

**Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology
PSYC 2130 3.0 N: PERSONALITY
Tuesdays 8:30am-11:30am
Winter/2024**

This is an in-person course. Course content will be delivered synchronously in Vari Hall C. Please review the course calendar (last page of syllabus) for exam dates, and due dates for assessments. All students are expected to attend in person lectures and exams so be sure to review the course calendar provided in this document.

Teaching Team

Instructor: Dr. Maxwell Barranti
Office Phone: (416) 736-2100 x40563
Office Hours: Thursdays 11am-12pm or by appointment.
Office Location: BSB 324
Email: See email policy on eClass

TA	Email	Office Hours
Paolina Onorato	See email policy	By appointment
Rachel Howells	See email policy	By Appointment

Course Prerequisite(s): Course prerequisites are strictly enforced

- HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 (Introduction to Psychology).

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

In this course students will learn about the scientific study of personality. Students will learn current theories about personality and how scientists test those theories. In doing so, students will learn how to measure personality, how personality develops, and how personality psychology permeates other psychological disciplines and everyday life.

Program Learning Outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate broad knowledge of psycho/social determinants of behaviour.
2. Describe and evaluate current theory and research in core areas.
3. Understand and interpret psychological information in everyday life.
4. Define causes of human behaviour from different perspectives.

Specific Learning Objectives

1. Critically evaluate claims about personality psychology in the media.
2. Converse with peers about current personality theory, trends, research, and how course content applies to everyday life.

Optional Textbook

The textbook is completely optional for this course. I will cover all course material in lecture. Thus, you will not be expected to read the textbook for tests or assignments. With that said, we embrace individual differences in this course. Some students need additional resources to help solidify their learning, and the textbook is one of those additional resources that students can use to supplement course lectures.

I have coordinated with the York University bookstore to get students access to our textbook at a reduced price through the Day 1 Digital program. There will be a 14-day free trial period where you can check out the textbook and decide if you want this resource or not. Use this trial period to decide if you want the textbook or not.

If you DO NOT want the textbook:

Nothing to do. The 14-day trial will expire on its own at no cost to you.

If you WANT the textbook:

You need to opt-in to the textbook for this course. The opt-in option is located through the Day1Digital link on eClass. The e-book will be billed to your student account after the course refund deadline. This process avoids the need for students to pay with a credit card or buy a more expensive physical copy of the book from the bookstore.

Course Requirements and Assessment:

Assessment	Date of Evaluation (if known)	Weighting
Syllabus Quiz	Class 2	1%
Article Evaluations	Class 4, 8, and 11	30%
Discussion Boards	Class 5, 9, and 12	20%
Exam I	Class 7	24%
Exam II	Exam Period - TBD	25%
Total		100%

Description of Assignments

This course is organized into six components: Lectures, Syllabus Quiz, Article Evaluations, Discussion Boards, Class Activities, and Tests.

Lectures

Lectures will be in person. Audio recordings of lectures will be accessible via the course page on eClass within a few business days.

Syllabus Quiz (1% of course grade)

The syllabus quiz is a short assessment that will help us accomplish at least three goals. First, the syllabus quiz will ensure everyone is on the same page when it comes to course policy. Second, it will familiarize students with the kinds of questions and question formats that may appear on test. Third, this will allow students to sort out any technical issues with eClass. The fact that you are reading this means you are off to a great start. You will have unlimited attempts to complete the quiz while it is open. The syllabus quiz is due before the start of Class 2 but will remain open for additional week as part of my automatic extension policy (see late policy for more details). The syllabus quiz will be delivered remotely and completed on eClass. You must answer all questions correctly to receive credit for the syllabus quiz. There will be a wide variety of question types (e.g., multiple choice, short answer, fill in the blank, calculation) which mirror the style of question for exams. If you are having technological difficulties this is the time to sort them out with the IT department while you have unlimited attempts.

Article Evaluation Assignments (30% of course grade)

Each article assessment will involve critically thinking about a news article, blog post, or video from your typical news feed that is relevant to personality psychology. Once you have read or watched this content, you will write a ½-1 page (single spaced) evaluation of the merits of the claim using the context of current scientific thinking about personality. The purpose of this assignment is to get you to start looking for connections between the material and your everyday lives. We will be using artificial intelligence to build our critical thinking skills. Here is a bit more detail about each submission:

Article Evaluation #1 (10% of course grade)

For the first article evaluation, I will be providing you with an article and a first draft of the evaluation written by ChatGPT (a deep language learning algorithm). You must revise this draft in your own words. Doing so will involve removing irrelevant/weak arguments in the draft and adding to it's (lack of) coherent arguments.

Article Evaluation #2 (10% of course grade)

Building on your skills, for this submission you will find your own articles to evaluate. You are encouraged but not required to use AI to write your rough draft. Once you have a rough draft from the AI, you will revise it (similar to what you did in the first article evaluation).

