

**PSYC 1010 6.0 B: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY
FACULTY OF HEALTH
SU 2016**

Instructor: Dr. Rebecca Jubis

Secretary: Agnes Levstik located in Rm 281 BSB; phone: 416-736-5125.

Email: jubis@yorku.ca Be sure to indicate your **course** and **section** and sign with your **full name**.

Website: Go to: <https://moodle.yorku.ca>
Log in with your Passport York account
Click on your course
If you require assistance in accessing the website, please contact Client Services at ithelp@yorku.ca (I will not be able to help)

All course-related information, links to course resources, and grades will be posted on Moodle. Also, you must be logged onto Moodle in order to receive important announcements and reminders that I periodically will be emailing to the class. It's important to check the course website and your York email regularly.

Teaching Assistant Contact Information: posted on Moodle

This course has TWO teaching assistants (TAs) whose duties are to assist students with understanding course material, to grade tests/assignments, and to compile grades. Please feel free to contact your teaching assistant for help. Students will be assigned to a given TA according to the first letter of the student's surname.

Distance Education Website: <http://www.yorku.ca/laps/disted/>

This website contains information, procedures and services offered by the distance education department, including information about **writing tests off-site**.

Required Text:

David G. Myers and C. Nathan Dewall (2015). Psychology: 11th edition in MODULES. Worth Publishers.

IMPORTANT: The 11th edition in Modules is similar to the earlier edition (10th edition in modules; Special Update for DSM-5 version with a red stamp on the cover) but there ARE differences in content and modules have been re-organized. **Tests will be based on the 11th edition in Modules** and if you choose to use other versions of the text, "use at your own risk". I have put a copy of the 11th edition at the Reserve Desk of the Scott Library (2-hr loan).

This **textbook** is available in either a "loose-leaf" or a "hard cover" version (the loose-leaf version being the least costly), and is bundled with **Launchpad, an on-line resource** that contains a study guide, tutorials, quizzes, animations etc. Be sure to make good use of it!!

To activate LaunchPad see the link on Moodle or go to:

<http://www.macmillanhigheered.com/launchpad/myers11einmodules/3423314>

and enter your access code that was provided when you purchased the textbook. If you don't have an access code, you can go to this site and purchase one.

Course Description:

This course will guide you on a journey to learning about human behaviour and mental processes. Psychology is a very broad field ranging from the study of the biological basis of behaviour to the study of complex social interactions. This course will provide you with a sampling of a wide variety of topics, concepts, theories, and methods of research that form part of contemporary Psychology. Among the topics covered will be: personality, memory, social behaviour, learning, intelligence, and psychological disorders.

Psychology does not have definitive solutions to our personal and societal problems, nor does it have definitive answers to questions like, “What makes me behave the way I do?” Nevertheless, it is a valuable tool for better understanding the causes and consequences of behaviour. Hopefully, this course will provide you with a greater appreciation of the intricacies of human behaviour and the difficulties that psychologists encounter in conducting behavioural research.

Mode of Instruction:

It is important to note that this on-line course differs from typical university courses in that lectures are not held and interaction with the instructor TAs is primarily via email (although face-to-face appointments are possible). Consequently, **you must be prepared for self-study and for monitoring and pacing your studying** in order to avoid last minute cramming before tests. I have provided a link on Moodle to “Reading Guide and Test Schedule” to help you pace your studying. Your textbook is clear and concise and should be quite manageable on your own. If you encounter difficulties, however, we are here to help you. We will be meeting on campus only four times, when you write your tests.

On-Line Open-Forum Discussion:

You can participate in a general discussion forum where you are free to discuss with classmates, course-related issues or any psychology-related topic or concern. Discussions will be monitored regularly by a teaching assistant.

Resources Posted on Moodle:

PowerPoint slides for all modules on which you will be tested are posted on Moodle.

Under the different topic headings, you will sometimes find additional materials that you might find helpful or interesting. These include exercises to test your understanding of the textbook material, and short video-clips that demonstrate some of the concepts presented in the text. Although you will not be tested on these supplemental materials, I urge you to check them out.

