

COURSE OUTLINE  
**Introduction to Psychology PSYC 1010A**  
**York University**  
**Fall/Winter 2014-15**

**Last date to drop courses without receiving a grade February 6, 2015**

**TIME:** Mondays: 7:00-10:00

**CLASSROOM:** LAS A

**COURSE DIRECTOR:** Gerry Goldberg, Ph.D., C. Psych. (**email: [gegold@yorku.ca](mailto:gegold@yorku.ca)**)

**OFFICE HOURS:** **After Class and by appointment before class.** Contact through email to secure appointment or to ask questions.  
Office: Behavioural Science Building (BSB): Room 277

**SECRETARY:** Zehra Bandhu office is 284 BSB, Email: [zehra@yorku.ca](mailto:zehra@yorku.ca),  
Phone: 416 736 2100 Ext: 66232.

**REQUIRED TEXT:** Weiten, W. & McCann, D. (2013). Psychology: Themes and Variations (3rd Canadian Edition). Toronto, Canada: Nelson Education ISBN: 0176593055.  
The Textbook package I have ordered for the course includes the textbook, Concept Charts (an ideal tool for studying), plus MindTap (an Online Homework and Studying Solution that many students have found useful for lecture and exam preparation). You can access and register for your Mindtap account here: <http://login.nelsonbrain.com/course/MTPN-V8RP-PL3R>.

**URPP or Research Participation:** Will be discussed at first class. This will be 4% of the course grade.

**TESTS/Evaluation:**

- Student evaluation is based on two components. 4 exams constitute 96% of your final grade.
- Four percent of your grade comes from your participation in the URPP (Undergraduate Research Participant Program) research opportunities. The URPP coordinator will visit our class in the first few weeks of the course to describe the URPP program and your participation in it. All Introductory psychology students can receive 4% for participating in 6 hours of research run by the URPP. The 4% is added on to your exam grades to give you a final grade out of 100%. You can contact them at [urpp@yorku.ca](mailto:urpp@yorku.ca). If you have any concerns regarding URPP points or participation, email them, not your instructor or TA.

**Tests**

- **Students must present their York student ID card or a government (Can.) issued pictured ID. Students will not be permitted to write without such documentation.**
- As indicated below, there are two exams per semester, four in total each of different weight.
- Exams are **non-cumulative** and each cover roughly four chapters + class material.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> and final exam will take place during the final official exam period
- All questions will be drawn from the text, lectures and media presentations.
- Each exam will consist of approximately 75 multiple choice questions (= 80%) and a series of short answer and/or essay questions (= 20%). NOTE: You will select 3 of 5 essay options.
- The multiple-choice answer sheets need be marked in pencil, so students should make sure they have an adequate supply of pencils with erasers.

- Test 1:** Oct 6 (20%) Chapters 1-4, Appendix B, plus lectures  
**Test 2:** Dec 1 (20%) Chapters 5-8 plus lectures/media following previous Test 1 to present.  
**Test 3:** Feb 23 (28%) Chapters 10-13 plus lectures/media following Test 2 to present.  
**Test 4:** (exam period) (28%) Chapters 9,14-16 plus lectures/media following Test 3 to end.

**SHOULD WEATHER OR OTHER PROBLEMS MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO HOLD TESTS ON THE DATE SCHEDULED, THEY WILL BE HELD THE NEXT LECTURE PERIOD**

## COURSE FORMAT

This course will be conducted in a lecture format with films and occasional in class demonstrations. The lectures will discuss and expand upon text readings. The first lectures will follow the text fairly closely but as the course progresses the lectures will deviate from the text. **Although not all text material will be discussed directly in class you are responsible for the material for test purposes. Some of the lectures will discuss material not available in the text. Again, you are responsible for this material as well as films shown in class. If you miss a class, try to borrow notes from a classmate.**

**When studying for tests, do not study just from the text or just from the lecture notes.** Films and videos will be shown from time to time and general questions derived from this material may appear on tests. Periodically, research demonstrations and experiments will be conducted in class. These are generally designed to illustrate important concepts or to give experience in participating in a subject role in research. Although direct participation is voluntary, it is encouraged and the results of any such exercise will be discussed in class where relevant and questions based on this material may appear on tests. If in doubt as to the material to be examined on tests, please ask the TA or Dr. Goldberg.

## MOODLE PAGE

**(Posting of Grades, updates, PowerPoint slides, and other important information)**

The Moodle course site has important information about the course (including a copy of this course outline) and most of the lecture slides in PowerPoint format. These slides are not a substitute for attending lectures and taking notes. The grades will also be posted on this site. New information concerning the course, such as make-up exam information (date, time and room) will be posted.

