

**Faculty of Health  
Department of Psychology  
PSYC 2240 3.0 Section B  
BIOLOGICAL BASIS OF BEHAVIOUR  
Fall 2017-2018**

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### Course Director and T.A. Information

Joseph F.X. DeSouza, PhD Neuroscience2001

LAS0009C (office hrs before/after class)

416.736.2100 x22946

Website: <http://www.joeLAB.com>  
[neural@yorku.ca](mailto:neural@yorku.ca)

E-mail etiquette: I will respond to only during  
Monday to Friday (9am-5pm) within 99 hrs.  
During the weekend e-mails will not be  
opened.

**Faculty Secretary:** Sabrina Iantorno Undergrad office, 416.736.2100 x66268

T.A.	Karolina Bearss, PhD cand.	George Tomou, MA cand
Email	<a href="mailto:skrzypek@yorku.ca">skrzypek@yorku.ca</a>	<a href="mailto:gtomou@yorku.ca">gtomou@yorku.ca</a>
Office	BSB 306n	LAS 0003c
Office Hours	By email	By email

### Course Prerequisite(s): Course prerequisites are strictly enforced.

- *HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 (Introduction to Psychology), with a minimum grade of C.*

Course website: [moodle.yorku.ca/](http://moodle.yorku.ca/)

### Course Description

This course presents an introduction to the biological basis of behaviour. We will introduce topics relevant to behaviour in the normal and abnormal states beginning with sensory perception, attention, movement, emotion and language with experimental examples from our lab (<http://www.joeLAB.com>) and clinical studies\research illustrating the effects of impaired brain function. We will begin an introduction of topics such as: How do neurons change? How does plasticity occur in the brain? Can music/dance help brain function? What is neurorehabilitation?

### Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate broad knowledge of biological determinants of behaviour.
2. Describe and evaluate current theory and research in biological psychology.
3. Understand and interpret principles of biological psychology in everyday life.
4. Define biological causes of human behaviour from different perspectives.

### Specific Learning Objectives

1. This course presents an introduction to the fundamentals of biological basis of behaviour. At conclusion of the course you will have an introduction to the brain's input and output relationships
2. Understanding of how sensory information is processed in our brain
3. Understanding of how motor functions are accomplished
4. Exposure to topics within Society for Neuroscience (<http://www.sfn.org>)

## Course Format

Lectures/discussion/movies with textbook reading assignments and use of podcasts and internet resources.

## Required Text

The course will use's Kolb, Wishaw & Teskey, Intro to Brain and Behavior (5th Edition). The text will be supplemented with internet resources, movies and lectures. You may use previous versions of the text but please compare your text with the current one.

## Course Requirements and Assessment

<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Date of Evaluation</u>	<u>Weighting</u>
<b>Quizzes</b>	Surprise	10%
<b>Midterm exam 1 (Chap 1-5)</b>	Week 5 – Oct 5 <sup>th</sup>	30%
<b>Midterm exam 2 (Chap 7,9-11)</b>	Week 8 – Nov 2nd	35%
<b>Midterm exam 3 (Chap 1-5,7,9-11 14,12,13, chpt 16 pg577-591 only)</b>	Week 12 – Nov 30th	20%
<b>Participation</b>	All classes (after quiz groups)	5%
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>

## Description of Assignments

**Quizzes** – During random classes there will be a 5-10 minute quiz. If you are late for class there are no make up quizzes. If you miss a quiz there are no makeup quizzes. The quiz will be on a topic from the current lecture and/or previous material you should know and understand. **BE ON TIME!** Any missed quiz you WILL need to give a doctor's note to my faculty secretary (see above), otherwise you receive 0 for that quiz. e.g. Hypothetical student's quiz calculation, if you completed only 2 of 4 quizzes during the term. You only dropped 1 doctor's note to our Faculty Secretary within 8 days of the missed quiz. Thus, one zero mark is replaced with a note and you completed the 2 quizzes (80%; 90%). Thus, we will calculate your mark as follows  $(0+note+80+90) = 56.7\%$

**DO NOT HAND ME A DOCTORS NOTE AFTER CLASS — I WILL LOSE IT. DO NOT EMAIL ME A NOTE SINCE I WILL DELETE IT. FOLLOW THE ABOVE INSTRUCTIONS.**

**Midterm exam 1** in class [**WEEK 5**]. 2hr exam followed by lecture - 80% Multiple choice and 20% short answer (space of ~5 lines). *There will be no makeup exams for Midterm exam 1. If you miss a midterm your final exam will be worth 30% more (no exceptions).* **If you miss the exam no doctors note is needed**

