

Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology
PSYC 4260 6.0: SEMINAR IN SENSATION AND PERCEPTION
Tuesday/8:30am
Fall 2023

Instructor and T.A. Information

Instructor: Professor Erez Freud

Office Hours: by appointment for mutual convenience, please email me

Email: efreud@yorku.ca

Course Prerequisite(s): Course prerequisites are strictly enforced

- HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 (Introduction to Psychology)
- HH/PSYC 2021 3.00 (Statistical Methods I) or HH/PSYC 2020 6.00 (Statistical Methods I and II)
- HH/PSYC 2030 3.00 (Introduction to Research Methods) or substitutes
- HH/PSYC 2220 3.00 (Sensation and Perception I)
- Students must be in an Honours program in Psychology and have completed at least 84 credits

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. The site will be your central access point for course materials.

Course Description

We will conduct and analyze a number of online and in-person experiments that relate to and demonstrate concepts learned in Sensation and Perception (2220) or other cognitive neuroscience courses.

Students will complete short experiments where they will acquire and analyze the data and respond to questions. The final project will require a slightly longer research report using APA guidelines.

Program Learning Outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate in-depth knowledge in sensation and perception.
2. Critically evaluate, synthesize and resolve conflicting results in sensation and perception.
3. Articulate trends in the psychology of sensation and perception

4. Locate research articles in sensation and perception and show critical thinking about research findings.
5. Express knowledge of visual perception in written form.
6. Engage in evidence-based dialogue with course director and peers.
7. Demonstrate an ability to work with others.

Specific Learning Objectives

This course aims to enhance your skills in experimental design within the field of perception/cognitive neuroscience. We will engage in various online perception/cognitive neuroscience experiments that explore topics related to vision, perception, and cognitive neuroscience. By conducting these experiments, you will develop the ability to analyze data and gain experience in presenting your findings using the commonly employed methods of research scientists, such as oral and poster presentations, as well as written reports.

In this laboratory course, you will actively participate in short experiments and data collection exercises. These activities will involve measuring cognitive neuroscience processes within yourself. The goal is for you to gain insights into the steps followed by cognitive neuroscientists during experiments, and to acquire fundamental skills in data management, analysis, and presentation. Although the primary focus is on skill development, you will also acquire some knowledge about perception and cognitive processes throughout the course.

To ensure you are well-prepared for specific labs, some class time will be dedicated to brief lectures and discussions that provide essential background information. However, the course emphasizes hands-on practical methods rather than serving as a comprehensive survey of the field.

Lastly, this course is designed to be practical and equip you with essential critical thinking and computer skills that are valuable in any future endeavors. We will allocate time to ensure everyone is proficient in working with data sets in Microsoft Excel and JASP (<https://jasp-stats.org/>). Additionally, you will learn how to visually present your results by creating informative figures and plots.

Required Text

- There is no required textbook, but two texts are recommended for use in this course:
 1. Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7th Edition (2020).
 2. A copy of a textbook on Sensation and Perception may also be useful but not required.

Course Requirements and Assessment:

Assessment	Due Date	Weighting (%)
On-going class assignments	TBD	60%
Participation in class discussion	On going	15%
Final assignment	Last day of the term	25%
Total		100%

Description of Assignments

We will be participating in a short online experiment/demonstration each week. Upon completion of the online experiment, you will answer a series of short questions about the experiment/demonstration. Links to the experiments will be posted each week in eclass.

Class Format and Attendance Policy

Attendance and participation in class discussion is mandatory. Classes will not be recorded. We will meet in person.

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 UndergraduateCalendar - [Grading Scheme for 2023-24](#)

Missed Tests/Midterm Exams/Late Assignment:

For any missed quiz or late assignment, 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 [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

It is recommended that you pass your papers through TurnItIn to help you avoid plagiarism.

Electronic Device Policy

This course will be delivered in an online format and therefore electronic devices (e.g., tablets, laptops) are permitted during class time for course-related purposes. It is expected that you would complete tests/exams in a manner that does not require consulting an unauthorised source during an examination unless the tests/exams are open-book.

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 PSYC4260 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 (subject to changes):

Date	Topic	Experiment(s)
12/9	Introductory and planning meeting	-
19/9	Perceptual organization	
26/9	Visual illusions	Ponzo: https://run.pavlovia.org/efreud/ponzo_july2023
3/10	Object Recognition	Detection vs. Categorization
17/10	Face Perception	Face inversion: https://run.pavlovia.org/efreud/face_inversion_june2023
24/10	Disorders of visual perception	
31/10	Perception and Action	Grasping the Ponzo illusion
7/11	Attention	The Posner paradigm / attentional blink
14/11	No class	
21/11	Building online experiments	
28/11	Data collection	
5/12	Personal meetings	