

**York University**  
**Faculty of Health**  
**PSY2030 A (Phillips)**  
**RESEARCH METHODS**  
**Fall 2013**

**Course Director:** K. Phillips, Ph.D.  
Rm. 277 BSB  
Office Hours: Thursdays 6:00 - 7:00  
e-mail: [phillips@yorku.ca](mailto:phillips@yorku.ca)  
\*\*\*\*\*you MUST put the course number in the subject line for all e-mail communications and use your York account\*\*\*\*\*

**Teaching Assistants:** *For students with last names A-L*  
Sabine Johnson ([sabinej@yorku.ca](mailto:sabinej@yorku.ca)) Rm. 017 BSB  
*For students with last names M-Z*  
Kevin Desimone ([desimone@yorku.ca](mailto:desimone@yorku.ca)) SHERMAN1009

**Secretary:** Barbara Thurston, Rm. 283 BSB, (416) 736-2100 ext. 66253

**Class Time and Location:** Thursdays, 7:00-10:00 CLH-E

**Required Text:** Rosnow, R.L. & Rosenthal, R. (2012). *Beginning behavioral research: A conceptual primer (7<sup>th</sup> ed.)*. New York: Pearson Prentice Hall

**Prerequisites:** AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 1010 6.00 or AK/HH/PSYC 2410 6.00, with a minimum grade of C. Prerequisite or corequisite: One of AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2020 6.00, AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2021 3.00, AK/HH/PSYC 2510 3.00.

**Course Description:** see Departmental Calendar

**Procedures:** Classes will meet for lectures of approximately 2.5 hours. The balance of the sessions will comprise informal discussions or (in-class) tutorials. Tutorials are designed to supplement various topical areas and will provide additional opportunities for questions and discussion. Students are advised to read assigned materials and prepare questions concerning problematic material in advance of the tutorials. The TA will also be available for individual consultation by appointment.

**Evaluation:** Evaluation is based on 2 written assignments, one midterm exam and a final exam with the following weightings:

Assignment 1	10%	Assignment 2	15%
Midterm	35%	Final Exam	40%

Exams will be non-overlapping in terms of course material and will consist of multiple-choice items based on the text material, lectures and tutorial presentations **There will be no make up tests for missed midterms. In the event that the midterm is missed for legitimate reasons (see below), students will write a cumulative final exam covering ALL course materials.** A grade of 0 will be assigned to missed midterms in instances where students fail to provide appropriate supporting documentation. Students who miss the Final Exam must notify the TA within 24 hours to present their reasons. **Opportunities to write a Final Exam make up will be provided only to those students with legitimate reasons (as outlined on website) and appropriate supporting documentation.\*\*\*It is expected that students will consult the Guidelines for Missed Tests and Exams posted on the departmental website ([www.yorku.ca/health/psyc](http://www.yorku.ca/health/psyc)) for information on outstanding course requirements.**

**Grading:** The grading scheme for this course will conform to the 9-point grading system outlined in the York University Undergraduate Calendar. With increasing frequency, students have requested grade adjustments at the end of term, in service of enhancing their GPA standings. Grade adjustments, when warranted, will be applied to ALL students in the class, rather than on an individual basis. This practice is designed to ensure fairness. Students are welcome to go over all tests with the TA individually.

**Information on Academic Honesty, Student Conduct Standards, Religious Observance Accommodation and Accommodations for Students With Disabilities:** It is also expected that students are familiar with the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards web page:

([http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate\\_cte\\_main\\_pages/ccas.htm](http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cte_main_pages/ccas.htm)). Information on plagiarism, cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty is provided in the Department of Psychology Supplemental Calendar and the York University Academic Integrity web site:  
(<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=69>)

## LECTURE SCHEDULE

- September 12: Introduction (Chapter 1)
- September 19: Paradigms, Theories and Data (Chapter 2)
- September 26: Ethics in Psychological Research (Chapter 3 text and the APA Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct (may be found on the APA website at: <http://www.apa.org/ethics/code2002.pdf>)  
\*\*Students should download and peruse this document prior to lecture.
- October 3: Searching for Information  
**In-class Library Tutorial:** Using PsycInfo and other databases (Adam Taves)  
Assignment 1 will be distributed (due beginning of next class). Late assignments will NOT be accepted.
- October 10: Methods of Measurement (Chapters 4 & 5)  
**Tutorial : Scaling**
- October 17: Reliability and Validity (Chapter 6)
- October 24: **MIDTERM**
- October 31: Co-curricular Day - No classes
- November 7: The Experiment I: Logic (Chapters 7 & 8)
- November 14: The Experiment II: Research Designs (Chapters 7 & 8)  
**Tutorial: Variables and Confounds**
- November 8:** *Last day to drop course without penalty*
- November 21: Survey Research (Chapter 9)
- November 28: Correlational Techniques (Chapter 11)  
**Chi Square Tutorial**  
Assignment 2 will be distributed (due beginning of next class). Late assignments will NOT be accepted
- December 5: Making Inferences (Chapter 12)
- December 10 - 23 Final Exam Period**