**Midterm exam 2** in class [**WEEK 8**]. 2hr exam followed by lecture - 80% Multiple choice and 20% short answer (space of 5 lines). *There will be no makeup exams for Midterm exam 2. If you miss the midterm your final exam will be worth 35% more (no exceptions).* **If you miss the exam no doctors note is needed**

**Last Exam** in class [**WEEK 12**](all material) 3hr exam on all material in all lectures and course readings). Please note: I will probably not answer e-mails regarding class material in the last 5 days before the exam so please prepare them ahead of time in my office hours before/after class. **If you miss the last exam yes you need a doctors note this time. Your makeup exam will probably have no multiple-choice questions and will be essay and short answer questions.**

**Participation**, group work after quizzes, completion of online tutorial on academic integrity.

## Grading as per Senate Policy

The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests\* will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

(For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - [Grading Scheme for 2017-18](#))

## Late Work/Missed Tests or Exams

Students with a documented reason for missing a course test, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation (Attending Physician Statement which can be found at: <http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/pdf/attending-physicians-statement.pdf>) may request accommodation from the Course Instructor. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

## Important New Information Regarding Missed Tests

For any missed tests or late assignments, students MUST complete the following online form which will be received and reviewed in the Psychology undergraduate office.

[HH PSYC: Missed Tests/Exams Form](#). Failure to complete the form within 48 hours of the original deadline will result in a grade of zero for the test/assignment.

## Add/Drop Deadlines

For a list of all important dates please refer to: [Fall/Winter 2017-18 - Important Dates](#)

	<b>FALL (F)</b>	<b>YEAR (Y)</b>	<b>WINTER (W)</b>
Last date to add a course <b>without permission</b> of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sept. 20	Sept. 20	Jan. 17
Last date to add a course <b>with permission</b> of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Oct. 4	Oct. 18	Jan. 31
Drop deadline: Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Nov. 10	Feb. 9	March 9
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of "W" on transcript – see note below)	Nov. 11 - Dec. 4	Feb. 10 - Apr. 6	March 10 - Apr. 6

**\*Note:** *You may withdraw from a course using the registration and enrolment system after the drop deadline until the last day of class for the term associated with the course. When you withdraw from a course, the course remains on your transcript without a grade and is notated as "W". The withdrawal will not affect your grade point average or count towards the credits required for your degree.*

## Academic Integrity for Students

York University takes academic integrity very seriously; please familiarize yourself with [Information about the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#).

It is recommended that you review Academic Integrity by completing the [Academic Integrity Tutorial](#) and [Academic Honesty Quiz](#).

## Test Banks

The offering for sale of, buying of, and attempting to sell or buy test banks (banks of test questions and/or answers), or any course specific test questions/answers is not permitted in the Faculty of Health. Any student found to be doing this may be considered to have breached the Senate Policy on

Academic Honesty. In particular, buying and attempting to sell banks of test questions and/or answers may be considered as “Cheating in an attempt to gain an improper advantage in an academic evaluation” (article 2.1.1 from the Senate Policy) and/or “encouraging, enabling or causing others” (article 2.1.10 from the Senate Policy) to cheat.

### **Electronic Devices During a Test/Examination**

Electronic mobile devices of any kind are not allowed during a test or examination. Students are required to turn off and secure any electronic mobile device in their bag which is to be placed under the chair while a test/exam is in progress. Any student observed with an electronic device during a test/exam may be reported to the Undergraduate Office for a potential breach of Academic Honesty.

### **Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities**

While all individuals are expected to satisfy the requirements of their program of study and to aspire to do so at a level of excellence, the university recognizes that persons with disabilities may require reasonable accommodation to enable them to do so. The [York University Accessibility Hub](#) is your online stop for accessibility on campus. The [Accessibility Hub](#) provides tools, assistance and resources. Policy Statement.

**Policy:** York University shall make reasonable and appropriate accommodations and adaptations in order to promote the ability of students with disabilities to fulfill the academic requirements of their programs.

The nature and extent of accommodations shall be consistent with and supportive of the integrity of the curriculum and of the academic standards of programs or courses. Provided that students have given sufficient notice about their accommodation needs, instructors shall take reasonable steps to accommodate these needs in a manner consistent with the guidelines established hereunder.

For Further Information please refer to: [York university academic accommodation for students with disabilities policy](#).

### **Course Materials Copyright Information**

These course materials are designed for use as part of the PSYC2240 course at York University and are the property of the instructor unless otherwise stated. Third party copyrighted materials (such as book chapters, journal articles, music, videos, etc.) have either been licensed for use in this course or fall under an exception or limitation in Canadian Copyright law.

Copying this material for distribution (e.g. uploading material to a commercial third-party website) may lead to a violation of Copyright law. [Intellectual Property Rights Statement](#).

### **Course Schedule:**

See moodle for updated schedule.