

**PSYC 1010 6.0 C: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY
FACULTY OF HEALTH
FALL/WINTER 2013-2014**

Instructor: Dr. Rebecca Jubis

Telephone: You may leave a message with my **secretary, Agnes Levstik**, at 416-736-5125 and I will return your call. She is located in Rm 281 BSB.

Email: jubis@yorku.ca **Be sure to indicate your course and section and sign with your full name.**

Website: Go to: <https://moodle.yorku.ca>
Log in with your Passport York account
Click on your course
If you require assistance in accessing the website, please contact ithelp@yorku.ca or call 416-736-5800.

All course-related information, links to course resources, and grades will be posted on the Moodle course website. Also, you must be logged onto Moodle in order to receive important announcements and reminders that I periodically will be emailing to the class. It's important to check the course website and your York email regularly.

Distance Education Website: <http://www.yorku.ca/laps/disted/>

This website contains information, procedures and services offered by the distance education department.

Teaching Assistant Information:

This course has 2 teaching assistants (TAs) whose duties are to assist students with understanding course material, to grade tests/assignments, and to compile grades. Please feel free to contact your teaching assistant for help. Students will be assigned to a given TA according to the first letter of the student's surname, as follows:

Marissa Barnes (marisbar@yorku.ca) for students whose surname begins with A to Ka
Lily Solomon-Harris (lilysh@yorku.ca) for students whose surname begins with Kh to Z

Required Text:

Myers, David. G. (2013). Psychology: 10th edition in Modules. Worth Publishers.

This **textbook** is available in either a "loose-leaf" or a "hard cover" version (the loose-leaf version being the least costly), and is bundled with a **Study Guide** (containing practice test questions) and **PsychPortal**. PsychPortal, which is an excellent tool for studying and testing your understanding of course material, contains tutorials, quizzes, animations, flashcards, vocabulary and worksheets. Be sure to make good use of it!!

Course Description:

This course will guide you on a journey to learning about human behaviour and mental processes. Psychology is a very broad field ranging from the study of the biological basis of behaviour to the study of complex social interactions. This course will provide you with a sampling of a wide variety of topics, concepts, theories, and methods of research that form part of contemporary

Psychology. Among the topics covered will be: personality, memory, social behaviour, learning, intelligence, and psychological disorders.

Psychology does not have definitive solutions to our personal and societal problems, nor does it have definitive answers to questions like, “What makes me behave the way I do?” Nevertheless, it is a valuable tool for better understanding the causes and consequences of behaviour.

Hopefully, this course will provide you with a greater appreciation of the intricacies of human behaviour and the difficulties that psychologists encounter in conducting behavioural research.

Mode of Instruction:

It is important to note that this on-line course differs from typical university courses in that formal lectures are not held and interaction with the instructor and teaching assistants (TAs) is primarily via email, although face-to-face appointments are possible. Consequently, **you must be prepared for self-study and for monitoring and pacing your studying** in order to avoid last minute cramming before tests. I have provided a link on Moodle to “Reading Guide and Test Schedule” to help you pace your studying. Your textbook is clear and concise and should be quite manageable on your own. If you encounter difficulties, however, we are here to help you. We will be meeting on campus 4 times over the year, when you write your tests.

On-Line Open-Forum Discussion:

You are encouraged to participate in this general discussion forum on Moodle, where you are free to discuss with classmates, course-related issues or any psychology-related topic or concern. Discussions will be monitored regularly by a teaching assistant.

Supplemental Resources Posted on Moodle:

Under some of the different topic headings, you will find additional materials that you might find helpful or interesting. These include exercises to test your understanding of the textbook material, and short video-clips that demonstrate some of the concepts presented in the text. Although you will not be tested on these supplemental materials, I urge you to check them out.

METHODS OF EVALUATION

There will be a total of 4 tests, 1 assignment, and research participation (Undergraduate Research Participant Pool or URPP).

A) TESTS

Important – Photo ID is required to write all tests and York photo ID (YU-card) is preferable. Without it, you will NOT be permitted to write the test- no exceptions!! You should also bring pencils and an eraser to answer the multiple-choice questions because they will be computer-corrected (the computer may not recognize pen).

