

**Faculty of Health  
Department of Psychology  
PSYC 1010 6.0, Section A: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY  
Wednesdays 7-10pm (Curtis Lecture Hall I)  
Fall 2019 - Winter 2020**

---

**Instructor and T.A. Information**

Instructor: Dr. Kathleen Fortune  
Office: Room 281 - Behavioral Sciences Building  
Office Phone: (416)-736-2100, ext. 22445  
Office Hours: Wednesdays 4-5pm (or by appointment for 'walk and talks')  
Email: [kfortune@yorku.ca](mailto:kfortune@yorku.ca)

**Email Etiquette:**

When you email Dr. Fortune or the teaching assistant assigned to you, you must include your Student ID and full name in your email, as well as the course number in the subject line. Please also ensure that the email is written in an appropriate, respectful tone. Any emails that fail to follow these guidelines may not receive a response.

<b>T.A.</b>	<b>Carol Lee</b>	<b>Shaylea Badovinac</b>	<b>David Olson</b>	<b>Ilana Shiff</b>	<b>Jeremy Forsythe</b>
Email	<a href="mailto:yklee@yorku.ca">yklee@yorku.ca</a>	<a href="mailto:sdbadov@yorku.ca">sdbadov@yorku.ca</a>	<a href="mailto:dolson@yorku.ca">dolson@yorku.ca</a>	<a href="mailto:ishiff@yorku.ca">ishiff@yorku.ca</a>	<a href="mailto:jeremy08@yorku.ca">jeremy08@yorku.ca</a>

**Teaching Assistants**

Students will be assigned to a specific teaching assistant alphabetically by the student's last name within the first week of the course. This is a purely administrative decision and is designed to facilitate organization in the course. With a course of 500 students, it is crucial that each student has someone who is familiar with them and their grades. The TA to whom you are assigned will keep your tests and is the person you should visit to inquire about grades or to see your tests.

If you are having trouble with the lectures or the text, please visit the TA's. Each of the TA's will be available for two hours each week for consultation regarding text readings, exams, grades, study habits, etc. The TA's will keep the exams in order that students may examine their exams and receive feedback regarding how they are doing and how to improve their performance. NOTE: exams will not be returned to students. If you have trouble meeting during their office hours because other courses conflict, simply contact them and they will arrange to transfer you to another TA whose hours you can make.

Aside from office hours, the fastest and easiest way to reach us about a problem is to email us. If you email us we can often answer your question or solve your problem very quickly

**Course Prerequisite(s):** None

## **Course Credit Exclusions**

Please refer to [York Courses Website](#) for a listing of any course credit exclusions.

Course website: [Moodle](#)

## **Course Description**

This course introduces students to psychology, the scientific study of behaviour and cognition, by examining the basic principles of psychology and their application to everyday experience. The course surveys some core areas of psychology including research methods, biological bases of behaviour, sensation and perception, memory, and cognition.

**Note:** This course is required for all students who intend to pursue additional courses in psychology at the 2000, 3000 and 4000 levels. Students must pass the course with a minimum grade of C (4.00) in order to pursue further studies in psychology.

## **Program Learning Outcomes**

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

1. Define psychology and explain how it meets the criteria of science.
2. Recognize key concepts, methods, theories and assumptions in psychology.
3. Describe basic characteristics of the scientific method in psychology.
4. Discern differences between personal views and scientific evidence.

## **Learning Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to

1. Identify basic concepts and research findings and give examples of psychology's integrative themes.
  - a. Psychological science relies on empirical evidence adapting as new data develop.
  - b. Psychology explains general principles that govern behavior, while recognizing individual differences.
  - c. Psychological, biological, social, and cultural factors influence mental processes and behavior.
  - d. Our perceptions filter experience of the world through an imperfect personal lens.
  - e. Applying psychological principles can change our lives in positive ways.
2. Apply psychological principles to everyday life.

3. Draw appropriate, logical, and objective conclusions about behavior and mental processes from empirical evidence.
4. Evaluate misconceptions or flawed claims based on evidence from psychological science.
5. Design, conduct, or evaluate basic psychological research.
6. Describe ethical principles that guide psychologists in research and therapy.

## Required Textbook

Weiten, W. & McCann, D. (2019). Psychology: Themes and Variations (5<sup>th</sup> Canadian Edition). Toronto, Canada: Thomson-Nelson.

**NOTE:** Make sure to get the 5<sup>th</sup> Canadian Edition with a publication date of 2019. This is the only textbook that will be referred to in this course. The bookstore is offering a loose-leaf package version of this text, complete with the MindTap resources that I highly recommend you purchase. This is the most affordable way to get the textbook and MindTap resources that I will refer to throughout the course. A representative for the textbook company will come to class to demonstrate all that MindTap has to offer you in terms of additional study resources in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of class.

