Dear Students of Psych 4R03,

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 4R03 between now and the end of the term:

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

- **We will meet by Skype every Monday at 2:30 for up to an hour until the end of term. This will happen on Monday March 23rd, March 30th and April 6th.**

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

- **Your final group project was meant to have an oral component (worth 25%) and a written component (worth 20%). We will stick to the same breakdown. So you will be expected to submit a group power point with an audio component embedded (worth 25%) and a written component or lesson plan that goes alongside this lecture (worth 20%). You will not have to perform the lecture or video it for me.**
- **You will now only be marked by me and the TA and not by your fellow class mates.**
- **The rest of the assessment scheme (grade weightings) used to calculate your final grades, will remain as in the original scheme (15% for class participation, 20% for your midterms, 10% for homework and 10% for your scientific literature / paper presentation).**

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/](https://covid19.mcmaster.ca/) for up-to-date university information.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sigal Balshine