Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology

Course: HH/PSYC4080.06A Neuropsychology of Abnormal Behaviour

Term, Time and Location: Fall/Winter 2011-2012 Wednesday 8:30-11:30 Ross Building (RB) N201

Prerequisite / Co-requisite: AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 1010 6.00 or AK/HH/PSYC 2410 6.00, with a minimum grade of C; AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2030 3.00 or AK/HH/PSYC 2530 3.00; one of AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2021 3.00, AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2020 6.00, AK/HH/PSYC 2510 3.00; AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2240 3.00 or AK/HH/PSYC 3145 3.00; AK/HH/PSYC 3140 3.00 (after Winter 2002) or AS/SC/PSYC 3140 3.00 or AK/HH/PSYC 3215 3.00. Students without these prerequisites may enrol with the written permission of the instructor. Course credit exclusion: None.

Course Instructor
Dr. R. Walter Heinrichs
416-736-2100 ext 66205
Behavioural Science 263
walterh@yorku.ca

Consultation hours
Wednesday 1:15-2:15
Thursday 1:15-2:15

Course Text/Readings
Course readings are posted on course/Moodle website (see also course dates/content) unless otherwise indicated.

Website
Make sure you have a Passport York account.
Go to http://moodle.yorku.ca
Click on 2011-2012
Log in with Passport York account
Registered students will be automatically added to the course.

Expanded Course Description
This course is designed to develop an appreciation of research and clinical issues in human neuropsychology with special reference to psychiatric and neurological disorders. I have structured the course in such a way that I carry the primary responsibility for instruction during the first term. In the second term students will work more independently and with my guidance to develop and present a formal research proposal. This proposal will be based on the student’s interests and chosen from a list and/or in consultation with the instructor.
The content of the course will be as follows. During the first term I will provide a half-course on schizophrenia, my principal research interest. I will cover selected basic neuropsychology, psychophysiology, and neuroscience along with information that is specific to understanding schizophrenia. This disorder is the most severe form of mental illness and represents a major scientific and clinical challenge to psychology, psychiatry, and neuroscience. It is also a misunderstood illness, something that I hope the course will help to correct. You are free to explore the wide range of clinical neuroscience in your research proposals and are not restricted to the study of schizophrenia. A glance at the topic list that follows will give an additional idea of what the course content is like.

**Previous & Potential Presentation/Proposal Topics**

Here are some research topics that students have chosen for their papers/proposals in the past:

aphasia, apraxia, agnosia, acalculia, alexia, dementia, dysexecutive syndrome, amnesia, neglect, anosagnosia, emotion, ADHD, synesthesia, neuroimaging, medication frontiers, effectiveness of music therapy for autism, alien hand syndrome, relative effectiveness of behaviour therapy and medication in bipolar disorder, violence and criminality, addictions, motor disorders, multiple sclerosis, Parkinsonism, cerebrovascular disorders, head injury, prevention of Alzheimer’s disease, animal models, deep brain stimulation, testing issues, cognitive rehabilitation, speech therapy, cognitive reserve.

**Course Learning Objectives**

The specific objectives of the course are that students will be able to:

- understand broadly the current state of schizophrenia science and treatment
- appreciate several neuroscience-related perspectives on mental illness
- formulate a research idea in terms of granting agency requirements
- describe and communicate research ideas in oral and written formats

**Course dates and class content 2011-2012**


October 12: Fall Reading/Co-Curricular Week no class


November 23: Review of term/test preparation

November 30: Term test

**HOLIDAY BREAK**

January 4: Orientation to second term; proposal sketch due; discussion of proposal ideas. Schedule of student presentations

January 11: Return of proposals. Discussion of “Background” section of final research/paper proposal. Individual consultation.


January 25: Discussion of “Methods” section of research paper/proposal. Individual consultation.
February 1: Discussion of “Originality” section of research paper/proposal. Individual consultation. (Class cancelled due to weather)

February 8: Student presentations. First date to hand in paper drafts for feedback.

(February 10 last day to drop course without receiving a grade)

February 15: Student presentations. Hand in paper drafts for feedback.

February 22: Reading Week, no class

February 29: Student presentations. Hand in paper drafts for feedback.

March 7: Student presentations. Hand in paper drafts for feedback.

March 14: Student presentations. Hand in paper drafts for feedback.

March 21: Student presentations. Last day to hand in paper drafts for feedback.

March 28: Student presentations. Last class.

(April 2: Formal research proposal submission date)

**REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term test November 30, 2011:</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation/proposal sketch due January 4, 2012:</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral presentation in class (winter term):</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written research proposal due April 2, 2012:</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation:</td>
<td>10%</td>
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**Grading, assignment submission, lateness penalties and missed tests**

**Grading:**

A+ = 90-100%  B+ = 75-79%  C+ = 65-69%  D+ = 55-59%  E = 40-49%
A = 80-89%    B = 70-74%   C = 60-64%   D = 50-54%   F = 0 -39%

Students may take a limited number of courses for degree credit on an ungraded (pass/fail) basis. For full information on this option see Alternative Grading Option in the Faculty of Health section of the Undergraduate Calendar.

**Assignment Submission:** Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment. Assignments are to be handed in to the
teaching assistant or course director in person.

**Lateness Penalty:** Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized 10% of the value of the assignment per day. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, family deaths and emergencies, etc., may be entertained by the Course Instructor but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter explicitly stating that a medical condition prevented normal activity).

**Missed Tests:** Students with a documented reason for missing a course test, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation (e.g., doctor’s letter) may request accommodation from the Course Instructor. In the case of the term exam, accommodation will comprise writing a make-up examination on an arranged date as close as possible to the original exam date. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

**ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS**

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information available on this website:

- [http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cce_main_pages/ccas.htm](http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cce_main_pages/ccas.htm)

York’s Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website

Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants

Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities

Student Conduct Standards

Religious Observance Accommodation