**Application Process for Thesis**

1. Search for a faculty advisor within psych dept or other depts and email them regarding their research

2. Submit application package **by 26 February 2021**:

-application form known as request enrolment form

-personal statement (300 words)

-unofficial transcripts from webadvisor

-you **DO NOT** need to include personal statement and transcripts if you **ALREADY HAVE** a supervisor

3. You will be informed if selected or not by July 2021

4.1. If **accepted** for a research position:

-instructions on how to register will be stated

-need to take PSYC\*4870 Honours Thesis I and PSYC\*4780

-neuro students **may register for NEUR\*4000** instead of PSYC\*4780

4.2. If **not accepted** for a research position:

-register for F21 without thesis stream

-must take PSYC\*4540 and one more 4000-level course (worth 1.50 creds)

-opt for **independent research studies**

**Thesis experience of and advice from students**

-1st year did not go great

-2nd year wasn’t great too; its okay not to have a perfect average

-3rd year started engaging in volunteering experiences with profs and started Independent Research study

-4th year completely engrossed with Independent Research studies; very competitive

-make sure to contact profs early like a year prior, email them about their researches and how interested you are or what made you interested, sell yourself, be patient and don’t give up

-prepare for questions for interview like why you want to do this, what are the outcomes you are expecting, what made you intrigued, why research with that specific prof, what are your goals, etc.

-be polite and patient, shoot your best shot

**FAQs**

1. **If you already have an advisor what should you submit?**

Only the Enrolment form needs to be submitted; personal statement and transcript not required

1. **Is NEUR\*4000 equivalent to PSYC\*4870?**

No, you can take NEUR\*4000 in place of PSYC\*4780 not PSYC\*4870

1. **How many applicants apply each year?**

70-80 applicants each year

1. **What if I am not accepted?**

Apply for Independent Research Studies or you are eligible for applying again in 5th year; contact counselling office for more detailed support on this

1. **What if there are multiple offers where I got in for research studies?**

Do not put all eggs in one basket. Think professionally and choose where your interest peaks more, email the profs respectfully, be open and honest in letting them know that you are politely declining their offer, do not ghost/ignore them

1. **What are some of the biggest challenges in being a thesis student?**

Trying to decide specific research topics/designs for thesis can be complicated sometimes.

Filling the Ethics Application- a huge document of 50-60 pages can be tiresome, therefore do not procrastinate and fill and submit as early as possible

1. **Can you get rejected even though you have an advisor?**

Yes, unfortunately you can, it depends on the competition and individual skills/experiences therefore, there is a chance that students with 75%-79% average with a strong skill set could be admitted than a student with 85% average with poor skill set and no background experiences

1. **What time is the best for applying for a research project?**

RIGHT NOW! February-March is the perfect time

1. **What if the faculty has not replied since a long time/doesn’t reply?**

You have to be patient and polite. During COVID since everyone is working from home, there could be chances of them being busy and overly occupied. Don’t take it personally, there are so many things going on they will get back as soon as they have the time

1. **How many students are under one supervisor?**

Usually, 1-5 students per supervisor

1. **What if I cannot get hold of a supervisor/cannot find one?**

It is suggested to talk to Sharon Helder, as she is the one sending out a list of people who are still not enrolled. Sometimes new arrangements are made like introduction of a new faculty and sometimes positions keeps opening and closing therefore, be patient and persistent

1. **Is it necessary to have supervisors from the department/faculty one is in?**

Absolutely not! You don’t need an advisor from your field, there are lots of open possibilities. You can choose your research project from any dept/faculty/field