METHODS OF EVALUATION

There will four tests, research participation (Undergraduate Research Participant Pool), and a short “experiential exercise” (for bonus marks).

A) TESTS

Important – Photo ID is required to write all tests and York photo ID (YU-card) is preferable. Without it, you will NOT be permitted to write the test- no exceptions!! You should also bring pencils and an eraser to answer the multiple-choice questions because they will be computer-corrected (the computer may not recognize pen).

There will be a total of 4 non-cumulative tests, worth 25%, 25%, 26% and 20%, respectively. Tests will consist of multiple-choice primarily and a few short-answer questions. Each test will contain 1 or 2 general multiple-choice questions from each assigned video (videos are discussed below). I would strongly advise you against writing a test if you are feeling ill because grades will NOT be adjusted after-the-fact to compensate for such circumstances. Once you begin a test, you must complete it.

Make-up Tests:

If you miss any tests, for valid reasons only and with prior permission, **there will be only ONE make-up session at the end of the term. THIS STILL NEEDS TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE UNIVERSITY, BUT IT WILL LIKELY TAKE PLACE ON Fri, Aug 5 (and NOT on Aug 3 as originally indicated.)**. There will be no individualized testing sessions to accommodate the schedules of individual students and this will be strictly adhered to.

Missed Tests:

If you are unable to write a test for medical reasons or personal crisis, **you must notify me (jubis@yorku.ca) directly** (not your teaching assistant) **no later than 48 hours** after the test (official university policy). Also, you must provide appropriate documentation for your absence. **If you miss a test for medical reasons, your physician must complete the “Attending Physician’s Statement” form (Feb 2016 version) that can be downloaded from the course website.** To be deemed valid, the document must be the **Feb 2016 version**, contain the **office stamp** and must be **dated close to the time** of illness. Alternative medical notes will not be accepted. You should hand in your documentation when you write the make-up test.

Test Accommodations for Persons with Disabilities:

If you are registered with the Counselling and Disability Services and will be writing your tests through “alternative exams” (arranged by the Registrar’s Office), you must provide me with your letter of accommodation at the beginning of the course. It can be dropped off in Rm 101 BSB. It is important that, at the **beginning** of the term, you schedule **ALL four tests** with that office. If you miss a test, you must make arrangements immediately to write the make-up test and you must also follow the procedures outlined above.

B) UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PARTICIPANT POOL (URPP):

There are two options: participating in research or analysing a published research report.

Research Participation

The Department of Psychology requires that students earn 4% of their final grade by either participating in research or analysing a published research report (see below). This research is conducted by faculty and graduate students and has received ethical approval. The types of studies are quite varied and a number of them are on-line studies. This 4% is earned by participating in research for a total of 6 hrs (6 credits). You are strongly encouraged to partake in this research. Not only does it give you the opportunity to experience what types of studies are conducted in Psychology, but 4% can make a difference in your letter grade! Do not wait until

the last minute to participate because your choices might be limited, and all available studies might be filled.

URPP opens on May 9 and the deadline for participation is Aug. 8

“Paper Stream” Alternative

It may be difficult for some students to earn the 4% by participating in research because you might not be on campus regularly or there may not be many on-line studies available. Also, some studies require that you meet certain criteria in order to participate (for example, a study might request bilingual people only). If that’s the case, there is an alternative that you should seriously consider – the “Paper Stream” alternative. For this alternative, you must analyse a published psychology research article that will be assigned to you by the URPP office after you **notify them of your preference for this option**. You can earn up to 4% but the actual grade that you will receive will depend upon the quality of your paper.

IMPORTANT: If you choose this option, you must notify URPP (urpp@yorku.ca) of your choice by MAY 30.

It is your responsibility to ensure that URPP has assigned you the proper credits (you can simply check your URPP account), and report any discrepancies to urpp@yorku.ca directly. **A link to URPP information will be set up on our course website as soon as that information becomes available.** It will provide you with instructions about how to register with URPP, important URPP rules, as well as important dates and deadlines.

Be sure to provide your **correct course section (1010 B)** when you register with URPP.

