

**THE TRUST PARADOX**  
**University of Toronto**  
**Summer: 2023 ANT 221 H5**

**Course Meeting**

Time: Tuesday 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
Location: IB 120

**Instructor Information**

Instructor: Dr. David R. Samson  
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Office location: HSC 358  
Office hours: Thursday 12:30 – 2:30 PM  
Course website: <https://q.utoronto.ca/>  
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*“Without trust...civilization collapses.”*

~ Yuval Noah Harari, 2022



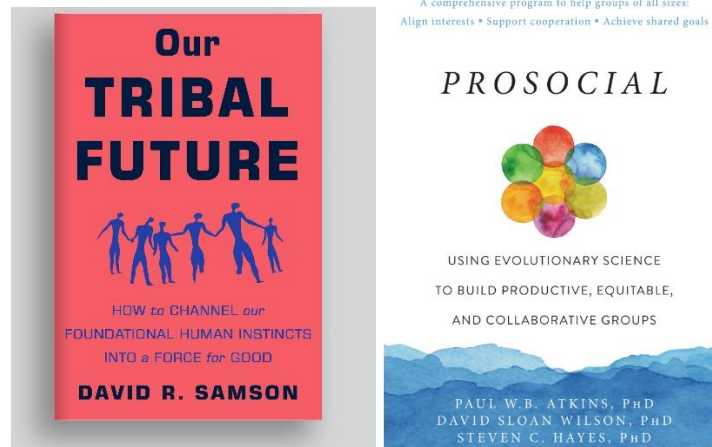
## COURSE DESCRIPTION

The ultimate question that all life is bound to ask is: how do I survive?

Our species, evolved a uniquely human answer, which led to our ascendance as the most dominant on the planet....but at what cost? LEARNING OUTCOMES Within this course, I provide readings, podcasts, a documentary (Roko Belic's *Happy* – a cross cultural investigation of positive psychology), and active learning assignments for us to explore the new science of applied evolutionary anthropology. The first part of the course is a description of the science of coalitionary instincts as they typically manifest in ethnolinguistic groups. The second part of the course is an exploration of the ways in which we can leverage this drive in an applied manner to increase human wellness, in our face-to-face communities as well as at scale within and among societies.

## COURSE READING

1. **OUR TRIBAL FUTURE: How to channel our foundational human instincts into a force for good**
2. **PROSOCIAL: Using evolutionary science to build productive, equitable, and collaborative groups**



## GRADING

Here is the summary breakdown for the course for exams, and assignments:

<b>20%</b>	<b>Quizzes (x10 Quercus based on readings)</b>
<b>10%</b>	<b>Podcast - Insight, Resources, Application (IRAs) (x5)</b>
<b>5%</b>	<b>Meditation Introductory course completion</b>
<b>30%</b>	<b>Assignment: Self-diagnostics (x3)</b>
<b>15%</b>	<b>Case study</b>
<b>10%</b>	<b>Group Assignment: Meta-tribal meme</b>
<b>10%</b>	<b>Campcrafting Capstone</b>

## GRADING SCALE

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value *	Grade Definition	
90-100	A+	4.0	Excellent	Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization; capacity to analyze and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter with sound critical evaluations; evidence of extensive knowledge base.
85-89	A	4.0		
80-84	A-	3.7		
77-79	B+	3.3	Good	Evidence of grasp of subject matter, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of relevant issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.
73-76	B	3.0		
70-72	B-	2.7		
67-69	C+	2.3	Adequate	Student who is profiting from his/her university experience; understanding of the subject matter; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.
63-66	C	2.0		
60-62	C-	1.7		
57-59	D+	1.3	Marginal	Some evidence of familiarity with subject matter and some evidence that critical and analytic skills have been developed.
53-56	D	1.0		
50-52	D-	0.7		
0-49	F	0.0	Inadequate	Little evidence of even superficial understanding of subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; with limited or irrelevant use of literature.

