

Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology
PSYC 2220 3.0 M: SENSATION AND PERCEPTION I
Thursdays, 11:30-2:30; room ACW 206
Winter term 2023

Note: This is an in-person course. All lectures and tests, except for the final exam, will be at the place and time given above. The final exam will be scheduled during the April exam period.

Instructor and TA information

Instructor: Dr. Richard Murray
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Office Hours	TBD	TBD

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](#)

All course materials will be available on the course eClass site, unless otherwise indicated by the instructor. The site will be your central access point for course materials.

Course Description

This course covers problems, experimental methods and research findings in sensation and perception. Vision and hearing are covered in detail, including discussion of the structure and function of the eye and ear, and cortical areas responsible for processing visual and auditory information.

Program Learning Outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate broad knowledge of biological determinants of sensation and perception .
2. Describe and evaluate current theory and research in sensation and perception.
3. Understand and interpret principles of sensation and perception in everyday life.
4. Define causes of human sensation and perception from different perspectives.

Required Text

Wolfe et al. (2020). *Sensation and perception, sixth edition*. Sinauer Associates.

Course Requirements and Assessment:

Assessment	Date of Evaluation (if known)	Weighting
Term test 1	February 16	30%
Term test 2	March 23	30%
Final exam	April exam period; to be determined	40%
Total		100%

The final exam will be scheduled during the official exam period in April. We will announce the date when it becomes available.

Description of Assignments

Term tests and exam. The tests and exam will cover the lectures and the assigned readings. The first term test will cover weeks 1-5, the second term test will cover weeks 7-9, and the final exam will cover the entire course.

Class Format and Attendance Policy

In-person attendance at the lectures is strongly encouraged.

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.). Quizzes, tests, and the final exam will bear 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 2022-23](#)

Missed tests and exams

For any missed test or exam, 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, but 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.

Policy on missed tests. There will be no makeup tests. If you provide suitable documentation for missing a test, you will have the weight of the missed test added to the weight of the final exam. Tests missed without adequate documentation will be assigned a mark of zero.

Add/Drop Deadlines

For a list of all important dates please refer to: [Fall/Winter 2022-23 Important Dates](#)

	Fall (Term F)	Year (Term Y)	Winter (Term W)
Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sept. 20	Sept. 20	Jan. 22
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Oct. 4	Oct. 25	Feb. 6
Drop deadline: Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Nov. 11	Feb. 10	Mar. 17
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of "W" on transcript – see note below)	Nov. 12 - Dec. 7	Feb. 11 - April 11	March 18 - April 11

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 PSYC 2220 3.0 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. See York's [Intellectual Property Rights Statement](#).

Course schedule

		topic	readings
1	12-Jan	light and the eye	pp. 33-39
2	19-Jan	light and the eye	pp. 39-55
3	26-Jan	spatial vision	pp. 57-61, 63-70
4	2-Feb	retinostriate pathway	pp. 70-78, 81-87
5	9-Feb	object perception	pp. 93-117
6	16-Feb	term test 1	
	23-Feb	<i>reading week; no lecture</i>	
7	2-Mar	colour vision	pp. 131-140
8	9-Mar	colour vision	pp. 140-146, 152-158
9	16-Mar	depth perception	pp. 170-175, 179-196
10	23-Mar	term test 2	
11	30-Mar	sound and the ear	pp. 273-291
12	6-Apr	hearing	pp. 305-329

See the following two pages for further details on the assigned readings.

The final exam will be scheduled during the official exam period in April. We will announce the date when it becomes available.

Detailed readings

January 12. Light and the eye (part one)

- pp. 33-39; chapter 2, from beginning of chapter, up to and including "The retina"

January 19. Light and the eye (part two)

- pp. 41-55; chapter 2, from "Retinal geography and function" to end of chapter
- skip the box on pp. 46-47 ("When good retina goes bad")

January 26. Spatial vision

- pp. 57-61; chapter 3, from beginning of chapter, up to but not including "A visit to the eye doctor"
- pp. 63-70; chapter 3, from "Acuity for low-contrast stripes", up to but not including "3.4 The striate cortex"

February 2. The retinostriate pathway

- pp. 70-78; chapter 3, from "3.4 The striate cortex", up to but not including "3.6 Columns and hypercolumns"
- pp. 81-87; chapter 3, from "3.7 Selective adaptation: the psychologist's electrode", up to but not including "3.8 The development of vision"

February 16. Object perception

- pp. 93-117; chapter 4, from beginning of chapter, up to but not including "4.5 Object recognition"
- skip the boxes on pp. 96-97 ("Scientists at work") and p. 117 ("Material perception")

March 2. Colour vision (part one)

- pp. 131-140; chapter 5, from beginning of chapter, up to but not including "5.4 Step 3: color appearance"

March 9. Colour vision (part two)

- pp. 140-146; chapter 5, from "5.4 Step 3: color appearance", up to but not including "5.5 Individual differences in color perception"
- pp. 152-158; chapter 5, from "5.6 From the color of lights to a world of color", up to but not including "5.7 What is color vision good for?"
- skip the box on pp. 141-142 ("Picking colors")

March 16. Depth perception

- pp. 170-175; chapter 6, from "6.1 Monocular cues to three-dimensional space", up to but not including "Aerial perspective"
- pp. 179-196; chapter 6, from "6.2 Triangulation cues to three-dimensional space", up to but not including "6.4 Combining depth cues"
- skip the box on pp. 188 ("Recovering stereo vision")

[continued on next page]

March 30. Sound and the ear

- pp. 273-291; chapter 9, from beginning of chapter, up to but not including "Auditory brain structures"

April 6. Hearing

- pp. 305-329; chapter 10, from beginning of chapter, up to but not including "10.4 Continuity and restoration effects"
- skip the boxes on p. 315 ("Scientists at work"), p. 319 ("Sounds from wind farms")