Dear Students of PSYCH 730,

The university has taken many measures to prepare and keep our community informed as the COVID-19 pandemic has unfolded. As you’re aware, one of these measures was the decision late last week to suspend in-person classes for the remainder of the academic term.

**McMaster in-person classes and tests for undergraduate and graduate students ended as of Friday March 13th and no in-person exams will be held at the end of this term.**

This decision was made to ensure that our activities here at McMaster are aligned with the social distancing principle so important to broader public health at this time.

We are also committed to ensuring the successful completion of the current academic term by all of our students. To do so, we have put careful thought into the use of alternative assessment methods and evaluation schemes that are fair to all students. The following describes what you can expect for Bayesian Inference (PSYCH 4KK3) between now and the end of the term:

Between now and April 7, you can expect the following changes with respect to instruction for this course:

- Lectures will be posted on Avenue.
- Homework assignments will be submitted on Avenue.
- The tutorial will be replaced by a Bayes-Engage forum on Avenue.
- The Prof’s office hours will be replaced by a Bayes-Engage forum on Avenue.

In addition, you can expect the following changes to the assessments used for this course:

- There will be no final exam.
- There will be no further Bayesian Brain Bogggers.
- The weighting of course components will be as follows:
  - Bayesian Brain Bogggers: 6%
  - Midterm Test: 47%
  - Homework Assignments: 47%

- The Everyday Bayes extra credit opportunity is still available to students with a submission deadline (by email to the prof) of the last day of classes (April 7). Extra credit points were previously going to be applied to the final exam percentage score. Instead, those points will now be applied (equivalently) as half-percentage points to the course percentage score. For example, a student with 1 extra credit point and a course score (calculated according to the weightings above) of 84% would earn 84.5% in the course.

- The deadline for Grad Student Assignment B (GS HWB) has been extended to April 21.
If you have a need for accommodations, please continue to communicate with Student Accessibility Services and keep me informed.

In the event significant changes to the COVID-19 situation, further changes may need to be made to this course and will be clearly communicated to you. Please also visit https://covid19.mcmaster.ca/ for up-to-date university information.

Sincerely,

Daniel Goldreich