

Emory University

CULTURE AND SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY EMPIRICAL RESEARCH WORKSHOP

SOC 563; Spring 2026

Wednesday, 1:00 – 3:45, 206 Tarbuton Hall

Dr. Timothy J. Dowd & Dr. Cathryn Johnson

Office Hours: Dowd, W (11:30-1:00); Johnson (By Appt.)

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

This workshop focuses on teaching graduate students how to produce research, ranging from the initial design of a study to eventual submission for publication. The following types of graduate students will be eligible for participation in the workshop: (a) those who specialize in culture and/or social psychology; *and* (b) those who are currently involved in some stage of the research process (e.g., beginning a project, revising a paper, conducting data analysis, working on a dissertation proposal). Throughout the semester, we will address the particular efforts of each student. Each workshop member will provide constructive comments at our meetings.

MOTIVATIONS AND GOALS OF CASPER

First, in previous years, we have found an overlap in the students that we each advise – with the most notable development being those who work at the intersection of culture and social psychology. We have also had a number of students publishing during this time frame, with these students increasingly seeking more publications. CASPER, then, provides an opportunity for us to address student projects in both areas in a collective context. This is the thirteenth CASPER that we have offered. We have found that hashing out ideas in a group context is highly productive and invaluable because it provides an opportunity to get feedback from individuals with different points of view and expertise (as the groups literature shows). In addition, CASPER provides a context where new and older graduate students share ideas and learn about the research process together.

Second, CASPER fills a notable gap in our graduate curriculum, doing so along with the newly established Race and Racism Workshop. We have venues for learning about research in a general sense (e.g., various methods courses and the second-year research seminar) but not in ways that are specifically linked to the particular research agendas of students.

Third, CASPER helps students go through the graduate program in a timely fashion. By guiding students who are in the early years to students working on their dissertation proposals, we are helping students keep on track. As important, we know that graduate students are more successful on the job market if they have publications. CASPER aids in helping students to prepare their papers for publication.

GRADING

Students' grade will be either Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory. Students are required to attend each session, provide comments, and participate in the discussion of each student's project. In addition, each student will present his or her own project and receive and respond to feedback provided by the workshop members. As long as they meet these criteria responsibly, students will receive a grade of Satisfactory.

SCHEDULE

As the semester progresses, submitted materials will also be posted on the Canvas site for SOC 563 (see <https://canvas.emory.edu>). See the "Modules" section for each week's materials.

ACCOMODATIONS

If you have any special needs, please contact us at the beginning of the semester, and we will discuss the necessary arrangements. For additional information, visit Emory Department of Accessibility Services' website (see <https://accessibility.emory.edu/index.html>).