

PSYC 4120M – PSYCHOLOGY AND LITERATURE

Winter 2013 | Wednesdays 2:30p–5:30p | VH 2005

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Readings: All readings found on website
Moodle Website: <https://moodle.yorku.ca/>
Prerequisites: HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 or AK/PSYC 2410 6.00 (prior to Summer 2002), with a minimum grade of C; HH/PSYC 2030 3.00 or AK/PSYC 2530 3.00 or substitute; one of HH/PSYC 2020 6.00, HH/PSYC 2021 3.00, AK/PSYC 2510 3.00 or substitutes; HH/PSYC 2130 3.00; HH/PSYC 2120 3.00; one of HH/PSYC 3260 3.00, HH/PSYC 3290 3.00, HH/PSYC 3410 3.00. Course
Credit Exclusions: AS/PSYC 4120 6.00 (taken after FW00) , AP/HUMA 4610 6.00

Please read this syllabus closely, both the student and the instructor are expected to follow the policies described in this document.

Evaluation

Assignment	% of Total
<u>Participation.</u> Participation in the seminars includes being prepared for class, having read the assigned articles, engaging in the course discussion, and providing feedback to the presenter. The latter is to be sent to the instructor in the body of an e-mail, which will then be sent anonymized to the presenter. Texting, using the Internet, or being similarly inattentive will result in lower marks for participation. Discussion can also take place online, using the website forum.	Weekly 20%
<u>Presentation.</u> Each week students will present a summary and discussion of one of the assigned readings. The student will summarize the goals, key issues, and major points of the paper, along with its strengths and weaknesses. Each presentation should be 15 minutes maximum and the student will lead a brief discussion with the class regarding the paper following the presentation (~20 minutes).	25%
<u>Research Proposal Outline.</u> An outline of a research proposal for a study pertaining to the topics of the class must be submitted. A maximum of 2 pages (double-spaced; 12-point font; 1-inch margins) will be allotted. Be sure to provide the rationale for the study, how the important variables will be operationalized (e.g., measures to be used), what the design of the study will be, along with hypothesized results. Students are encouraged to discuss their topic with the instructor beforehand.	Feb. 8 15%
<u>Last Day to Drop without receiving a grade.</u>	March 15
<u>Research Proposal.</u> A research proposal (maximum 10 pages; double-spaced; 12-point font; 1-inch margins; not including title page, abstract, references or appendices) for a study pertaining to the topics of the class must be submitted. The proposal must include an introduction (providing the background and rationale for the study) and methods section (participants, materials, procedure, proposed statistical analyses, and hypothesized results). Alternatively, a theoretical paper may be submitted, presenting a novel argument or synthesis of ideas related to the course.	April 8 40%

Policy Regarding Assignments and Tests

Late Outlines and Proposals. Outlines and proposals received after the deadline will be subject to a **late penalty of 30% per day**, including weekends.

Missed Presentations. Students who miss their presentation due to illness or severe distress must e-mail the instructor within 24 hours, and follow the Faculty of Health guidelines for missed tests or examination. Classes missed on the ground of medical circumstances must be supported by an Attending Physician's Statement. Also acceptable is a statement by a psychologist or counselor. Students are not expected to disclose the nature of the illness, but the document must specify (1) the date of consultation, (2) contact information for the health provider, and (3) a statement that the student would not have been able to attend class during the relevant period of time. The documentation must be dated on the same day of the class, or it will not be accepted.

The Attending Physician's Statement can be found here:

http://www.yorku.ca/grads/forms/NEW/attending_physician_statement.pdf

Students who miss their presentation will be required to present the following class.

Policy Regarding Academic Honesty, Student Conduct, and Accommodations

Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards web page: <http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.htm>

Further information can be found here:

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=69>

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. See for example: <http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.htm>

It is also useful to complete the tutorial on academic integrity:

http://www.yorku.ca/tutorial/academic_integrity/

Policy Regarding E-mail

The course code (PSYC4120M) must appear in the subject-heading of all e-mails, to prevent messages from being discarded as spam. As well, all e-mails should begin with a salutation or address indicating to whom the message is directed (e.g., "Dr. Mar") and close with your full name and student number (e.g., "John Smith, 211995552"). Please format your e-mails properly, if you expect them to be answered. Students can expect a response to a legitimate inquiry within 48 hours, not including weekends. If you don't receive a reply in this time period, please re-send your message.

Please read the syllabus closely before asking a question via e-mail. Questions that are answered in the syllabus will be given low priority.

Resources

A number of important resources are available to students of the York University.

