

COURSE OUTLINE
INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY PSYC 1010 6.0 SECTION E
YORK UNIVERSITY
FALL/WINTER 2014-15

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

TIME: Thursdays: 2:30-5:30

CLASSROOM: ACE 102

PREREQUISITE / CO-REQUISITE: NONE

COURSE WEBPAGE: moodle.yorku.ca

COURSE DIRECTORS

FALL TERM

Jennifer Steeves, Ph.D.

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Phone: 416-736-2100 Ext 20452

Contact Hours: By appointment

Secretary: Barbara Thurston, 283 BSB

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WINTER TERM

Margot Sullivan, Ph.D. Candidate

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Contact Hours: By appointment

Secretary: Agnes Levstik, 281 BSB

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REQUIRED TEXT: Weiten, W. & McCann, D. (2013). Psychology: Themes and Variations (3rd Canadian Edition). Toronto, Canada: Nelson Education

The Textbook package for the course can be found at the York University Bookstore and includes the textbook, Concept Charts (an ideal tool for studying) and CourseMate (an Online Homework and Studying Solution that many students have found useful for lecture and exam preparation)

Student Companion website: www.NelsonBrain.com

TESTS/Evaluation:

The final grade for the course will be based on the following items weighted as indicated:

	<u>DATE</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
Test 1	Oct 16	(20%)*	Chapters 1-4, plus lectures/media
Test 2	Dec 4	(28%)*	Chapters 5-8 plus lectures/media
Test 3	Feb 12	(28%)*	Chapters 9-12 plus lectures/media
Test 4	Apr 2	(20%)	Chapters 13-16 plus lectures/media
URPP	Apr 6	(4%)	

***Note: For Tests 1-3 your lowest mark will be weighted as 20%.**

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. Some lectures will follow the text fairly closely but others 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.**

Course Learning Objectives

(1) *Brief statement of the purpose:*

The purpose of this course is to assist students in developing an overview of the extremely broad field of psychology. Students will be able to compare and contrast psychological research methodologies, and understand the basics of brain physiology. Students will be able to describe the basic principles within each of the numerous areas in the discipline of Psychology.

(2) *The specific objectives of the course are that students will be able to:*

- *critically examine and evaluate research (portrayed in the media or elsewhere) for its methodology*
- *understand the different approaches to the study of behaviour*
- *demonstrate the ability to apply theory to practice in the context of case studies*
- *develop their ability to discuss issues in psychology*

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 your designated TA or the Course Director.

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: <https://moodle.yorku.ca/> to learn how to access and use Moodle

URPP or Undergraduate Research Participation:

- Four percent of your grade comes from your participation in the URPP (Undergraduate Research Participant Program) research opportunities. 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. If you have any concerns regarding URPP points or participation, email them, not your instructor or TA. Please get started on the URPP component of your grade early.

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 above, 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.
- All exams will take place in during class in our lecture hall.
- All questions will be drawn from the text, lectures and media presentations.
- Each exam will consist of approximately 75-80 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.

IMPORTANT LINKS

- Learning Disability Services: <http://lds.info.yorku.ca/>
- Alternate Exam and Test Scheduling: <http://www.yorku.ca/altexams/>
- Learning Skills Services: <http://lss.info.yorku.ca/>

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

Teaching Assistants for this course				
Contact via email to secure an appointment				
By Students Name:	TA	Email address	Office	Office Hours
See class website for TA assignment	Sara Rafique	srafique@yorku.ca	1004 Sherman	Office hours by appointment
	Sara Oczak	soczak@yorku.ca	BSB 307	
	Stefania Moro	smoro@yorku.ca	1004 Sherman	

Updated contact information will be posted on the website. Students are assigned to a specific Teaching Assistant alphabetically by the student’s last name (*see table above*). 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 with whom s/he is familiar.

Each of the TA’s will be available 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 table above*). Once graded, the TAs will be available to review your test 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 improve. **Tests may not be removed from the office nor may copies be made.**

COMMUNICATION

When sending email to the Course Director or TAs, please put the course name or number in the subject line to ensure that your message is opened. Please refrain from asking question that could have been answered by simply reading this document.

Fall/Winter 2014-15

DATE:	SCHEDULE OF TOPICS	TEXT READING
Sept 11	Introduction/The Evolution of Psychology	Ch.1
Sept 18	The Research Enterprise in Psychology	Ch.2
Sept 25	The Biological Bases of Behaviour	Ch.3
Oct 2	Sensation and Perception	Ch.4
Oct 9	Sensation and Perception	Ch.4
Oct 16	TEST 1: Chapters 1-4, plus lectures/media (20%)*	
Oct 23	Variations in Consciousness	Ch.5
Oct 30	<i>Co-curriculum Days- no classes</i>	
Nov 6	Learning	Ch.6
Nov 13	Human Memory	Ch.7
Nov 20	Language and Thought	Ch.8
Nov 27	<i>Review class for Test 2</i>	
Dec 4	TEST 2: Chapters 5-8 plus lectures/media (28%)*	
	<i>Winter Break</i>	
Jan 8	Intelligence and Psychological Testing	Ch.9
Jan 15	Motivation and Emotion	Ch.10
Jan 22	Human Development Across the Life Span	Ch.11
Jan 29	Personality: Theory, Research, and Assessment	Ch.12
Feb 5	<i>Review class for Test 3</i>	
Feb 12	TEST 3: Chapters 9-12 plus lectures/media (28%)* <i>Feb.6- last day to drop without receiving a grade</i>	
Feb 19	<i>Reading week—no class</i>	
Feb 26	Stress, Coping, and Health	Ch.13
Mar 5	Psychological Disorders	Ch.14
Mar 12	Treatment of Psychological Disorders	Ch.15
Mar 19	Social Behaviour	Ch.16
Mar 26	<i>Review class for Test 4</i>	
Apr 2	TEST 4: Chapters 13-16 plus lectures/media (20%)	

****Note: For Tests 1-3 your lowest mark will be weighted as 20%.***

Missed Exams

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**.

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)

What to do if you miss an exam:

1. Contact the appropriate Course Director for the current semester and 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
 - Reason for your absence and confirmation that you have medical or other relevant documentation.
2. If you cannot contact the Course Director 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 which must include:

- Full name, mailing address, and telephone number of the physician
- Statement of the nature of the illness and its duration (ie. 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: **An MD's note alone is not sufficient.** Alternative medical practitioners such as those practicing Chinese Medicine will not be accepted. The physician's office may be contacted to verify that the forms were completed by the physician)

Makeup exams

- 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. Please note that there will be one set date for the makeup exam.**

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/2014-2015/academic/grades/index.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

Students may take a limited number of courses for degree credit on an ungraded (pass/fail) basis. For full information on this option see Alternative Grading Option in the Undergraduate Calendar.

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

The information in the following section has been taken from the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage. All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information (available online at <http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=69>)

York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website

- York students are required to maintain high standards of academic integrity and are subject to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty. Students are expected to review the materials on the Academic Integrity website: <http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.htm>

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

Student Conduct

- Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect and to refrain from actions disruptive to such a relationship. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the instructor to maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom, and the responsibility of the student to cooperate in that endeavour. Further, the instructor is the best person to decide, in the first instance, whether such an atmosphere is present in the class. A statement of the policy and procedures involving disruptive and/or harassing behaviour by students in academic situations is available on the York website: <http://www.yorku.ca/univsec/policies/document.php?document=82>

CHEATING/PLAGIARISM

- The University does not look favourably on cheating of any kind – the penalties are harsh indeed. Become familiar with the rules and regulations regarding cheating/plagiarism published in the University Calendar. See the University Calendar for more detail.