## MAKE-UP POLICY

*This course will be using the UTM Anthropology departmental process for collecting medical notes and other university-approved documentation for anything missed. \*\*You MUST complete the online documentation process through this system **within 72 hours of the missed quiz**, or your documentation will not be accepted. For more details, go to the UTM Anthropology website under the Undergraduate tab (<http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/anthropology/undergraduate>), and look for the page titled Submitting Documentation for Missed Work at <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/anthropology/submitting-documentation-missed-work>*

This applies for all late assignments, labs, and term tests. All late assignments will receive a late penalty of 10% per day (including weekends); submissions MUST be RECEIVED successfully by the website by midnight on the due date (shown in the course schedule below).

### QUIZ MAKE-UP POLICY

There will be weekly reading quizzes, each worth 2% of your final grade. Quizzes will be on the readings for the corresponding lecture. For example, for the quiz due on Tuesday, September 20th, questions will be from that week's readings (Our Tribal Future chapters 1 & 2; Prosocial chapter 3). Quizzes will have 20 questions. Quizzes will be due before the start of each lecture, and you will submit them via Quercus. Quizzes will be posted 48 hours before lectures and you will be able to take the quiz anytime until the start of that week's lecture. You will have 20 minutes to complete the quiz, and the timer will begin when you start. There will be no opportunity to make up quizzes. Quizzes are open book, but you will not have time to look up the answer to every question. Questions will mainly consist of key terms and main concepts. Many questions will be based on general understanding of the material, but others may have to do with definitions, so we recommend you keep some notes related to key terms as you're reading.

### MISSED CLASSES AND NOTES

My lectures will be made available via a link I post on the *Quercus*. The links to my lecture presentations are only outlines of the course material. **This means that you won't be able to simply never attend class, look over the presentations and then get an A in the class.** You are responsible for all lecture material, not just the information provided on the presentation. If you miss a class you will catch up best by getting notes from a fellow student. I highly recommend getting a "note-taking buddy," whom you'll entrust with good note-taking in your absence. Furthermore, there is an art and science to note-taking: I highlight important terms. Make sure and record these terms and associate it with a mnemonic to help recall the meaning and context of the term. This should only take a moment if it seems I'm moving quickly through lecture. Also, I suggest hand copying/typing your friends notes, point-by-point; this serves an important purpose as you'll progress through the notes as I progressed through lecture. Any points you feel need clarification, please feel free to discuss with the TA and/or myself.

### PUNISHMENT FOR CHEATING

The fine print on cheating (copying students answers on exams, plagiarism on papers, etc.) is at the end of the syllabus. What I will say here is that as sophisticated as cheaters think they are, there are just as sophisticated methods to detect cheating. Don't do it. I will go over plagiarism, what it is, and how easy it is not to do it on the first day of class. Thus, if you are caught in my class committing an Academic Offence (AO) I will treat it very seriously....

