FACULTY OF HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

**Course**: HH/PSYC 2220 3.0 – Sensation and Perception 1  
**Course Webpage**: moodle11.yorku.ca/moodle/

**Term**: Winter Term 2012

**Prerequisite / Co-requisite**: HH/PSYC1010 6.0, with a minimum grade C

**Course Instructor**

*Example:* Heather Jordan  
Computer Science and Engineering 003b  
hjordan@yorku.ca  
Course consultation hours: Tuesday, 10-11 am

**Time and Location**

Lectures  
Tuesday 11.30 – 2.30  
CLH – F

**Course Description**

This course serves as an introduction to our current understanding the processing of visual and auditory stimuli, with an emphasis on humans. The course is organised around the principles that:

- Our senses have evolved over time to respond effectively in our environment.
- Although information falling on our sensory receptors is inherently ambiguous, we construct a sufficiently accurate perception of the world to interact with the world sufficiently.

The course includes information about the biology of our sensory systems, the mechanisms involved in processing sensory information, and the methodology used by to study both.

The course involves formal lectures (supplemented by films and videos) by Dr. Jordan, and independent reading/study on the part of the student. The teaching assistant for the course (TBA) will be available each week to answer questions about the course material and review of the exams. Dr. Jordan is happy to answer questions about the material for that week in class. *Each hour of lecture requires 2-3 hours independent work on the part of the student.* The required readings are central to the course, and the expectation is that each chapter will be re-read multiple times prior to exams. The lectures will serve to enrich, clarify, and illustrate the most crucial and complex aspects of the material. However, it is critical that the required reading chapter(s) are read at least once before the lecture.
**Course Text / Readings**
The required textbook for this course is:

Additional recommended readings will be posted on the course website.

**Evaluation**
The final grade for the course will be based solely on the following items weighted as indicated:

- In-class Exam 1 (m/c & short answer): 25%
- In-class Exam 2 (m/c & short answer): 25%
- Exam 3 (m/c & short answer): 25%
- Final Examination (m/c): 25%

m/c = multiple choice

Further instruction: Additional recommended readings will be posted on the course website.

**Grading, Assignment Submission, Lateeness Penalties and Missed Tests**

**Grading:** The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ - 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests* will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 89.99, B+ = 75 – 79.99, B = 70-74.99, C+ = 65-69.99, C = 60-64.99, D+ = 55-59.99, D = 50-54.99, E = 45-49.99, F = 0-44.99)

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.

**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., physician’s letter) may request accommodation from the Course Instructor. The weight of a missed exam will be added to the weight of the final (cumulative) exam. A make-up for the final exam will be held after the end of the final exam period. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**
Students with health-related, learning, physical, psychiatric, or sensory disabilities who require reasonable accommodations in teaching style or evaluation methods should discuss their
concerns with the course instructor at office hours on or before 22/10/2011 so that appropriate arrangements can be made. A letter from disability services at York is required to receive academic accommodations.

**IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS**

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents)

- 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

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tr>
<td>03/01/2012</td>
<td>The Eye</td>
<td>Chapter 1 (pp. 22-27) Chapter 2</td>
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<td>10/01/2012</td>
<td>Spatial Vision</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
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<td>17/01/2012</td>
<td>Perceiving and Recognizing Objects</td>
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<td>24/01/2012</td>
<td>Colour</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
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<td>31/01/2012</td>
<td><strong>Exam 1 (25%) &amp; Psychophysics Methods</strong></td>
<td>Chapter 1 (pp. 10-18)</td>
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<td>07/02/2012</td>
<td>Depth Perception and Binocular Vision</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<td>14/02/2012</td>
<td>Motion Perception</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<td>21/02/2012</td>
<td>WINTER READING WEEK</td>
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<td>28/02/2012</td>
<td>Attention and Scene Perception</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<td>06/03/2012</td>
<td><strong>Exam 2 (25%)</strong></td>
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<td>13/03/2012</td>
<td>The Ear and Psychoacoustics</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
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<td>20/03/2012</td>
<td>Hearing in the Environment</td>
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<td>27/03/2012</td>
<td>Music and Speech Perception</td>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
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<td>Final Exam Period</td>
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<td><strong>Exam 3 (25%) and Final Exam (25%)</strong></td>
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**Last date to enrol with Instructor’s permission – Jan. 30th**
**Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade – March 09th**