

**YORK UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY**

**PSY3495 3.0  
Neuroscience of Aging and  
Cognitive Health**

**Winter, 2016  
THURS. 2:30 – 5:30 p.m.  
Room: VC 135**

**COURSE DETAILS**

<b>Instructor</b>	<b>Dr. G. Turner</b>	<b>Email: grturner@yorku.ca</b>										
<b>Office Hours</b>	<b>Thurs. 1-2 pm Room 244 BSB</b>											
<b>Teaching Assistants</b>	<b>Sabrina Lemire-Roger*</b> <b>* Meetings by appointment</b>	<b>slrodger@yorku.ca</b>										
<b>Reading Materials</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Erber, Joan T. (2013). Aging and Older Adulthood, 3rd edition. Wiley Blackwell Publishing, United Kingdom</li> <li>2. Snowdon, D. (2002). Aging with Grace. Bantum Books. New York, USA.</li> </ol>											
<b>Course Description:</b>	<p>This course investigates the neural basis of cognitive changes across the adult lifespan. Students will learn how the brain is altered in structure and function as people age and how these changes impact cognition. The course will examine the border between normal and abnormal aging and how neuroscience research is informing strategies to sustain cognitive health into older adulthood.</p> <p><i>Prerequisites: HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 or AK/PSYC 2410 6.00 with a minimum grade of C; HH/PSYC 2240 3.00.</i></p>											
<b>Evaluation:</b>	<table> <tr> <td>Midterm Test</td> <td>35% (February 11, 2016)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Term Paper</td> <td>20% (Due: <b>Beginning</b> of class, March 24, 2016) *</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'Book Club' &amp; Online Discussion Questions</td> <td>5% (Online lectures run Jan. 07, March 03, 10, 17)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Intervention WIKI posting</td> <td>15% (Wiki open from February 25 – March 17)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final Exam</td> <td>25% (IN EXAM PERIOD)</td> </tr> </table> <p>* Late assignments will <b>not</b> be accepted. See policy for missed tests/paper deadlines below.</p> <p><b><u>Note: The last day to drop the course without receiving a grade on your transcript is Friday, March 04, 2016.</u></b></p>		Midterm Test	35% (February 11, 2016)	Term Paper	20% (Due: <b>Beginning</b> of class, March 24, 2016) *	'Book Club' & Online Discussion Questions	5% (Online lectures run Jan. 07, March 03, 10, 17)	Intervention WIKI posting	15% (Wiki open from February 25 – March 17)	Final Exam	25% (IN EXAM PERIOD)
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## ACADEMIC POLICIES

### Missed Tests / Term paper deadlines

1. Appropriate documentation verifying the circumstances for the missed test, exam or term paper deadline **must be provided within one week (7 calendar days) of the missed exam**. Failure to provide appropriate documentation will result in a grade of 0. One of the following forms of documentation stating the reason for missing the test, exam or term paper deadline MUST be provided:

(A) Tests, exams or term paper deadlines missed for medical reasons must be supported by an Attending Physician's Statement. The Attending Physician's Statement must include (i) the full name, mailing address and telephone number of the Physician, (ii) state the nature of the illness and its duration and (iii) a statement that the illness and/or treatment would have SERIOUSLY affected the student's ability to study and perform over the period in question, not just that they were ill and were seen by a doctor. Notes without such wording will not be accepted.

(B) Tests or exams missed for non-medical reasons must be supported by appropriate documentation (i.e., copy of a death certificate, automobile accident report, etc.) Pre-booked travel is not a reasonable excuse for missing a test or exam.

2. For a missed test that is justified as per 1A or 1B above, the grade component will be distributed to the final exam.

**NOTE: In the case of (2) above, the final exam will be cumulative and will cover material for the full course.**

**IT IS A SERIOUS ACADEMIC OFFENCE TO PROVIDE FALSIFIED DOCUMENTS FOR MISSED EXAMS. VALIDITY OF PHYSICIAN STATEMENTS OR OTHER DOCUMENTS MAY BE CONFIRMED BY THE INSTRUCTOR**

### Academic Guidelines

Students must familiarize themselves with the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage:

<http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.htm>

Further information can be found here:

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=69>

See also the Department of Psychology Supplemental Calendar and the York University Academic Integrity website for information on plagiarism, cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty. For example:

<http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.htm>

Please also complete the tutorial on academic integrity:

[http://www.yorku.ca/tutorial/academic\\_integrity/](http://www.yorku.ca/tutorial/academic_integrity/)

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate/committees/ascp/index-ascp.html>

- Senate Policy on Academic Honesty and the 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

## COURSE OUTLINE

**\*\*\* PLEASE ALWAYS CHECK MOODLE FOR  
NEW READINGS IN EACH LECTURE FOLDER \*\*\***

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
JANUARY 07, 2016	INTRODUCTION TO AGING & COGNITIVE HEALTH <b>(ONLINE LECTURE)</b>	<u>Readings:</u> - Chapter 1: pp. 3-13; 23-32
JANUARY 14, 2016	METHODS & CHALLENGES IN AGING RESEARCH; BIOLOGICAL AGING	<u>Readings:</u> - Chapter 2: pp. 33-60 - Chapter 3: pp. 61-82 (top); 86-92
JANUARY 21, 2016	NEUROCOGNITIVE AGING: SENSATION, PERCEPTION & ATTENTION	<u>Readings:</u> - Chapter 4: pp. 100-131
JANUARY 28, 2016	NEUROCOGNITIVE AGING: MEMORY & HIGHER COGNITION	<u>Readings:</u> - Chapter 5: pp. 132-164 - Chapter 7: pp. 199-233
FEBRUARY 04, 2016	NEUROCOGNITIVE AGING: MENTAL HEALTH & THE DEMENTIAS	<u>Readings:</u> - Chapter 11: pp. 329-360
FEBRUARY 11, 2016	MID-TERM TEST	<u>Readings:</u> NO READINGS
<b>FEBRUARY 18, 2016</b>	<b>READING WEEK</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
FEBRUARY 25, 2016 (WIKI OPENS)	COGNITIVE INTERVENTIONS; DEBATE PREP; MOODLE TUTORIAL	<u>Readings:</u> - To be posted on Moodle
MARCH 03, 2016	<b>ONLINE LECTURE,</b> DISCUSSION FORUM & THOUGHT QUESTIONS	<u>Readings:</u> - Aging Gracefully - <b>Discussion reading (Check Moodle)</b>
MARCH 10, 2016	<b>ONLINE LECTURE,</b> DISCUSSION FORUM & THOUGHT QUESTIONS	<u>Readings:</u> - Aging Gracefully - <b>Discussion reading (Check Moodle)</b>
MARCH 17, 2016 (WIKI CLOSES)	<b>ONLINE LECTURE,</b> DISCUSSION FORUM & THOUGHT QUESTIONS	<u>Readings:</u> - Aging Gracefully - <b>Discussion reading (Check Moodle)</b>
MARCH 24, 2016 (TERM PAPERS DUE: <b>BEGINNING OF CLASS</b> )	COGNITIVE INTERVENTIONS THE GREAT DEBATE	<u>Readings:</u> - <b>Debate prep materials on Moodle</b>
MARCH 31, 2016	AGING GRACEFULLY: BOOK CLUB & COURSE REVIEW	No Readings