Article Evaluation #3 (10% of course grade)

Now you are ready for the full thing! For the third article evaluation you will put your skills to the test and write an article evaluation without any help from AI. Absolutely no AI should be used for this assignment.

For more details see the instructions in eClass for each assignment.

Discussion Boards (20% of course grade)

Discussion Boards will be completed remotely and are asynchronous. Students are expected to contribute to three discussion boards (see course schedule). The submission process of discussion boards in this course is premised on the principles of universal design. This allows

students to structure their time, plan for needed breaks, and/or need for extra time on task. Those that need flexibility with deadlines can self-accommodate and need not make any special arrangements. No late submissions will be accepted beyond my automatic extension policy for any reason (e.g., technology, personal, or unforeseen circumstances). Each discussion board will be graded based on students' response to the discussion topics, connections to the course and everyday life, responses to peers, and overall quality. For much more detail (including rubric) please see Discussion Board Instructions on eClass.

Class Activities

Class Activities will take place in lecture (see course calendar for dates). These are non-graded activities. Participation in these class activities is intended to be a fun way to illustrate course content using our own personalities.

Exams (49% of course grade)

Tests will be in person. Test I will take place in lecture on Class 7. Test II will be cumulative and take place during the final exam period. The duration of tests in this course are premised on the principles of universal design. I have designed the test to take 2 hours to complete; however, I will allow everyone to write for 3 hours so that those that need up to 50% additional time can self-accommodate and need not make any special arrangements.

Students whose accommodation require more time, or other arrangements (e.g., individual room) should schedule their exams with Alt Exam Center. <https://altexams.students.yorku.ca/>

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](#)

Late Assignments

The submission process of assignments is grounded in universal design principles. Those that need flexibility with deadlines can self-accommodate and need not make any special arrangements. Students are granted an automatic 1-week extension on all assignments (i.e., article evaluations, discussion boards, syllabus quiz). You do not have to request these extensions and can use the 1-week extensions on any/all assignments. Submissions after the due date are late; however, they will be accepted at no penalty up until the extension end date. No submission of any kind for any reason will be accepted beyond the extension end date.

Please do not think that the extensions represent new due dates. Imagine this example: a student who aims to submit on time just before the due date might run into technical issues with their internet/computer and miss the deadline by 5 minutes. No problem, the submission ends up being 5-minutes late but well within the 1-week automatic extension. This student's assignment will be marked at no penalty. In contrast, imagine a student who aims to submit just before the extension ends who experiences the same technical issues. If they submit 5 minutes after the extension

ends, then they will receive a 0. The reason for this 0 is because the student wasn't simply 5 minutes late, their submission is a week and five minutes late and thus outside of the 1-week extension.

Missed Exams

Missed exams are different from missed assignments. For any missed exam, students **MUST** complete the following online form which will be received and reviewed in the Psychology undergraduate office.

[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 exam.

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

To promote academic integrity in this course, students will be required to submit their written assignments to Turnitin (via the course eClass) for a review of textual similarity and the detection of possible plagiarism. In so doing, students will allow their material to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used only for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin service are described on the Turnitin.com website.

Artificial Intelligence Policy

We will be using artificial intelligence to help us build our critical thinking skills. At no point in this course will it be appropriate to submit comply AI generated texts and a purely AI written submission will be considered a breach of academic honesty. For some assignments you will be welcomed and encouraged to use AI as a starting point, but you will always be expected to extensively revise any AI written text. For more information on the university's perspective on AI visit this website: <https://www.yorku.ca/unit/vpacad/academic-integrity/ai-technology-and-academic-integrity/>

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 2130 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

Lectures	Dates	Assignment Due	Topics	Class Activity
Class 1	Tuesday Jan 9 th		Course Orientation Data Types	Course Welcome
Class 2	Tuesday Jan 16 th	Syllabus Quiz Due @8:30am	Data Collection	None
Class 3	Tuesday Jan 23 rd		Person Vs Situation	Using Chat GPT/AI
Class 4	Tuesday Jan 30 th	Article Evaluation #1 Due @8:30am	Personality Judgements	Discussion Board #1 Warm-up
Class 5	Tuesday Feb 6 th	Discussion Board #1 Due @8:30am	Biological Basis	None
Class 6	Tuesday Feb 13 th		Theories of Personality	Test I AMA
	Week of February 20 th	Reading Week		
Class 7	Tuesday Feb 27 th		Test I – In Class	
Class 8	Tuesday March 5 th	Article Evaluation #2 Due @8:30am	Personality Pathology	Discussion Board #2 Warm-up
Class 9	Tuesday March 12 th	Discussion Board #2 Due @8:30am	Personality Change	None
Class 10	Tuesday March 19 th		Interpersonal Dynamics	Moon Activity
Class 11	Tuesday March 26 th	Article Evaluation #3 Due @8:30am	Personality Across the Globe	Discussion Board #3 Warm-up
Class 12	Tuesday April 2 nd	Discussion Board #3 Due @8:30am	TBD	Test II AMA
Exam Period	Final Exam Period		Test II	