

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS PSYC 2030 A (S2)
TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS FROM 7PM – 10PM IN CLH A

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TEACHING ASSISTANTS:

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Office Hours: Tuesdays from 5pm - 6pm

** If you are unable to attend these office hours, please make arrangements with your TA to meet at an alternative time.

Required Text: Goodwin, C. J. (2010). *Research in Psychology: Methods and Design* (6th edition). Toronto: John Wiley and Sons Inc.

**Please note that we are NOT using the recently-released 7th edition of this text.

Study Guide: Online at www.wiley.com/college/goodwin. Click on Resources for Students.

Optional Text: APA. (2010). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th edition). Washington, DC: APA

**This text will help you apply APA style for the assignment. The following two links will also be helpful: 1) <http://apastyle.org/> OR 2) <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

Prerequisite: Introduction to Psychology (Psyc 1010 6.0) with a minimum grade of C.

Prerequisite or Corequisite: Statistical Methods I and II (Psyc 2020 6.0) or Statistical Methods I (Psyc 2021 3.0) or substitute.

Course Website: <http://moodle.yorku.ca>; Click on “My Courses” and Login with your Passport York account. If you require assistance with accessing this website, please contact helpdesk@yorku.ca or call 416-736-5800.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce you to various research methodologies used in psychological research. You will learn about the advantages and limitations of using these designs and the importance of ethics when conducting research with human and non-human subjects. This course will teach you how to conduct literature searches using library databases. It will also prepare you to design and conduct your own research, and critically evaluate published academic research and claims you may come across in the media.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Assigned Chapter
June 25	Scientific Thinking in Psychology	Chapter 1
June 27	Developing Ideas for Research in Psychology **In-class Library Tutorial	Chapter 3
July 2	Ethical Issues in Psychological Research; Reading and Writing Empirical Reports	Chapter 2, Appendix A & Appendix B
July 4	Measurement and Data Analysis **Library Assignment Due (20%)	Chapter 4
July 9	Exam 1 (30%)	Chapters 1, 2, 3, & 4, Appendix B
July 11	Introduction to Experimental Research and Control Problems	Chapters 5 & 6
July 16	Experimental Design I: Single-factor Designs	Chapter 7
July 18	Experimental Design II: Factorial Designs	Chapter 8
<i>July 19</i>	**Last day to drop course without receiving a grade	
July 23	Exam 2 (30%)	Chapters 5, 6, 7 and 8
July 25	Correlational Research and Small N Designs	Chapters 9 & 11
July 30	Observational and Survey Research Methods	Chapter 12
Aug 1	In-class Final Exam (20%)	Chapters 9, 11, 12 and Appendix A

**Any changes to this schedule will be announced in class. Students are responsible for attending lectures to ensure they are aware of any changes.

COURSE EVALUATION

Tests:

There will be 3 non-cumulative tests each consisting of multiple choice and short answer questions. Exam 1 will be held on July 9th and is worth 30% of your grade. Exam 2 will be held on July 23rd and is also worth 30% of your grade. The final exam will be held in-class on Aug 1st and will be worth 20% of your grade. Test material will include both lecture material and assigned readings. Attending lectures is essential for doing well in this course. If you are unable to attend class, it is your responsibility to obtain the information you missed (e.g., by asking another student in the class for their notes).

Library Assignment:

This assignment will involve applying the information learned in the in-class library tutorial (June 27th) as well as APA formatting. See the optional text and online resources provided on page 1 of this outline. The assignment will be posted on the course website. **You are expected to work on this assignment independently. Assignments will NOT be accepted late.**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Missed Tests:

If you miss a test, you will only have ONE opportunity to write a make-up test. The make-up test will be held within one week of the exam. It is your responsibility to obtain the date, time and location of the make-up test from your assigned TA. In order to be permitted to write the make-up test, you must do two things:

- 1) Email your assigned TA within 48 hours after the exam AND
- 2) Provide your TA with appropriate documentation at the time of the make-up test which include the following:
 - a) If you miss a test for medical reasons, your physician must complete the *Attending Physician's Statement* - this form can be found at: <http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/exams/deferred/index.htm> or the course website). Other medical notes will not be accepted under any circumstances.
 - b) Tests or examinations that are missed due to non-medical circumstances must be supported by appropriate documentation (i.e., death certificate, obituary notice, automobile accident reports, airline/train/bus tickets for emergency travel. Airline/train/bus for emergency travel must indicate destination, departure, and return dates.

If you do not follow these steps you will receive a grade of F for the missed test.

Academic honesty:

Students are responsible for understanding the Senate policy on academic honesty. The policy is available on the course website and at:

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