Most directly relevant to this course is the Writing Center. For details, please visit their website: <http://www.yorku.ca/laps/writ/centre/>

As well, the university offers both academic and crisis counseling services. For details, please visit the Counseling and Development Centre website: <http://www.yorku.ca/cds/>

Students who feel that there are extenuating circumstances that may interfere with the successful completion of any course requirements are encouraged to discuss the matter with the Course Director as soon as possible to make appropriate arrangements.

Students with physical, learning or psychiatric disabilities who require accommodation in teaching style or evaluation methods should discuss this with the Course Director early in the year so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Course Schedule

Date	Lecture/Reading	Assignment
Jan. 9 Week 1	1: Course Introduction and Overview	
Jan. 16 Week 2	2: Giving Presentations and Leading Discussions	
Jan. 23 Week 3	3: What is Literature? - Lamarque (2003); Stevenson (1884);	
Jan. 30 Week 4	4: Narrative Engagement - Busselle & Bilandzic (2009); Braun & Cupchik (2001); Tal-Or & Cohen (2010).	
Feb. 6 Week 5	5: Narrative Modalities - Green et al. (2008); Ricci & Beal (2002); Schwan & Ildirar (2010).	
Feb. 8		Outlines Due
Feb. 13 Week 6	6: Embodied Cognition - Taylor & Zwaan (2009); Glenberg & Kaschak (2002); Speer et al. (2009).	
Feb. 20 Week 7	* READING WEEK*	
Feb. 27 Week 8	7: Emotional Processes - Walton (1997); Oliver (2008); Tsai et al. (2007).	
Mar. 6 Week 9	8: Empathic Processes - Mar et al. (2010); Johnson (2012); Brunyé et al. (2008).	
Mar. 13 Week 10	9: Moral Development - Vitz (1990); Narvaez (2002).	
Mar. 15	Last day to withdraw without receiving a grade	
Mar. 20 Week 11	10: Social Surrogacy - Derrick et al. (2009); Gardner & Knowles (2008); Jonason et al. (2008).	
Mar. 27 Week 12	11: Narrative Persuasion - Green & Brock (2000); Marsh & Fazio (2006); Appel & Malečkar (in press).	
Apr. 3 Week 13	12: Writers - Djikic et al. (2006); Kufner et al. (2010); Johnson et al. (2010).	
Apr. 8		Final Paper Due

Paper Presentations

You will be assigned one paper to present to the class. This will be an oral presentation and use of PowerPoint is not mandatory. You will summarize the goals and main ideas of the paper, along with the strengths and weaknesses of the paper. Presentations should be a maximum of 15 minutes long, and following the presentation you must lead the class in a short discussion regarding the paper (~20 minutes). You will be graded on the clarity of your presentation (understanding and communicating the ideas in the paper to your peers), your novel analysis of its strengths or weaknesses, and your ability to stimulate and guide discussion in the class.

Research Proposal Outline

Please write an outline for a research proposal (maximum of 2 pages, double-spaced; 12-point font; 1-inch margins). The outline should describe a study that pertains in some way to the topics addressed in this course. Be sure to provide the rationale and justification for the study, explaining how it builds on previous research yet provides a novel contribution. Also, explain in as much detail as possible what methods you will use in this study (e.g., study design, operationalization of study constructs, independent and dependent measures) along with the results that you would expect should your hypotheses prove correct. As an alternative, you may write a theoretical piece for your final paper, in which case this outline should give the structure and general argument you will be making in your final paper. Your outline must be uploaded to Moodle on February 8th before 6pm.

Research Proposal

For your final paper, you will write a research proposal (maximum of 10 pages, double-spaced; 12-point font; 1-inch margins), proposing a study related in some way to the topics of the course. The proposal should include an Introduction, Methods (participants, materials, procedure), and anticipated Results. This proposal should be an expansion of your outline, incorporating the feedback you received on this earlier assignment. Alternatively, you can write a theoretical piece, again expanding on the outline you wrote earlier. Your proposal must be uploaded to Moodle on April 8th before 6pm.

Grades

For information on grades and GPAs, please visit:

<http://www.yorku.ca/laps/students/gpa.html>

The following allows for conversion between letter-grades and percentages:

<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
90-100	A+	Exceptional
80-89	A	Excellent
75- 79	B+	Very Good
70- 74	B	Good
65- 69	C+	Competent
60- 64	C	Fairly Competent
55- 59	D+	Passing
50- 54	D	Marginally Passing
Just below 50	E	Marginally Failing
Below 50	F	Failing