***It is your responsibility to check the Moodle site for this course frequently for updates.***

Go to: <http://moodle.yorku.ca/index.htm> to learn how to access and use Moodle

### *Fall/Winter 2014-15*

	DATE	TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF TOPICS	TEXT READING
1.	Sep 8	Introduction	Ch. 1
2.	Sep 15	Research Methods	Ch. 2
3.	Sep 22	Biological Basis of Behaviour	Ch. 3
4.	Sep 29	Sensation and Perception	Ch. 4
5.	Oct 6	<b>Test 1: Chapters 1-4, appendix plus lectures/media</b>	
	<i>Oct 13</i>	<b><i>Thanksgiving—No classes</i></b>	
6.	Oct 20	Variations in Consciousness	Ch. 5
7.	Oct 27	Variations in Consciousness	Ch. 5
8.	Nov 3	Learning	Ch. 6
9.	Nov 10	Human Memory	Ch. 7
10.	Nov 17	Language and Thought	Ch. 8
11.	Nov 24	Language and Thought	Ch. 8
12.	Dec 1	<b>Test 2: Chapters 5-8 plus lectures/media following Test 1 to present</b>	
		<b><i>Winter Break</i></b>	
13.	Jan 5	Motivation and Emotion	Ch. 10
14.	Jan 12	Motivation and Emotion	Ch. 10

15.	Jan 19	Human Development	Ch. 11
16.	Jan 26	Personality	Ch. 12
17.	Feb 2	Stress & Health	Ch. 13
18.	Feb 9	Stress & Health	Ch. 13
	<i>Feb 16</i>	<b>Reading week—NO classes</b>	
19.	Feb 23	<b>Test 3: Chapters 10-13 plus lectures/media from after Test 2 on to present</b>	
20.	Mar. 2	Psychological Disorders	Ch. 14
21.	Mar. 9	Treatment of Psychological Disorders	Ch. 15
22.	Mar. 16	Social Behaviour	Ch. 16
23.	Mar. 23	Social Behaviour	Ch. 16
24.	Mar. 30	Intelligence, Testing and Ind/Organizational Psych	Ch. 9
	Exam Period Apr.8-24	<b>Test 4: Chapters 9, 14 –16, plus lectures/media from Test 3 on to end</b>	

**SEE MOODLE SITE FOR UPDATES**

Teaching Assistants for this course				
You need contact via email to secure an appointment				
Student Surname:	TA	Email address	Office	Office Hours
A- Di	Campbell, Lauren	lc15@yorku.ca	2006 Sherman	Wed 1:00-2:00
Ding-Jugu	Malin, Ashley	ashleyjs@yorku.ca	013 BSB	Thu 12:00-1:00
Jung-Niet	Mintah, Kojo	mintah@yorku.ca	5022B TEL	Tue 3:00-4:00
Nirm-Shir	Robinson, Suzanne	srobinso@yorku.ca	133C BSB	Fri 9:30-10:30am
Shoe-Z	Shine, Rebecca	rnshine@yorku.ca	0041 BSB	Mon 12:00-1:00

**Updated contact information, room locations and office hours of the Teaching Assistants will be posted on the Moodle website.** Students will be assigned to a specific Teaching Assistant alphabetically by the student's last name (check the website about two weeks into the course to find out who your assigned TA is). This is an administrative decision and is designed simply to facilitate organization in the course. With a course enrolment this large, it's important that each student have someone who is familiar with him or her and their grades etc. If you have trouble meeting their office hours because other courses conflict simply contact them and they will arrange to transfer you to another TA whose hours you can make. Of course, since all the TA's will be familiar with course content feel free to drop by anyone's office hours to make inquiries. No appointments are necessary for these office hours. If you have a problem, drop by or email.

Each of the TA's will be available an hour each week for consultation regarding text readings, exams, grades, study habits, etc. If you are having trouble with the course, visit the TA's. The TA's also will be happy to talk with you about improving your study habits and about graduate school in psychology and careers in psychology.

## Reviewing Tests with your TA

**Students are encouraged to review their tests with their TA (see chart).** Once graded, the TAs will be available during office hours to review these with you. The TAs will keep the written tests in order that students may examine their tests and receive feedback regarding how students are doing and how to do better. **Tests may not be removed from the office nor copies made**

## Missed Tests

Missing exam is considered a very serious matter. If you miss a test, read below and go to the course moodle page for important details and forms. You must submit two forms found on this moodle page. These are a deferral form and an attending physician's statement. If you miss a test, you will be given only one opportunity to make up this test. If you miss a makeup test, there will be no other opportunity to make up the grade for the test.

