

**PSYC 1010 6.0 C: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY
FALL/WINTER, 2011-2012**

Instructor: Dr. Rebecca Jubis

Office: Rm. 251 B.S.B. (Behavioural Sciences Building)

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.**

Website: Go to: <http://moodle.yorku.ca>
Click on "2011-2012"
Log in with your Passport York account
Click on your course
If you require assistance in accessing the website, please contact helpdesk@yorku.ca or call 416-736-5800.

All course-related information, links to course resources, and grades will be posted on the 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. For instance, this is how I will be contacting you if a test is cancelled due to inclement weather. Therefore, 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 3 teaching assistants (TAs) whose duties are to assist students with course material, grade tests, and 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:

Alexandra Basile (alexbas@yorku.ca): for students whose surname begins with A to F

Adam Bebko (bebbie@yorku.ca): for students whose surname begins with G to M

Jessica Schnoll (jschnoll@yorku.ca): for students whose surname begins with N to Z

Required Text:

Weiten, W. & McCann, D. (2010). Psychology: Themes and Variations. Toronto: Nelson (2nd Canadian edition).

This textbook is bundled with **Psyktrek 3.0 CD-ROM**. Psyktrek contains interactive learning modules consisting of tutorials that relate to chapter content, quizzes and tests, video clips, simulations of psychological concepts, and a glossary of terms. Also, bundled with the textbook at no extra charge, is a **Concept Charts** booklet and a comprehensive **Study Guide** that contains a variety of practice test questions.

You may also find it beneficial to visit the text's companion website at <http://www.themesandvariations.nelson.com>

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 scientific research.

Mode of Instruction:

It is important to note that correspondence courses differ from typical university courses in that formal lectures are not held and interaction with the instructor and teaching assistants (TAs) is restricted to email or telephone contact. Consequently, you must be prepared for self-study and for monitoring and pacing your studying in order to avoid last minute cramming before tests. 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 only 4 times over the year, when you write your tests.

On-Line Open-Forum Discussion: (accessed through the course website)

You are encouraged to participate in this general discussion forum 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.

METHODS OF EVALUATION

There will be a total of 4 tests and 1 assignment.

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%. Test 1 and Test 2 will be written in the fall term and will consist of about 4 or 5 short-answer questions and about 85-90 multiple-choice questions. Test 3 and Test 4 will be written in the winter term and will consist of 100 multiple choice questions, and no short-answer questions.

Test Accommodations for Persons with Disabilities:

If you are registered with the Counselling and Disability Services 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 you make arrangements with that office to write all four tests, at the beginning of the year. If you miss a test, you must make arrangements immediately to write a make-up test, and you must follow the procedures outlined below.

NOTE THAT ALL TESTS ARE SCHEDULED ON A SUNDAY. The test dates for the entire year are provided below and it is your responsibility to ensure that you are available to write tests on these dates. **If you are unable to write tests on these dates, then you should not be enrolling in this course.**

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) **within 48 hours** after the test (absolutely no later!). Also, you must provide 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 to your teaching assistant when you write the make-up test.

Make-up Tests:

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

Make-up tests will also be scheduled on Sundays.

B) ASSIGNMENT:

There will be only one assignment, worth 20%, and it’s due in the winter term. Although the due date is only on Mar 2, it will be available on Moodle at end of the fall term in the event that you want to get a head start on it. 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/coversheetweb.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.

<u>TEST DATES</u>	<u>CHAPTER</u>	<u>WEIGHTING</u>
TEST 1 Sunday, Oct 23	1, 2, 3, 4	19%
TEST 2 Sunday, Nov 27	5, 6, 7, 8	19%
TEST 3 Sunday, Feb 5	9, 10, 11, 12	19%
ASSIGNMENT DUE Friday, Mar 2		20%
TEST 4 Sunday, Mar 25	13, 14, 15, 16	19%
*RESEARCH PARTICIPATION (URPP)		4%

Undergraduate Research Participant Pool (URPP)

The Department of Psychology requires that students earn 4% of their final grade by participating in research. 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.

If you prefer not to participate in research, you can choose an alternative “paper stream”. For this alternative, you must submit a summary of a psychology research article that will be assigned to you. If your paper is acceptable, you will earn 4% of your final grade. If you choose this option, you must email the URPP at urpp@yorku.ca by a given deadline around the end of Sept. 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** when you register with URPP or you may not receive credit for your participation.

Grades:

Grades for Test1 and Test2 will be posted on the course website about 2 weeks after they are written, whereas grades for Test3 and Test4 (multiple-choice only) will be posted about 1 week after they are written. I will send you a 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 you write a make-up test and your grade is not posted, please contact your TA directly for your grade.

Tests are not returned to students, however, should you wish to view your written tests, you can make arrangements for doing so 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).

The last day to withdraw from the course whereby your grade will not appear on your transcript is Friday, February 10.

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**.