### PODCASTS POSTING ARE NOT ENDORSEMENTS

Podcasts are long form conversations, wherein people think out loud and conjecture. Because I post a podcast, I does not mean I endorse the opinions be participants. The pedagogical benefits of the conversation is not an indication that I agree or endorse any of the opinions opined.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Part 1: The Science of Tribalism</b>	<b>Readings/supplemental*</b>
1	Sept. 13	<p><b>Topic:</b> In whom do you put your trust?                      Introduction: Syllabus and class organization &amp; Instructor Bio  <u>Assign: Meditation Course (due Oct. 13)</u>  <u>Extra credit: The Stoic Path (due Oct. 13)</u></p>	<p><b>Reading:</b> OUR TRIBAL FUTURE Prologue &amp; Summary                      Article: <i>Why Tribe Matters</i>                      PROSICIAL Ch. 2</p>
2	Sept. 20	<p><b>Meditation / Quiz 1 *note: hereafter, quiz materials are this week's reading*</b>  <b>Topic:</b> Driven &amp; Mismatched  <u>Assign: Self-diagnostic #1 Meta-belief primer (due Sept. 27)</u></p>	<p><b>Reading:</b> OUR TRIBAL FUTURE Ch. 1 &amp; 2                      PROSICIAL Ch. 3</p>
3	Sept. 27	<p><b>Meditation / Quiz 2</b>  <b>Topic:</b> Trusts Evolve  <u>Extra credit: The Borg Challenge (due Nov. 29)</u></p>	<p><b>Reading:</b> OUR TRIBAL FUTURE Ch. 3                      PROSICIAL Ch. 5  <b>IRA Podcast #1:</b> Making Sense #156 – Christakis <i>The Evolution of Culture</i></p>
4	Oct. 4	<p><b>Meditation / Quiz 3</b>  <b>Topic:</b> Tribal Behavior, Trust in Action  <u>Assign: Self-diagnostic #2 Coalitionary Cognition (due Oct. 11)</u></p>	<p><b>Reading:</b> OUR TRIBAL FUTURE Ch.4                      PROSICIAL Ch. 6</p>
<b>Reading week (No class on October 11)</b>			
5	Oct. 18	<p><b>Meditation / Quiz 4</b>  <b>Topic:</b> Trust Signals – Part 1</p>	<p><b>Reading:</b> OUR TRIBAL FUTURE Ch.5 (sections 1-3)                      PROSICIAL Ch. 7  <b>IRA Podcast #2:</b> Lex Friedman #293 – Hoffman <i>Reality is an Illusion</i></p>
6	Oct. 25	<p><b>Meditation / Quiz 5</b>  <b>Topic:</b> Trust Signals – Part 2  <u>Assign: Case Study (due Nov. 1)</u></p>	<p><b>Reading:</b> OUR TRIBAL FUTURE Ch.5 (sections 4-7)                      PROSICIAL Ch. 8</p>

<b>Class</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Part 2: The Practice of Tribalism</b>	<b>Readings/supplemental*</b>
7	Nov. 1	<b>Meditation / Quiz 6</b> <b>Topic:</b> Sub-tribal relationships (Benefits, Friends & Pairbonds) <u>Assign: Metatribal memes (due Nov. 29)</u>	<b>Reading:</b> OUR TRIBAL FUTURE Ch.6 & 7 PROSICIAL Ch. 9
8	Nov. 8	<b>Meditation / Quiz 7</b> <b>Topic:</b> Campcrafting (Part 1) <u>Assign: Self-diagnostic #3 Identity Stack (due Nov. 21)</u>	<b>Reading:</b> OUR TRIBAL FUTURE Ch.8 PROSICIAL Ch. 10 <b>IRA Podcast #3:</b> Making Sense #177 Griffiths <i>Psychedelic Science</i>
9	Nov. 15	<b>Meditation / Quiz 8</b> <b>Topic:</b> Campcrafting (Part 2) <u>Assign: My Lessons Capstone (due Dec. 6)</u>	<b>Reading:</b> OUR TRIBAL FUTURE Ch.9 PROSICIAL Ch. 11 <b>IRA Podcast #4:</b> Inquiring Minds #354 Norman <i>Building up your mental health immunity</i>
10	Nov. 22	<b>Meditation / Quiz 9</b> <b>Topic:</b> Philosophy	<b>Reading:</b> OUR TRIBAL FUTURE Ch.10 & 11 PROSICIAL Ch. 12 <b>IRA Podcast #5:</b> The Realignment #264 Srinivasan <i>Centralized vs. Decentralized</i>
11	Nov. 29	<b>Meditation / Quiz 10</b> <b>Topic:</b> Future	<b>Reading:</b> OUR TRIBAL FUTURE Epilogue PROSICIAL Ch. 15
12	Dec. 6	<b>Winners of Metatribe meme announced</b>	

# THE TRUST PARADOX

COURSE POLICIES (i.e., “the fine print”):

## ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION POLICY

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to the University's plagiarism detection tool for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the tool's reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of this tool are described on the Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation web site (<https://uoft.me/pdt-faq>). If students choose to opt-out of submitting their essays to the University's plagiarism detection tool, they must notify the instructor. Students who choose to opt-out of using the plagiarism detection tool must do so in writing by email to the course instructor before **the end of the first week of class**. Assignments without plagiarism detection submission must be accompanied by an outline, first draft and an annotated bibliography to demonstrate the paper's originality