## Course Requirements and Assessment

Assessment	Date of Evaluation	Weighting
Test #1	OCT 9	15%
Assignment #1	OCT 30	5%
Test #2	NOV 27	20%
Test #3	FEB 12	20%
Assignment #2	MAR 1	10%
Test #4	APR 1	20%
In-class 1-minute papers	Randomly throughout course	6%
Research Participation	Throughout the course	4%
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>

**NOTE:** There are **no final exams for this course** in the Final Exam Periods. Evaluation is based on the 4 in-class tests, 2 written assignments, and in-class 1-minute reflective papers. All tests are held in the lecture classroom.

**NOTE:** Continuing Study in Psychology: The Senate of York University has passed a regulation stating that students must obtain a minimum grade of C (4.0) PSYC 1010.06 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.

## Description of Assignments

**Tests:** The majority of the evaluation in this course will come from 4 in-class tests, made up of approximately 70 multiple-choice questions. **These tests are not cumulative.**

**Written Assignments:** There are two short written assignments in this course, one in each semester. The first assignment is worth 5% and the second assignment is worth 10%. The details of each assignment will be posted several weeks in advance of the due date. These are designed to have you work on your critical thinking, writing, and research skills.

**Research Participation (URPP):** 4% of your grade comes from your participation in the URPP (Undergraduate Research Participant Program) research opportunities. To earn the 4% research mark you must participate in 3 hours of research in the Fall term (for 2%) and 3 hours of research in the winter term (for 2%). You cannot obtain the full 4% credit unless you do 3 hours of research in each term. **All of this is done under the direction of the URPP coordinator, not Dr. Fortune.** The URPP coordinator will visit our class in the first few weeks of the course to describe the URPP program and your participation in it. You can contact URPP at [urpp@yorku.ca](mailto:urpp@yorku.ca). If you have any concerns regarding urpp points or participation, email them, not your instructor or TA.

## BONUS MARK EXERCISE OPPORTUNITIES

You will have the opportunity to earn up to 3 extra % that will be added onto your final course grade. These opportunities involve participating in online discussion boards on Moodle. In each case Dr. Fortune will post a big question related to a recent lecture and ask students to post their thoughts, as well as respond to at least 2 of their classmates response. Participation in the exercises will be monitored by the TA's and will allow you to add 3% on top of your final course grade. A maximum of 3% is possible (i.e., thus, if you complete all 3 exercises, you will be able to add 3% of that on to your final grade).

## Course Format

The format of the class will be a mix of lectures delivered using PowerPoint slides, which expand upon material discussed in your textbook and additional supplementary readings. Please note that although not all text material will be discussed directly in class you are responsible for all the text readings for test purposes. In addition, some of the lectures will discuss material not available in the text. Again, you are responsible for this material. If you miss a class, try to borrow notes from a classmate.

Lectures will be broken-up by watching short video clips, engaging in class discussions, the completion of reflection-oriented 1-minute papers, as well as interactive (not for marks) polls that can be completed from your mobile device or laptop. When appropriate, research demonstrations and experiments will also be conducted in class in order to illustrate important concepts. 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.

## 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 89, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.). For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - [Grading Scheme for 2019-20](#)

## Missed Tests/Midterm Exams/Late Assignment

For any missed tests, midterm exam 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 missed tests, midterm exam or late assignments.

In addition, to the online form, students documented reason for a missed tests, midterm exam or late assignments such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., MUST submit official documentation (e.g. [Attending Physician Statement](#))

Missed tests do happen, but should not be to taken lightly. Contact your TA immediately upon missing a test. However, please note that it is the instructor – not the TA – decides **IF** you will be given a make-up test opportunity. The only officially recognized reason for missing a test is a medical one, documented with a medical note (as outlined above). Any test missed on medical grounds must be accompanied by an Attending Physician’s Statement completed by your Physician or by your Psychologist or Counselor. Other non-medical ground for missing a test includes a death in the family and must be supported by appropriate documentation (i.e., obituary, death certificate, emergency travel documents). Student Athletes must obtain documentation from their coach giving reasons for the absence and dates. Upon presentation of the Attending Physician’s Form, the Instructor will organize a make-up exam opportunity. The make-up exam must be written when scheduled by the instructor (see Departmental Guidelines).

## Add/Drop Deadlines

For a list of all important dates please refer to: [Fall/Winter 2019-20 - Important Dates](#)

	FALL (F)	YEAR (Y)	WINTER (W)
Last date to add a course <b>without permission</b> of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sept. 17	Sept. 17	Jan. 19
Last date to add a course <b>with permission</b> of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Oct. 1	Oct. 22	Feb. 3
Drop deadline: Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Nov. 8	Feb. 3	March 13
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of “W” on transcript – see note below)	Nov. 9 - Dec. 3	Feb. 4 - Apr. 5	March 14 - Apr. 5

*\*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.*

## **Information on Plagiarism Detection**

Turnitin will be used to detect plagiarism.

