

**FACULTY OF HEALTH  
PSYC 3600 3 A COMMUNITY PSYCHOLOGY  
Thursday 8:30-11:30  
CLH-F**

**Course director:** Diane Lawless  
**N.B.:** *please put course number and section in the e-mail's subject line*  
Office number: 277 BSB  
**Office hours:** Wednesday 11:30-12:30 by appointment  
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**Teaching assistants:** Jeremy Doucette:  
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Office hours: by appointment

**Secretary:** Agnes Levstik. 281 BSB ext. 55125

**Prerequisites:** 1010 6 with a minimum grade of C

**Textbooks:**

1. Moritsugu, Wong & Duffy (2010) Community Psychology, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Allyn and Bacon (*Please note: an e-copy of this textbook is available through coursesmart.com*)
2. Additional Readings: To be assigned in class

**Course Objectives:**

This course will examine various topics related to community psychology, including theories and research, prevention and early intervention, community mental health, the community practitioner as social change agent, and applications of community psychology to various settings and situations. In general, community psychology is concerned with the application of psychological principles to understand and address social issues that affect communities (e.g., schools, neighbourhoods, the workplace, the larger society), such as child abuse, homelessness, school violence, racism, crime, mental illness, and substance abuse. An aim of community psychology is to draw upon the resources of communities to develop solutions to resolve or prevent problems.

Community psychology is also concerned with the interrelationship between individuals and the communities in which they are imbedded (e.g., "community as context") and the role of community development to enrich and strengthen communities to promote the optimal growth and development of its members and their health and well-being and mental health. In these regards, community psychology shares some concepts with clinical and counseling psychology,

particularly the humanistic traditions, however, utilizing and applying resources both at the community-level and the individual-level.

**Learning Objectives:** The objective of the course is to increase students' knowledge of the principles, practices, and research of community psychology. More specifically, this includes developing students' ability to:

- critically analyze the major historical influences and contemporary approaches to community psychology
- understand the main conceptual issues related to the provision and evaluation of services from a community-based perspective
- understand the major research findings and concepts in community psychology and think critically about the various approaches to community psychology research
- consider the practical and policy implications of the work generated by community psychologists
- use the vocabulary and concepts of the field of community psychology

**Class format:** Course material will be presented by lecture, small group discussions, exercises, film and when possible, guest speakers.

**MOODLE:** You are responsible for checking [moodle.yorku.ca](http://moodle.yorku.ca) frequently for assignment guidelines, notes, and other key class updates and information.

Information on Academic Honesty, Student Conduct Standards, Religious Observance Accommodation and Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

It is also expected that students are familiar with the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage-

([http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate\\_cte\\_main\\_pages/ccas.htm](http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cte_main_pages/ccas.htm))

Academic Integrity: Information on plagiarism, cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty is provided in the Department of Psychology Supplemental Calendar and the York University Academic Integrity web site (<http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.htm>). Additional information is posted on the moodle course website under the title, "Academic Honesty: What is it?"

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### TESTS:

Test #1: Oct. 16

Weight: 40%. Chapters 1-6 inclusive plus lecture slides, assigned readings and videos

Test #2: Final exam period (Dec. 9-22 inclusive)

Weight 45%: Chapters 7-12 inclusive plus lecture slides, assigned readings and videos

Tests will consist of multiple choice, short and long answer questions including all the text and supplemental material covered to date. The final exam is non-cumulative.

### PAPER:

Due Nov. 13, 2014 (Weight: 15%)

*An electronic copy of your paper must be submitted to turnitin.com prior to handing in a hard copy during the class. The turnitin link is available on the course moodle page.*

A term paper in which you will apply specific questions to a community that you lived in as a child. Details to follow.

### A NOTE ON PAPERS AND EVALUATION:

A hard copy of the paper needs to be submitted during class on the due date. An e-copy also needs to be submitted to turnitin. The turnitin link is available on the moodle course webpage. Papers that are late will be deducted 10% per day. Exceptions are made for illness, family death or exceptional circumstances; however, a medical note or official documentation will be required in these cases. Students who do not want their work submitted to turnitin must, by the end of the second class, consult with the instructor to make alternate arrangements

#### Conversion Table

##### From Percentage To Letter Grade

90-100	A+
80- 89	A
75- 79	B+
70- 74	B
65- 69	C+
60- 64	C
55- 59	D+
50- 54	D

(Marginally below

50%) Marginally failing	E
(Below 50%) Failing	F

**MISSED TERM WORK OR TESTS**

Students are expected to complete all assignments, tests and exams within the time frames and by the dates indicated in this outline. Deferral of an assignment, test or exam is only permitted for a medical or personal emergency or due to religious observance. The course director and teaching assistants must be notified by e-mail **prior to** the due date or test/exam date. A completed **Attending Physician’s Statement** must accompany any request for missed term work or tests. This form is available on the Registrar’s website.

[http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/attend\\_physician\\_statement.pdf](http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/attend_physician_statement.pdf) One make-up only will be held for each test.

**IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS**

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Academic Standards, Curriculum & Pedagogy webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents) -

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate/committees/ascp/index-ascp.html>

- Senate Policy on Academic Honesty and the 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

**TENTATIVE LECTURE SCHEDULE**

EXPECTED DATE	LECTURE TOPIC & ASSOCIATED CHAPTER
Sept. 11	Chapter 1: Introduction to Community Psychology Chapter 2: Scientific Research Methods DVD 12912 Where strangers become neighbours
Sept. 18	Chapter 3: Stress and Resilience DVD 11458 Transshorts
Sept. 25	Chapter 4: The Importance of Social Change

	DVD 12216: 100 years of faith
Oct. 2	Chapter 5: Community Intervention Strategies DVD 9070 Mohawk Girls
Oct. 9	Chapter 6: The Mental Health System Assigned Reading: DVD 14834 The inmates are running the asylum
Oct. 16	Test #1
Oct. 23	Chapter 7: Social and Human Services in the Community
Oct. 30	No class: co-curricular week
Nov. 6	Chapter 8: Schools, Children and Communities DVD 13620 "...And this is my garden"
Nov. 13	<b>Paper due</b> Chapter 9: Law, Crime and the Community Restorative justice is the law [streaming video]
Nov. 20	Chapter 10: Health Care DVD 9690 The bicycle
Nov. 27	Chapter 11: Community Health Care and Preventative Medicine DVD 4967 Mondragon
Dec. 4	Chapter 12: Community Organizational Psychology The Timebank [streaming video] : streaming video
Final Exam Period (Dec. 9 – Dec. 22)	Test #2

*Nov.. 7: Last day to drop course without receiving a grade*