## POLICY FOR LATE ASSIGNMENTS

A late assignment will be accepted with a late penalty of 10% per day (including weekends) for up to 10 days. After 10 days, late assignments won't be accepted. Students with departmental approval for special consideration will be given an extended deadline with no late penalty. **If you have a legitimate excuse for a late assignment, this course will be using the [UTM Anthropology departmental process for special consideration](#).**

**\*\*You MUST complete the online process through this system [within 72 hours of the missed assignment](#).**

## POLICY FOR MISSED TESTS

Students who miss a term test will be assigned a zero mark for that test unless they are granted special consideration. **If the term test was missed for reasons entirely beyond the student's control, a written request must be submitted according to the [UTM Anthropology departmental process for special consideration](#).**

**\*\*You MUST complete the online documentation process through this system [within 72 hours of the missed test](#).**

If your request for special consideration is approved, you will be required to write a make-up test.

**\*\*\*Holidays and pre-purchased airplane tickets, family plans (unless there is a critical issue such as a death in the family), lack of student preparation, or the amount of work in other courses, are NOT acceptable excuses.**

## ACCESSIBILITY ACCOMMODATION

The University provides academic accommodations for students with disabilities in accordance with the terms of the [Ontario Human Rights Code](#) and the AODA legislation<sup>31F</sup> (Access for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, <http://www.aoda.ca>). Under the legislation, responsibility for ensuring accessibility is shared among all the players in the University: Accessibility Services, instructors, academic units and staff. Beyond our legislative obligations, the U of T takes pride in its serious commitment to those with disabilities. Our objective is an accessible learning environment that both meets the needs of students and preserves the essential academic integrity of the University's courses and programs. Students with an accessibility issue must consult with [UTM's Accessibility Services](#) in the Davis Building. Please contact the Accessibility Office at the beginning of your courses so that the proper supports are in place.

**FINAL MARKS** are tentative until approved by Dept. Chair and Dean's Office & recorded in Registrar's Office.

**The University of Toronto is committed to equity, human rights, and respect for diversity.**

All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect where all members of our community can express themselves, engage with each other, and respect one another's differences. As a course instructor, I will neither condone nor tolerate discrimination, harassment, or hate speech against any individual in this course. It is our collective responsibility to create a space that is inclusive and welcomes discussion. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns you may contact the UTM Equity and Diversity officer at [edo.utm@utoronto.ca](mailto:edo.utm@utoronto.ca) or the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union Vice President Equity at [vpequity@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpequity@utmsu.ca).

**STUDENT HEALTH & WELL-BEING SUPPORT.** The [UTM Health & Counselling Centre \(HCC\)](#) offers services for students experiencing health and well-being concerns, including those related to COVID-19. Please call the HCC at 905-828-5255 to book an appointment. In addition, the [My Student Support Program \(MySSP\)](#) provides University of Toronto students with real-time and/or appointment-based confidential, 24-hour support for any school, health, or general life concern at no cost to students. You can call or chat with a counsellor directly from your phone whenever, wherever you are. Download the MySSP app at the Apple App Store or on Google Play. You can also access the service 24/7 by calling 1-844-451-9700. Outside of North America, call 001-416-380-6578. Ongoing support is available over the **phone** in 146 languages. Immediate support is available over the **phone** in 35 languages and over **chat** in simplified Chinese, English, French and Spanish. Web option is also available at [MySSP.app](#).

**TAPING/RECORDING/PHOTOGRAPHING LECTURES is not allowed.** Any material prepared by the instructor is considered by the University to be an instructor's intellectual property covered by the Canadian Copyright Act. **Students wishing to record lecture or other course material in any way are required to ask the instructor's explicit permission, and may not do so unless permission is granted.** This includes tape/audio/video recording, filming, photographing PowerPoint slides, Quercus materials, etc. Such permission is only for that individual student's own study purposes and does not include permission to "publish" them in any way. It is absolutely forbidden for a student to publish an instructor's notes to a website or sell them in other forms without formal permission.