There will be a total of 4 non-cumulative tests, each worth 19%. Tests will consist primarily of multiple-choice questions and possibly a few short-answer questions. Each test will contain 1 or 2 multiple-choice questions (very general in nature) from each assigned video (videos are discussed below). I would strongly advise you against writing a test if you are feeling ill because grades will NOT be adjusted after-the-fact to compensate for such circumstances. Once you begin a test, you must complete it.

Test Accommodations for Persons with Disabilities:

If you are registered with the Counselling and Disability Services (CDS) and will be writing your tests through “alternative exams” (arranged by the Registrar’s Office), you must provide me with your letter of accommodation at the beginning of the course. It is important that, at the beginning of the term, you schedule ALL four tests with that office. If you miss a test, you must make arrangements immediately to write the make-up test and you must also follow the procedures outlined below.

TAKE NOTE THAT ALL TESTS ARE SCHEDULED ON SUNDAYS FROM 2-4 pm. The test dates are indicated below and it is your responsibility to ensure that you are available to write tests on ALL of these dates. **If you are unable to write tests on these dates because of course conflicts, work or other commitments, then you should not be enrolled in this course.** (See “Reading Guide and Test Schedule” on Moodle for test times and locations).

Missed Tests:

If you are unable to write a test for medical reasons or personal crisis, **you must notify Dr. Jubis (jubis@yorku.ca) directly** (not your teaching assistant) **no later than 48 hours** after the test (absolutely no later!). Also, you must have appropriate documentation for your absence. **If you miss a test for medical reasons, your physician must complete the “Attending Physician’s Statement” form that can be downloaded from the course website. Alternative medical notes will not be accepted.** You should hand in your documentation when you write the make-up test.

Make-up Tests:

If you miss any tests, for valid reasons only and with prior permission there will be only ONE make-up session at the end of the fall term and ONE at the end of the winter term. There will be no individualized testing sessions to accommodate the schedules of individual students.

B) ASSIGNMENT:

There will be only one assignment, worth 20%, and it’s due on Friday, March 7. It will be posted on Moodle at the end of the fall term in the event that you want to get a head start. You are expected to work on the assignment independently, and you should refrain from posting any answers on the discussion board (which will be regularly monitored). There will be a penalty for late submission.

Submitting your Assignment:

Detailed instructions for submitting assignments on-line to the eServices Office can be found at <http://www.yorku.ca/laps/disted/cover-sheetweb.htm> You might want to familiarize yourself with the procedure in advance. If you require assistance with electronic submission, phone the eServices Office at 416-736-5831 or toll-free at 1-866-261-1790. If you’re having problems outside of regular business hours either email your assignment to disted@yorku.ca, or fax it to **416-736-5637** and include a note that explains why you couldn’t submit in on-line.

C) UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PARTICIPANT POOL (URPP):

There are two options: participating in research or analysing a published research report.

Research Participation

The Department of Psychology requires that students earn 4% of their final grade by either participating in research or analysing a published research report (see below). This research is conducted by faculty and graduate students and has received ethical approval. The types of studies are quite varied and a number of them are on-line studies. This 4% is earned by participating in research for a total of 6 hrs (6 credits). You can earn 3 credits (2%) by participating for 3 hrs in the fall term and earn another 3 credits (2%) by participating for 3 hrs in the winter term. **IMPORTANT: you cannot earn all 6 credits (4%) in just one term. If you complete all 6 credits in the fall, or all 6 credits in the winter, you will earn only 2% and NOT 4%. Also, if you earn 3.5 credits in the fall, for instance, the .5 credits will NOT be carried over into the winter term.**

You are strongly encouraged to partake in this research. Not only does it give you the opportunity to experience what types of studies are conducted in Psychology, but 4% can make a difference in your letter grade! Do not wait until the last minute to participate because your choices might be limited, and all available studies might be filled.

