

Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology
PSYC 3310 3.0 Section: A PSYCHOLOGY AND LAW
Dr. Nicole Muir
Thursdays, 8:30am to 11:30am Location: ACE 001
Fall, 2023

This course will be delivered in person. Lectures will not be recorded. PDFs of the class slides will be available on eClass before the lecture. Slides must not be uploaded to the internet.

Instructor: Dr. Nicole Muir

Office Hours: By appointment

Email: muirn@yorku.ca

T.A.		Lana Vedelago
Email		lvedelag@yorku.ca
Office Hours	TBD	TBD

Course Prerequisite(s): Course prerequisites are strictly enforced

- HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 (Introduction to Psychology)
- Completed at least 54 earned credits

First Class: Thursday, September 7th, 2023

Last Class: Thursday, November 30, 2023

Course Credit Exclusions

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

Course website: [eClass](#)

Important notes:

1. Students **must complete both midterms and the final exam to pass the class.**
2. Please **email Dr. Muir before the exam if possible or within 48 hours of the missed exam AND complete the mandatory form:**
<https://psychology.apps01.yorku.ca/machform/view.php?id=16179>
3. **Students can only request only one test rewrite because of illness.** If you require more than one request, it is advised that you drop the class.
4. One scheduled session to write each missed midterm exam (exam #1 & #2) will occur on TBD dates. Students must write their missed midterm exam at this session.
5. For missed final exam: Rewrite session will be on TBD date in early January.
6. **Students must book their own exams with SAS (Student Accessibility Services).**
7. This course will **NOT** be delivered in an online format. Lectures will not be recorded.
8. **Show up for all tests on time.** If you are late, you may not be allowed to write exam.

Course Description

This course is designed to give students an up-to-date survey of law and psychology, also known as forensic psychology. The primary focus will be on issues related to psychology and criminal law, although some issues related to civil law (e.g., civil commitment, child custody) may be discussed. Topics include: the justice system, pretrial issues such as police investigations/interrogations and confessions, trial issues such as expert testimony and eyewitness testimony, and post-trial issues including sentencing, rehabilitation, and parole. Special populations including juveniles in the justice systems will be considered. As Indigenous peoples are over-represented in the Canadian legal system, there will be some focus on issues specifically related to Indigenous over-representation.

Program Learning Outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate in-depth knowledge in psychology & the law.
2. Articulate trends in psychology and the law.
3. Express knowledge of psychology and the law in written form.
4. Describe and explain limits to generalizability of research findings in psychology & law.
5. Demonstrate ability to relate information psychology and the law to own and others' life experiences.

Specific Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate in-depth knowledge in psychology & the law.
2. Express understanding of psychology & law in written form.
3. Develop an understanding of the research processes used in psychology & law.
4. Think critically about psychology and law research, the Canadian legal system, Indigenous over-representation in the justice system, and the use of forensic psychology assessments and treatments.

Required Text

Pozzulo, J., Bennell, C., & Forth, A. (2021). Forensic Psychology. **6th Edition**. Pearson.

<https://www.pearson.com/store/p/forensic-psychology/P200000002510/9780137682973>

Course Requirements and Assessment:

Assessment	Date of Evaluation	Weighting
Midterm Exam #1	October 5	40%
Midterm Exam #2	November 9	40%
Final Exam	Nov. 30 (last day of class)	20%*
Total		100%

***Note: The final exam will only be worth 20%** because of York policy that final exams that are not given in the exam period can only be worth 20%.

Description of Assignments

Midterm #1 & #2: If you are sick, the rewrite exam date will be approximately 1-2 weeks after midterm # 2 exam date. You must write the missed exam on this date.

Midterm #1, October 5th: will be on Chapters 1, 2, 8, & 5 and include 40 multiple choice and have a choice of 2 out of 3 short answer questions. You will have **75 minutes** to write the exam.

Midterm #2, November 9th: will be on chapters 3, 9, 10, & Barber-Rioja reading and include 50 multiple choice questions and have a choice of 2 out of 3 short answer questions. You will have **90 minutes** to write the exam.

Final exam, November 30th: The final exam will be on the last day of class. The final will be on chapters 13 and 12. There will be 20 multiple choice questions and one essay question which will be given to students in class 2 weeks before the last day of class. The final exam will be **90 minutes long**.

Class Format and Attendance Policy

Class will be in-person. Class attendance is necessary as content will be covered that is not in the textbook. PDFs of the slides will be added to eclass prior to class. Do not upload class slides to the internet (see section on Course material & copyright below).

No lectures will be recorded.

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 2023-24](#)

Missed Tests/Midterm Exams/Late Assignment

Students are encouraged to write exams at the scheduled time period if at all possible. Students with a documented reason for missing a course test, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation (e.g., doctor's letter, death certificate) may request accommodation from the Course Instructor. **Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.**

Those who miss the exam session will be asked to write an exam comprised of different questions. **If you miss a mandatory exam for no documented reasons or fail to follow the**

instructions below, you will receive a grade of zero and will not pass the class so please read carefully. You must write both midterm exams and the final exam to pass the class.

Please email Dr. Muir before the exam if you are ill (you have until 48 hours after the exam but it is better to contact Dr. Muir as soon as possible before the exam)

AND complete the mandatory form:

<https://psychology.apps01.yorku.ca/machform/view.php?id=16179>

In this email, please outline the reason for your absence, Include the course name and your full name and student number in your email.

Vacations, work, and holidays are **not valid reasons** for missing an examination. Students who have scheduled travel and vacation plans that conflict with the course schedule should enrol in the course during another term. A conflict in another course is also not a reason for missing a makeup exam.

Legitimate reasons for missing an exam include death in the family, severe illness, and emergency surgery.

If you miss an exam for non-medical reasons, you still must produce supporting documentation (e.g., death certificate, accident report, airline ticket for emergency travel). A personal email or note (e.g., from a parent) is not acceptable documentation. By submitting documentation you consent to its verification with the individual or organization providing it.

One scheduled session to write a missed midterm exam (exam #1 or exam #2) will occur on TBD date. Students must write their missed midterm exam at this session.

For missed final exam: Rewrite session will be on TBD date in January, 2024.

If you are sick or facing extreme personal circumstances and are unable to get the required documentation, it may be a good idea to drop the course and re-take it at a time when circumstances have improved and you are more able to attend to class work.

Students can only request one test rewrite because of illness. If you require more than one rewrite request, it is advised that you drop the class.

The final exam (worth 20%) will be on the final day of class. There will be no exam in the final exam period. The final exam (on the last day of class) will consist of a 3-4 page in class essay. The essay topic will be given to students two weeks before the final exam.

Please note that it is important to show up for all tests on time. To be fair to other students and to prevent cheating, students who are late may not be allowed to write. Also to be fair to the other students, **makeup tests will only be allowed under the extraordinary circumstances**. We will take attendance at all exams so be prepared to sign in and, if requested, have your York identification with you.

Further information about the exams will be announced in class. Lectures will present new material as well as some material from the text. Exams will cover all lectures and chapters from the text (whether or not the chapter material was reviewed in lecture), as well as any supplementary audiovisual materials that are provided as part of lecture.

Add/Drop Deadlines

For a list of all important dates please refer to [Undergraduate Fall/Winter 2023-2024 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)	September 20	September 20	January 22
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	September 28	September 28	January 31
Drop deadline: Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	November 8	February 8	March 11
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of "W" on transcript – see note below)	November 9 – December 5	February 9- April 8	March 12- April 8

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.

Information on Plagiarism Detection

None.

Electronic Device Policy

This course will **NOT** be delivered in an online format. Lectures will not be recorded.

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. **Students must book their own exams with SAS.** <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 3310 3.0 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

Date	Topic	Assigned Reading
1. Sept. 7	Intro to course & Forensic Psychology	Chapter 1
2. Sept. 14	Police Psychology The Role of Mental Illness in Court	Chapter 2 Chapter 8
3. Sept. 21	Indigenous people & the justice system	No reading
4. Sept. 28	The Role of Mental Illness in Court cont'd Eyewitness Testimony	Chapter 8 & 5
5. Oct. 5	Midterm Exam #1 40% Lecture at 10 am: Risk Assessment	Midterm on Ch. 1, 2, 8, & 5 & documentary
Oct. 12	READING WEEK NO CLASS	READING WEEK
6. Oct. 19	Continue Risk Assessment lecture The Psychology of Police Investigations	Chapter 10 & Chapter 3
7. Oct. 26	Forensic Treatment- MH in Jails & Prisons	Barber-Rioja et al. (2023). Chapter 2: MH Treatment in Jails. In <i>Handbook of MH Assessment & Treatment in Jails</i> . Oxford Academic. P. 38-56. (book online in York library)
8. Nov. 2	Correctional Psychology	Chapter 9
9. Nov. 9	Midterm Exam #2 40%	Midterm on Chapters 3, 9, 10, & Barber-Rioja reading
10. Nov. 16*	Intimate Partner Violence	Chapter 13
11. Nov.23	Assessment & Treatment of Young Offenders	Chapter 12
12. Nov. 30	FINAL EXAM 20%	FINAL EXAM -chapter 12 & 13 & essay question

*Will get final exam essay question on eclass.

IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the York University Secretariat webpage (see Policies, Procedures and Regulations) <http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/>

- Religious Observance Accommodation <https://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/policies/academic-accommodation-for-students-religious-observances-policy-guidelines-and-procedures/>
- York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website (see the hyperlinks above)
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants <https://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/policies/ethics-review-process-for-research-involving-human-participants-policy/>
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities <https://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/policies/academic-accommodation-for-students-with-disabilities-policy/>
<https://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/policies/academic-accommodation-for-students-with-disabilities-guidelines-procedures-and-definitions/>
- Student Conduct Standards <https://oscr.students.yorku.ca/>

RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

- Well-being <https://www.yorku.ca/well-being/>
- Student Counselling, Health and Well-being (SCHW) <https://counselling.students.yorku.ca/>
- Student Accessibility Services (SAS) <https://accessibility.students.yorku.ca/>
- Atkinson Centre for Mature and Part-time Students (ACMAPS) <https://acmaps.info.yorku.ca/>
- York University Libraries <https://www.library.yorku.ca/web/>
- York University Libraries Research Guide: Kinesiology <https://researchguides.library.yorku.ca/kinesiology>
- Academic Advising <https://www.yorku.ca/health/academic-advising/>
- Career Education and Development (CED) <https://careers.yorku.ca/>
- Current Students resources website <https://currentstudents.yorku.ca/>
- Student Financial Services (SFS) <https://sfs.yorku.ca/>
- Calumet and Stong Colleges Student Success Programs <https://www.yorku.ca/colleges/ccsc/support/>

CALUMET AND STONG COLLEGES STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAMMING

[Calumet](#) and [Stong](#) Colleges aim to support the success of Faculty of Health students through a variety of **free programs** throughout their university career:

- [Orientation](#) helps new students transition into university, discover campus resources, and establish social and academic networks.
- [Peer Mentoring](#) connects well-trained upper-year students with first year and transfer students to help them transition into university.
- [Course Representative Program](#) supports the academic success and resourcefulness of students in core program courses through in-class announcements.
- [Peer-Assisted Study Sessions \(PASS\)](#) involve upper-level academically successful and well-trained students who facilitate study sessions in courses that are historically challenging.
- [Peer Tutoring](#) offers one-on-one academic support by well-trained Peer Tutors.
- Please connect with your Course Director about any specific academic resources for this class.
- Calumet and Stong Colleges also support students' [Health & Wellness](#), [leadership and professional skills development](#), [student/community engagement and wellbeing](#), [Career Exploration](#), [Indigenous Circle](#), [awards and recognition](#), and [provide opportunities to students to work or volunteer](#).
- For additional resources/information about Calumet and Stong Colleges' Student Success Programs, please consult our websites ([Calumet College](#); [Stong College](#)), email scchelp@yorku.ca, and/or follow us on Instagram ([Calumet College](#); [Stong College](#)), Facebook ([Calumet College](#); [Stong College](#)) and [LinkedIn](#).
- Are you receiving our weekly email (Subject: "Calumet and Stong Colleges - Upcoming events")? If not, please check your Inbox and Junk folders, and if it's not there then please contact ccscadm@yorku.ca, and request to be added to the listserv. Also, make sure to add your 'preferred email' to your [Passport York personal profile](#) to make sure you receive important news and information.