**COURSE COMMUNICATION:** Please use your utoronto.ca email address to ensure that your email messages are not filtered out by spam software and include "ANT\*\*\*\*" in the subject line. I will try to reply to all appropriate emails within 48 hours on business days. Keep your emails brief, and come to my office for longer discussions.

**ACADEMIC SKILLS CENTER** If you need assistance with your academic proficiency (e.g. writing skills, note taking, time management, study techniques etc.) please do not hesitate to contact the [academic skills centre](#) for assistance.

**CLASSROOM CONDUCT:** All cellphones, pagers and PDAs must be turned off during the lectures. You are expected to abide by the [University of Toronto's code of student conduct](#). Students who do not abide by the code of conduct will be asked to leave the lecture.

**RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE ACCOMMODATION**

It is the policy of the University of Toronto to arrange reasonable accommodation of the needs of students who observe religious holy days other than those already accommodated by ordinary scheduling and statutory holidays. Students have a responsibility to alert members of the teaching staff at the beginning of the term to upcoming religious observances and anticipated absences. It is most important that no student be seriously disadvantaged because of their religious observances. However, in the scheduling of academic and other activities, it is also important to ensure that the accommodation of one group does not seriously disadvantage



other groups within the University community. On an annual basis, the Office of the Vice-President and Provost publishes information concerning the anticipated dates of a number of holy days over the subsequent two academic years. The Office of the Vice Provost, Students & First-Entry Divisions has published guidelines found at <https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/secretariat/policies/religious-observances-policy-scheduling-classes-and-examinations-and-other>.

## RE-GRADING POLICY

**Term Work worth < 20% of the final grade:** A student who believes that their term work has been unfairly marked must make any inquiries about the mark on a graded piece of work **within one month of the return date** of the work. Regrade requests for term work worth less than 20% of the final mark may be submitted to the person who marked the work for re-evaluation. The student must submit: (1) the original piece of work; and (2) a written explanation detailing why they believe the work was unfairly/incorrectly marked. If a remarking is granted by an instructor, the student must accept the resulting mark as the new mark, whether it goes up or down or remains the same.

### **Term Work worth $\geq$ 20%**

Only term work worth at least 20% of the course mark may be appealed beyond the instructor. Such appeals must first follow the same guidelines as those mentioned directly above for work worth less than 20%. Again, the student must accept that the mark resulting from the appeal may be higher or lower or the same as the original mark. For more information about the appeals process refer to

<https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/iccit/students/policies-procedures/re-marking-pieces-term-work>

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. The [University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters](#) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

*In papers and assignments:*

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
- Making up sources or facts.
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.

*On tests and exams:*

- Using or possessing unauthorized aids.
- Looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test.
- Misrepresenting your identity.

*In academic work:*

- Falsifying institutional documents or grades.
- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes.

*On sharing instructor's intellectual property covered by the Canadian Copyright Act:*

- Posting test, essay, or exam questions to message boards or social media.
- Creating, accessing, and sharing assessment questions and answers in virtual "course groups."

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined [in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters](#). If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate

academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other [institutional resources](#). It is your responsibility to understand the [Code of Student Conduct](#) and the [Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters](#). These can be found on the UTM website (Registrar > Academic Calendar > Codes and Policies)

**Plagiarism:** It shall be an offence for a student knowingly:

- (a) to forge or in any other way alter or falsify any document or evidence required by the University, or to utter, circulate or make use of any such forged, altered or falsified document, whether the record be in print or electronic form;
- (b) to use or possess an unauthorized aid or aids or obtain unauthorized assistance in any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work;
- (c) to personate another person, or to have another person personate, at any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work;
- (d) to represent as one's own any idea or expression of an idea or work of another in any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work, i.e. to commit plagiarism (for a more detailed account of plagiarism, see Appendix "A")
- (e) to submit, without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere;
- (f) to submit any academic work containing a purported statement of fact or reference to a source that has been concocted.

(Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters)