

**Sabanci University**  
**Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences**  
**PSY 501: Trends in Psychological Sciences**  
**Fall 2023**

**Course Description:** PSY 501 is a graduate seminar designed to provide students with background in contemporary topics across different areas of psychology and related disciplines. We designed this seminar with three aims in mind. First, complementing other graduate seminars in our program focusing on providing specialization and academic depth, PSY 501 aims to build academic breadth. Second, we want all of you to get acquainted to ongoing research across different labs in our program. Third, this course is for us faculty too 😊 We would like to get to know you and exchange ideas with our new colleagues-in-training on topics that we think currently shape our field.

**Meetings:** Thursdays 8:40-11:30 at FASS1099. Faculty members will take turns in moderating discussions on current trends, advances, debates, and research directions in their field of expertise.

**Required Readings:** Faculty members will upload assigned readings a week before each meeting.

**Thought Papers:** You will submit a thought paper each week based on the week's assigned readings. Please upload your papers by Tuesday night. We expect your papers to provide a critical evaluation of the assigned readings. Faculty may provide additional guidelines and expectations specific to their week.

**End-of-semester Presentations:** You will give a short presentation (7-8 min talk + 2-3 min Q & A) at the end of the semester. Usually, students present a project they work on in their lab. The project does not have to be finished. You can present up-to whatever stage you're in (even a vague study idea is totally fine). You will receive full grade from this activity as long as you present. The main purpose of this presentation is to help you experience and internalize the research atmosphere characterizing our program as soon as you join us. It is also a nice way of celebrating the completion of your first semester as a graduate researcher. Program faculty will also join the presentations.

**Course Assessment:**

Thought papers: 9% each (81% total)

Submitting discussion questions: 1% each (9% total)

End-of-semester presentation: 10%

**Grades:** The following grading scheme is used to assign the final grade for the course. No changes can be made to your final grade unless there has been an arithmetical error.

<b>A</b>	100-90	<b>B</b>	79.99-75	<b>C</b>	64.99-60	<b>D</b>	49.99-45
<b>A-</b>	89.99-85	<b>B-</b>	74.99-70	<b>C-</b>	59.99-55	<b>F</b>	44.99-0
<b>B+</b>	84.99-80	<b>C+</b>	69.99-65	<b>D+</b>	54.99-50		

**Academic Integrity:** Every student is expected to abide by the Sabanci University Academic Integrity Statement. Please see <https://www.sabanciuniv.edu/en/academic-integrity-statement>

## **Tentative Course Outline**

Please note that the emphasis is on tentative. Faculty may change their topic. Make sure to check SUCourse for the most up-to-date information about each meeting.

**Week 1 (October 5<sup>th</sup>):** Introductions and course overview (Emre Selçuk)

**Week 2 (October 12<sup>th</sup>):** Imagery variability and extreme forms: Aphantasia and Hyperphantasia (Olesya Blazhenkova)

**Week 3 (October 19<sup>th</sup>):** Collective narcissism: The dark side of ingroup love (Çiğdem Bağcı)

**Week 4 (October 26<sup>th</sup>):** Cultural variations in the socialization of children's emotions (Feyza Çorapçı)

**Week 5 (November 2<sup>nd</sup>):** Robots and the mind: Introduction to human-robot interaction for psychologists (Junko Kanero)

**Week 6 (November 9<sup>th</sup>):** Do the developmental and social psychology traditions in attachment research converge? (Nebi Sümer)

**Week 7 (November 16<sup>th</sup>):** Don't underestimate the power of a "Good Morning:" The psychology of minimal interactions (Emre Selçuk)

**Week 8 (November 23<sup>rd</sup>):** Remembrance of the Things Past: Autobiographical/Event Memory (Çağla Aydın)

**Week 9 (November 30<sup>th</sup>):** Why are memories discrete even though perception is continuous? (Eren Günseli)

**Week 10 (December 7<sup>th</sup>):** Mind over body: The search for a stronger understanding of the biological mind (Nihan Alp)

**Week 11 (December 14<sup>th</sup>):** Professional Development I: Graduate school & academic career (Emre Selçuk)

**Week 12 (December 21<sup>st</sup>):** Preparation for end-of-semester presentations

**Week 13 (December 28<sup>t</sup>):** Professional Development II: Navigating the world of publishing (Emre Selçuk)

**Week 14 (January 4<sup>th</sup>):** End-of-semester presentations