) Think of a topic to write a paper on. This topic must be, by and large, different from your thesis topic. For example, there could be some general overlap, but if more than a few sentences ended up in your thesis, this would be indicative of excessive overlap. The idea, of course, is that the paper should be something over and above your thesis.
- 2) Identify a faculty member who will help guide your reading, provide feedback, and grade the paper. This person could be your thesis supervisor, but also someone else.
- 3) Send Dr. Mechawar (i) a brief (one paragraph) description of the proposed paper, (ii) a brief description of your thesis topic, (iii) a brief explanation of how the topic of the paper differs from the thesis (sometimes this is obvious and easy, sometimes not so obvious), and (iv) an email from the faculty member who has accepted to guide your reading and mark your paper.

Evaluation: *The instructor and student are expected to agree on a reading list and discuss on a weekly basis throughout the semester.* Students will be evaluated on their participation in the discussions (35%) and on their final paper (65%). The latter must be at least 20 pages (double-spaced) in length, excluding references. Instructors are required to send the graded paper and final mark to Dr. Mechawar by August 24.

In accord with McGill University's Charter of Students' Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded. The instructors will not adopt the use of text-matching software to verify the originality of students' written course work. However, students must be aware of and respect the principles of academic integrity (see below).

Academic Integrity: *McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see <http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/> for more information).*