URPP opens on Sept. 9 and the deadline for participation for the fall term is Dec. 23

“Paper Stream” Alternative

It may be difficult for some students to earn the 4% by participating in research because some of you might not be on campus regularly or there may not be many on-line studies available. Also, some studies require that you meet certain criteria in order to participate (for example, a study might request bilingual people only). If that’s the case, there is an alternative that you should seriously consider – the “Paper Stream Alternative”. For this alternative, you must analyze a published psychology research report and this will be assigned to you by the URPP office after you **notify them of your preference for this option**. If your paper is acceptable, you will earn 4% of your final grade.

IMPORTANT: If you choose this option, you must notify URPP (urpp@yorku.ca) of your choice by Sept. 30!!!!

It is your responsibility to ensure that URPP has assigned you the proper credits (you can simply check your URPP account), and report any discrepancies to urpp@yorku.ca directly. **A link to URPP information will be set up on our course website as soon as that information becomes available.** It will provide you with instructions about how to register with URPP, important URPP rules, as well as important dates and deadlines.

Be sure to provide your **correct course section (1010 C)** when you register with URPP.

Otherwise, you will not receive credit for your participation because they won’t recognize you.

TEST DATES

WEIGHTING

TEST 1 - Sunday, October 20, 2-4pm	19%
TEST 2 - Sunday, December 1, 2-4pm	19%
FALL MAKE-UP TEST (with prior permission only) – Sunday, December 8, 2-4pm	
TEST 3 - Sunday, February 9, 2-4pm	19%
ASSIGNMENT DUE - Friday, March 7	20%
TEST 4 - Sunday, March 30	19%
URPP	4%
WINTER MAKE-UP TEST (with prior permission only) – Sunday, April 6, 2-4pm	

Videos:

You will be required to view a number of videos that are relevant to some of the topics that we will be covering. These 25-min long videos are available on-line. One or two multiple-choice questions from a given video will be asked on a test, and the questions will be quite general in nature. There is a link to the videos on Moodle, or go to:

<http://www.learner.org/resources/series138.html> and click on the “VoD” icon located on the right of the video title. If you have trouble accessing the videos this way, try to simply google the title.

<u>Video #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Test</u>
14	The Mind Hidden and Divided	Test 1
19	The Power of the Situation	Test 2
13	The Mind Awake an Asleep	Test 2
16	Testing and Intelligence	Test 3
7	Sensation and Perception	Test 4
23	Health, Mind and Behaviour	Test 4

Grades:

Grades for tests will be posted on the course website about 2 weeks after they are written and I will send you an email notification as soon as they are posted. Grades will be posted using the last 5 digits of your York student ID#, and they will be ordered so as to facilitate finding your own grade. If for any reason your grade is not posted, please contact your assigned TA directly. Tests/Assignments are not returned to students, however, should you wish to view them you can make arrangements directly with your TA. The most convenient time to view your test might be when you come on campus to write a test.

Please Note:

If you require a particular grade in this course, please work now towards attaining it. This course does not offer extra assignments or tests at the end of the course to accommodate students who are a few marks short of their desired grade. Grades will be “rounded up” only when calculating your overall final grade (rounding up will not be done for individual test grades). Your final grade will be rounded up if it ends in .50 or higher. For instance, if your final grade is 74.50% it will be rounded up to 75% (B+).

The last day to withdraw from the course whereby your grade will not appear on your transcript is Feb. 14, 2013.

Marking Scheme Used In This Course:

A+	90 and above
A	80-89
B+	75-79
B	70-74
C+	65-69
C	60-64
D+	55-59
D	50-54

E	40-49
F	below 40

A regulation has been passed by the Senate of York University stating that students require a **minimum grade of C (60%) in PSYC. 1010 6.0** to be allowed to pursue a degree in Psychology, or to enrol in further Psychology courses even if they do not plan to major in Psychology.

Academic Dishonesty:

York University considers cheating and plagiarism a serious offence and it will not be tolerated. Please go to: www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.htm and read the **Senate Policy on Academic Honesty** and complete the **Online Tutorial on Academic Integrity**. (There is a link to this on Moodle).