

**Faculty of Health**  
**Department of Psychology**  
**PSYC 2260 3.0 Section N: COGNITION**  
**Friday 8:30am – 11:30am in VH C**  
**Winter 2022**

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This section of Cognition is listed as **in-person** on the York University courses website. Of course, the pandemic may have other plans so please refer to course Announcements throughout the course for updates regarding changes to course delivery. The current plan is that all course delivery be moved online until January 24<sup>th</sup>. Thus, our first two meetings will take place online via Zoom. Links to the class Zoom sessions will be provided on eClass. We will abide by the University's plan moving forward beyond January 24<sup>th</sup>. As this section is intended to be in-person following the conclusion of measures to curb the spread of COVID-19, course evaluations will take place in-person unless we are still online by the dates of these evaluations (see below).

**Teaching Team Information**

**Instructor:** George Tomou

Office Hours: Fridays at 1pm - by appointment

Email: [gtomou@yorku.ca](mailto:gtomou@yorku.ca)

<b>T.A.</b>	<b>Amanda Piccirilli</b>	<b>Lindsay Wyatt</b>
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<b>Office Hours</b>	By appointment only	Mondays 9am-10am
<b>Students</b>	A-Mar	Mas-Z

**Land Acknowledgement**

We recognize that many Indigenous nations have longstanding relationships with the territories upon which York University campuses are located that precede the establishment of York University. York University acknowledges its presence on the traditional territory of many Indigenous Nations. The area known as Tkaronto has been care taken by the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Wendat, and the Métis. It is now home to many Indigenous Peoples. We acknowledge the current treaty holders and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This territory is subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement to peaceably share and care for the Great Lakes region.

**Course Prerequisite(s): Course prerequisites are strictly enforced**

- HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 (Introduction to Psychology), with a minimum grade of C.

### **Course Credit Exclusions**

Please refer to [York Courses Website](#) for a listing of any course credit exclusions.

### **Course website: [eClass](#)**

Course materials such as weekly powerpoint slides will be available on the course eClass site. The site will be your central access point for course materials.

### **Course Description**

This course will introduce topics from the field of Cognitive Psychology. We will cover topics such as the scientific study of how we perceive and interact with the world, and how information is processed, stored, and retrieved. Once we have established a foundation of some of these processes, we will also discuss what may go wrong and what cognitive disorders may arise. Specific topics include perception, attention, memory, imagery, concepts, language, problem-solving, and creativity. Students will be encouraged to critically examine existing theories of cognitive psychology, assess evidence for or against such theories, and consider applications to everyday life.

### **Program Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate broad knowledge of cognitive psychology.
2. Describe and evaluate current theory and research in cognitive psychology.
3. Understand and interpret principles of cognition in everyday life.
4. Define causes of human cognition from different perspectives.

### **Required Text**

Sinnett, S., Smilek, D., & Kingstone, A. (2016). *Cognition*. 6<sup>th</sup> Ed. Oxford.

Print ISBN: 9780199019700; eBook ISBN: 9780199019717

eBook options are available on VitalSource. The text can be purchased outright at full price, but the publisher also has rental options. These can be found here:

<https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/cognition-scott-sinnett-daniel-smilek-v9780199019717>

## Course Requirements and Assessment:

Assessment	Date of Evaluation (if known)	Weighting
Reflections	Throughout the course	10%
Midterm 1*	February 11	25 or 30%
Midterm 2*	March 25	25 or 30%
Final Exam	TBD – Final Exam Period	35%
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>

\*see description of Midterms below for more information on the weighting scheme

### Description of Assessments

#### **Reflections (2% each; 10% total)**

Throughout the course, students will have the opportunity to submit brief written reflections on the weekly material. There will be 6 opportunities to submit Reflections, but only 5 will go toward your course grade - this is designed to provide flexibility in submission. Students will **not** have the opportunity to make up missed Reflections as the full 10% can be made up despite missing a single one. These will occur **in-class** or during online sessions in the event that we are online after January 24<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Exams**

Exams will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. Exam questions will be derived from lectures and the textbook.

**\*Midterms 1 and 2 (55% total):** Midterm 1 will cover lecture and textbook material from Chapters 1, 3, 4, and 5. Midterm 2 will cover lecture and textbook material from Chapters 6, 7, 8, and 10. The weighting for the 2 midterms will be 25% and 30%. The midterm that each student receives a *higher mark* will be weighted 30% of the course grade, and the midterm that receives a *lower mark* will be weighted 25% of the course grade for a total of 55%. Please do not email your TAs informing them of which midterm you wish to be weighted with the 30% as this will automatically be applied to the midterm you did better on.

**Final Exam (35%):** The Final Exam will be cumulative in that all course material will be fair game. Chapters 11 and 13 will be highlighted as new material, as well as previously covered material throughout the course. The Final Exam will be held during the scheduled exam period (date and time TBD).