Otherwise, you will not receive credit for your participation because they won’t recognize you.

C) OPTIONAL “EXPERIENTIAL” EXERCISE (posted on Moodle)

This exercise is intended to encourage you to have a more direct experience with some psychological concepts, and a greater appreciation of how psychological variables impact your everyday lives.

Partaking in this exercise will also give you a chance to earn a **BONUS 2% to be added to your final overall grade** (over and above the 100% accounted for by tests and URPP participation).

There is no obligation to complete this exercise, but if your final grade is borderline, this 2% bonus could raise your mark to a higher letter grade. **All that is required is for you to submit a 1-page paper.**

DUE DATE: IN CLASS ON JULY 11 WHEN YOU WRITE TEST 3.

SUMMARY OF EVALUATIONS

TEST DATES

WEIGHTING

TEST 1 – Monday, May 30, 7:30-9:30 25%

TEST 2 - Monday, June 20, 7:30-9:30 25%

TEST 3 - Monday, July 11, 7:30-9:30 26%

TEST 4 - **THURSDAY**, July 28, 7:30-9:30 20%

URPP 4%

OPTIONAL EXERCISE – due during Test 3 on July 11 – 2% bonus

ONLY MAKE-UP SESSION(with prior permission and documentation only) –

AWAITING CONFIRMATION – but most likely on Friday, Aug 5, 7:30-9:30pm

****TAKE NOTE THAT THE FIRST 3 TESTS ARE HELD ON MONDAYS, and TEST 4 is HELD on THURSDAY (because Monday is a civic holiday).**

Videos:

You will be required to view a few videos that are relevant to some of the topics that we will be covering. These 25-min long videos are available on-line. One or two multiple-choice questions from a given video will be asked on a test, and the questions will be quite general in nature.

There is a link to the videos on Moodle, or go to:

<http://www.learner.org/resources/series138.html> and click on the “VoD” icon located on the right of the video title. If you have trouble accessing the videos this way, try to simply “google” the title.

<u>Video #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Test</u>
14	The Mind Hidden and Divided	Test 1
19	The Power of the Situation	Test 2
13	The Mind Awake an Asleep	Test 2
16	Testing and Intelligence	Test 3
7	Sensation and Perception	Test 4
23	Health, Mind and Behaviour	Test 4

Grades:

Grades for tests will be posted on the course website about 7-10 days after they are written and I will send you an email notification as soon as they are posted. Grades will be posted using the last 5 digits of your York student ID#, and they will be ordered so as to facilitate finding your own grade. If for any reason your grade is not posted, please contact your assigned TA directly.

Viewing Tests:

Tests/assignments are not returned to students, however, should you wish to view them, you can make arrangements for doing so directly with your TA. The most convenient time to view your test might be when you come on campus to write a test. **If you wish to view your tests, you must notify your TA of your wish by July 20. To view your tests, you will need to produce photo ID.**

If you require a particular grade in this course, please work now towards attaining it. This course does not offer extra assignments or tests at the end of the course to accommodate students who are a few marks short of their desired grade.

A letter grade will be “rounded up” when calculating your overall final grade if your final percentage ends in .50 or higher. For example, if your final grade is 74.50% it will be rounded up from a B to a B+. However, if your final percentage is 74.38% for example, your letter grade will remain a B. One must draw the line somewhere and .50% is the designated cut-off.

The last day to withdraw from the course whereby your grade will not appear on your transcript is July 6, 2016.

Marking Scheme

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

A regulation has been passed by the Senate of York University stating that students require a **minimum grade of C (60%) in PSYC. 1010 6.0** to be allowed to pursue a degree in Psychology, or to enrol in further Psychology courses even if you do not plan to major in Psychology.

Academic Dishonesty:

York University considers cheating and plagiarism a **serious offence** and it will not be tolerated. Please go to: http://www.yorku.ca/spark/academic_integrity/index.html and read the **Senate Policy on Academic Honesty**.

*****If I have any indication whatsoever that a student has sold or tried to sell a test bank, has bought or tried to buy a test bank, or has used a test bank for this course, you will be reported to the Department of Psychology. *****