## **Electronic Device Policy**

You are welcome to use your electronic mobile devices in class, provided it be used for the purposes of note-taking and active class participation only. If you want to watch Netflix or YouTube videos or chat with your friends, please do so outside the lecture hall. Any student found to be disrupting the learning of their fellow classmates will be asked to cease this behaviour, and/or asked to leave the classroom.

## **Attendance Policy**

Attendance is not mandatory, but it is strongly encouraged. Recognizing that you have busy schedules and many competing demands, you will get the most out of this course and you will receive the best possible grade in this course if you attend and actively participate in class. Moreover, the in-class 1-minute reflective papers will be distributed at random, and will not be announced in advance. If you choose to be absent on a day in which one of these papers is completed, you will NOT be permitted to complete it, and there will NOT be an opportunity to make up that mark at a later date.

## **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 information [SPARK Academic Integrity modules](#). These modules explain principles of academic honesty.

## **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 university encourages students with disabilities to register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to discuss their accommodation needs as early as possible in the term to establish the recommended academic accommodations that will be communicated to Course Directors as necessary. Please let me know as early as possible in the term if you anticipate requiring academic accommodation so that we can discuss how to consider your accommodation needs within the context of this course.

<https://accessibility.students.yorku.ca/>

### **From Senate Policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:**

1. Pursuant to its commitment to sustaining an inclusive, equitable community in which all members are treated with respect and dignity, and consistent with applicable accessibility legislation, York University shall make reasonable and appropriate accommodations in order to promote the ability of students with disabilities to fulfill the academic requirements of their programs. This policy aims to eliminate systemic barriers to participation in academic activities by students with disabilities.

**All students are expected to satisfy the essential learning outcomes of courses.** Thus, accommodations shall be consistent with, support and preserve the academic integrity of the curriculum and the academic standards of courses and programs. For further information please refer to: York University Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities Policy.

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.

## **Course Materials Copyright Information**

These course materials are designed for use as part of the PSYC1010 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

The following is an approximate schedule of lecture topics and related required readings. It is subject to change, but any changes will be announced in class and online well in advance.

DATE	TOPIC	REQUIRED READING
SEPT 4	Introduction, brief history of psychology, 7 key themes	Chapter 1: The Evolution of Psychology
SEPT 11	Research methods and ethics	Chapter 2: The Research Enterprise in Psychology
SEPT 18	Research methods continued and the Brain	Chapter 3: The Biological Basis of Behaviour
SEPT 25	Sensation and Perception	Chapter 4: Sensation and Perception
OCT 2	Catch-up class and Test # 1 Review	
OCT 9	<b>TEST #1 (Worth 15%)</b>	
OCT 16	<b>READING WEEK BREAK - NO CLASSES</b>	
OCT 23	Sleep, dreams, and psychoactive substances	Chapter 5: Variations in Consciousness
OCT 30	Principles of Classical & Operant Conditioning, latent and observational learning <b>ASSIGNMENT #1 DUE TODAY!</b>	Chapter 6: Learning
NOV 6	Memory	Chapter 7: Memory
NOV 13	Memory continued and Test 2 review	Chapter 7: Memory
NOV 20	Language, Decision-Making, Problem Solving	Chapter 8: Language and Thought
NOV 27	<b>Test #2 (Worth 20%)</b>	
JAN 8	Intelligence and Psychological Testing	Chapter 9: Intelligence and Psychological Testing
JAN 15	Motivation	Chapter 10: Motivation and Emotion



JAN 22	Emotion	Chapter 10: Motivation and Emotion
JAN 29	Lifespan development: from birth to death, an overview of development trajectories	Chapter 11: Human Development Across the Lifespan
FEB 5	Personality: what makes you — you!	Chapter 12: Personality: Theory, Research, and Assessment
FEB 12	<b>Test #3 (Worth 20%)</b>	
FEB 19	<b>READING WEEK BREAK- NO CLASSES</b>	
FEB 26	Social Perception and Influence	Chapter 13: Social Behaviour
MAR 4	Attitudes, Stereotypes, and Prejudice	Chapter 13: Social Behaviour
MAR 1	Stress, coping skills, and their relationship to physical and mental health <b>ASSIGNMENT #2 DUE TODAY</b>	Chapter 14: Stress, Coping, and Health
MAR 18	A brief overview of psychological disorders	Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders
MAR 25	Treating Psychological Disorders and Test #4 review	Chapter 16: Treatment of Psychological Disorders
APR 1	<b>TEST #4 (Worth 20%)</b>	