#### **Grading as per Senate Policy**

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 (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 89, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar – [Grading Scheme for 2021-22](#)

### Missed Tests/Midterm Exams/Late Assignment

For any missed quiz or late assignment, please let the course instructor know ASAP. Students MUST complete the following online form which will be received and reviewed in the Psychology undergraduate office. At this time, due to COVID-19 an Attending Physician’s Statement (APS) is **not** required, however, a reason for missing an evaluated component in the course must be provided.

[HH PSYC: Missed Tests/Exams Form](#). Failure to complete the form within 48 hours of the original deadline will result in a grade of zero for the missed quiz or late assignment.

### Add/Drop Deadlines

For a list of all important dates please refer to: [Fall/Winter 2021-22 Important Dates](#)

	Fall (Term F)	Year (Term Y)	Winter (Term W)
Last date to add a course <b>without permission</b> of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sept. 21	Sept. 21	<b>Jan. 23</b>
Last date to add a course <b>with permission</b> of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Oct. 5	Oct. 26	<b>Feb. 7</b>
Drop deadline: Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Nov. 12	Feb. 11	<b>March 18</b>
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of “W” on transcript – see note below)	Nov. 13 – Dec. 7	Feb. 12 – April 10	<b>March 19 – April 10</b>

### Add and Drop Deadline Information

There are deadlines for adding and dropping courses, both academic and financial. Since, for the most part, the dates are **different**, be sure to read the information carefully so that you understand the differences between the sessional dates below and the [Refund Tables](#).

You are strongly advised to pay close attention to the "Last date to enrol without permission of course instructor" deadlines. These deadlines represent the last date students have unrestricted access to the registration and enrolment system.

After that date, you must contact the professor/department offering the course to arrange permission.

You can drop courses using the registration and enrolment system up until the last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (drop deadline).

You may [withdraw from a course](#) using the registration and enrolment system after the drop deadline until the last day of class for the term associated with the course. When you withdraw from a course, the course remains on your transcript without a grade and is notated as 'W'. The withdrawal will not affect your grade point average or count towards the credits required for your degree.

### **Academic Integrity for Students**

York University takes academic integrity very seriously; please familiarize yourself with [Information about the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#).

It is recommended that you review Academic Integrity by completing the [Academic Integrity Tutorial](#) and [Academic Honesty Quiz](#)

### **Test Banks**

The offering for sale of, buying of, and attempting to sell or buy test banks (banks of test questions and/or answers), or any course specific test questions/answers is not permitted in the Faculty of Health. Any student found to be doing this may be considered to have breached the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty. In particular, buying and attempting to sell banks of test questions and/or answers may be considered as “Cheating in an attempt to gain an improper advantage in an academic evaluation” (article 2.1.1 from the Senate Policy) and/or “encouraging, enabling or causing others” (article 2.1.10 from the Senate Policy) to cheat.

### **Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities**

While all individuals are expected to satisfy the requirements of their program of study and to aspire to do so at a level of excellence, the university recognizes that persons with disabilities may require reasonable accommodation to enable them to do so. The university encourages students with disabilities to register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to discuss their accommodation needs as early as possible in the term to establish the recommended academic accommodations that will be communicated to Course Directors as necessary. Please let me know as early as possible in the term if you anticipate requiring academic accommodation so that we can discuss how to consider your accommodation needs within the context of this course.

<https://accessibility.students.yorku.ca/>

### **Excerpt from Senate Policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities**

1. Pursuant to its commitment to sustaining an inclusive, equitable community in which all members are treated with respect and dignity, and consistent with applicable accessibility legislation, York University shall make reasonable and appropriate accommodations in order to promote the ability of students with disabilities to fulfill the academic requirements of their programs. This policy aims to eliminate systemic barriers to participation in academic activities by students with disabilities.

All students are expected to satisfy the essential learning outcomes of courses. Accommodations shall be consistent with, support and preserve the academic integrity of the curriculum and the academic standards of courses and programs. For further information please refer to: [York University Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities Policy](#).

### Course Materials Copyright Information

These course materials are designed for use as part of the PSYC 2260 N course at York University and are the property of the instructor unless otherwise stated. Third party copyrighted materials (such as book chapters, journal articles, music, videos, etc.) have either been licensed for use in this course or fall under an exception or limitation in Canadian Copyright law.

Copying this material for distribution (e.g. uploading material to a commercial third-party website) may lead to a violation of Copyright law. [Intellectual Property Rights Statement](#).

### Course Schedule

*Course schedule is subject to change*

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
Week 1	January 14	Introduction	Chapter 1
Week 2	January 21	Perception	Chapter 3
Week 3	January 28	Attention	Chapter 4
Week 4	February 4	Memory Systems	Chapter 5
Week 5	February 11	<b>Midterm 1</b>	-
Week 6	February 18	Memory Traces and Schemas	Chapter 6
-	February 25	<b>Reading Week – no classes</b>	-
Week 7	March 4	Imagery	Chapter 7
Week 8	March 11	Concepts	Chapter 8
Week 9	March 18	Problem-Solving	Chapter 10
Week 10	March 25	<b>Midterm 2</b>	-
Week 11	April 1	Reasoning, Judgment, Choice	Chapter 11
Week 12	April 8	Consciousness	Chapter 13
-	<b>TBD</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>	-