Only medical circumstances or compassionate grounds are valid reason for missing an exam. Only serious illnesses will be accepted as reason to miss a test. The following statements conform to the Psychology Department's policies on missing an exam (available at [http://www.yorku.ca/health/psyc/advising\\_missedtests.html](http://www.yorku.ca/health/psyc/advising_missedtests.html))

What to do if you miss an exam:

1. Contact your TA via email within 48 hours of the exam. You must provide the following information:
  - Your name, your student number, course, and section
  - Email and phone number at which you can be reached and the best time to call you back
2. If you cannot contact your TACourse within this 48 hour period, subsequent documentation accounting for the delay must be provided.
3. Appropriate documentation verifying the circumstances for the missed exam must be provided at the time specified by the Course Director. Failure to provide appropriate documentation will result in a grade of F on the missed exam.

## What is appropriate documentation?

**Medical circumstances:** an Attending Physician's Statement or Statement by a Psychologist or Counsellor that must include:

- Full name, mailing address, and telephone number of the physician
- Statement of the nature of the illness and its duration (i.e. specific dates covered)
- An indication of whether the illness and/or medication prescribed would have *seriously* affected the student's ability to perform over the period in question.

Note: A MD's note is not sufficient you must submit an APS. Alternative medical practitioners such as those practicing Chinese Medicine will not be accepted. The physician's office may be contacted to verify that the physician completed the form.

**Other Extreme circumstances** (e.g. death of a family member): a photocopy of the death certificate.

## Makeup Tests

- Permission to write a makeup exam is given at the discretion of the Course Director. Appeals must be made to the Faculty.
- Makeup exams will cover the same content as the missed exam but may or may not follow the format of the original exam.
- **It is your responsibility to confirm the date, time and location of the makeup exam with the Course Director. It will be posted on the Moodle site.**

## Grading

The grading scheme for the course conforms to the grading system used in undergraduate programs at York. For a full description of the grading system, see the Undergraduate Calendar (<http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/calendars/2009-2010/PDF/UndergradCalendar.htm>) Assignments and exams will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade:

90-100	A+	60-64	C
80-89	A	55-59	D+
75-79	B+	50-54	D
70-74	B	40-49	E
65-69	C+	0-39	F

(For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - [http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/pdfs/ug2004cal/calug04\\_5\\_acadinfo.pdf](http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/pdfs/ug2004cal/calug04_5_acadinfo.pdf))

## Continuing Study in Psychology

Students must obtain a **minimum grade of C (4.0) in this course** in order to be permitted to pursue a degree in Psychology or to take any further course work in psychology even if they do not plan to major in Psychology. This regulation applies to students wishing to take Psychology courses in most faculties.

## Important Information for Students

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents) - [http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate\\_cte\\_main\\_pages/ccas.htm](http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cte_main_pages/ccas.htm)

- York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Religious Observance Accommodation

### Access/Disability

- York provides services for students with disabilities (including physical, medical, learning, and psychiatric) needing accommodation related to teaching and evaluation methods/materials. Students in need of these services are asked to register with disability services as early as possible to ensure that appropriate academic accommodation can be provided. Information is available at <http://www.yorku.ca/disabilityservices>

### Religious Observance Accommodation

- York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the community, and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus for an in-class test or examination pose such a conflict to you, contact the Course Director within the first three weeks of class. Please note that to arrange an alternative date or time for an examination scheduled in the formal examination periods (December and April/May), students must complete an Examination Accommodation Form, which can be obtained from Student Client Services, Student Services Centre, or online at [http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam\\_accommodation.pdf](http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam_accommodation.pdf)

### NOTE: CONTINUING STUDY IN PSYCHOLOGY

- Students must obtain a **minimum grade of C (4.0) in this course** in order to be permitted to pursue a degree in Psychology or to take any further course work in psychology even if they do not plan to major in Psychology. This regulation applies to students wishing to take Psychology courses in most faculties.

### START YOUR OWN STUDY TEAM

It has been said that students learn most from communicating with each other. When students get together to help each other understand material they relate to and remember the material. I encourage you to form your own study teams. The course website or Moodle site is set up so that students may communicate among themselves using the class discussion forum link. This forum provides a means of communicating with your classmates in between classes. All of you have the opportunity to invite others to join them at a specified time and place to form teams. For example you might select one of the following as a meeting time: immediately after class, one hour before class, Monday to Friday during the day, Monday to Friday during the evening, Weekend, etc. You would also suggest some meeting location. The specific location might be a reserved room in the library Here is the URL for booking rooms in the library (<http://www.library.yorku.ca/cms/learning-commons/study-rooms/>). If you are unable to do this, consider other locations in the library, various gathering places such as within the Student Centre or other safe and comfortable places on or off campus. While meeting on campus seems to be more effective, you might find that what works better for you is meeting people in a coffee shop, library, community centre. Make sure it is a safe location. **Get started right away. Take a leadership role and send out an email invite to your fellow students.**