

YORK UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
FACULTY OF HEALTH
2019 - 2020
PSYCHOLOGY 1010 6.0 D: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY

Tuesday 2:30 – 5:30 CLH - L

Instructor: Dr. Doug McCann
Room 247 Behavioral Sciences Building
Email: intropsy@yorku.ca

Emailing Protocol: When you email Dr. McCann or the TA's include your Student ID and full name in the body of your email with the Course number on the subject line (if not, a reply is not guaranteed).

Dr. McCann will not answer emails regarding issues/questions covered in the course syllabus – read the syllabus before emailing

Office Hours: Tuesday, 12 – 1. Room 247 BSB. These are drop-in hours; no appointment is necessary.

Course Prerequisite(s): None

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 and specified theories in psychology.
4. Discern differences between personal views and scientific evidence.

Specific Learning Objectives:

In this course students will acquire and demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in the study of psychology.

They will learn about the following content areas: the History of Psychology, Methods in Psychology, Biological Bases of Behaviour, Sensation, Perception, Consciousness,

Learning, Memory, Cognition and Language, Motivation, Emotion, Intelligence, Human Development, Personality, Health, Social Psychology, Psychopathology and Treatment.

Students will also be able to understand and explain human behaviour from biological, environmental, cognitive, evolutionary, psychodynamic, humanistic, and sociocultural perspectives. Furthermore, they will be able to integrate these perspectives and appreciate how heredity, environment, body and mind interact in shaping human behaviour.

Teaching Assistants:

Students are assigned to a specific Teaching Assistant alphabetically by the student's last name. This is an administrative decision and is designed simply to facilitate organization in the course. With a course enrollment of 500 students, it's important that each student have someone who is familiar with them and their grades etc. The teaching assistant to whom you are assigned will keep your exams and is the person you should visit to inquire about grades or to see your exam. If you have trouble meeting 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. Of course, since all the TA's will be familiar with course content feel free to drop by anyone's office hours to make inquiries.

Each of the TA's will be available for two hours each week for consultation regarding text readings, exams, grades, study habits, etc..

If you are having trouble with the lectures or the text visit the TA's. The TA's also will be happy to talk with you about improving your study habits and about graduate school in psychology and careers in psychology. The TA's will keep the exams in order that students may examine their exams, the right answers, and receive feedback from the TA's regarding how they are doing and how to do better. **THE EXAMS WILL NOT BE GIVEN BACK TO STUDENTS BUT WILL BE KEPT BY THE TA's.** No appointments are necessary for any of our office hours.

If you have a problem, drop by and see us or email - perhaps the easiest and fastest way to reach us about a problem is to email us. If you email us we often can answer your question or solve your problem very quickly. If that doesn't work make sure to drop by and see us in person during our office hours.

The Office Location and Hours for the Teaching Assistants are posted on the Moodle Course Site by about the middle of September.

Grading: 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](#)

Text:

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

NOTE: Make sure to get the right edition of the textbook, the 5th Canadian Edition with a publication date of 2019. This is the only textbook that will be referred to in this course.

FALL TERM		
<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READINGS</u>
Sept 10	Introduction	Chpt. 1
Sept 17	Methodology	Chpt. 2 & Appendix B
Sept 24	Methodology Cont'd and the Brain	Chpt 3
Oct. 1	Test Review/Sample Questions	
Oct 8	TEST #1	
Oct 15	READING WEEK – NO CLASSES	
Oct 22	Sensation and Perception	Chpt 4
<u>Oct 29*</u>	Consciousness *(<u>in-class assignment #1</u>)	Chpt 5
Nov 5	Learning	Chpt 6
Nov 12	Memory and Information Processing	Chpt 7
Nov 19	TEST 2	
Nov 26	Cognition and Language	Chpt 8
Dec 3	Intelligence	Chpt 9
WINTER TERM		
Jan 7	Motivation	Chpt 10 (pages 346-366)
Jan 14	Emotion	Chpt 10 (pages 367-385)
Jan 21	TEST 3	
Jan 28	Human Development	Chpt 11
Feb 4	Personality	Chpt 12
<u>Feb 11*</u>	Social Perception(<u>in-class assignment #2</u>)	Chpt 13 (pages 473-489, 497-505)
Feb 18	READING WEEK: NO CLASSES	
Feb 25	Attitudes, Stereotypes, and Prejudice	Chpt 13 (pages 489-497,505-516)
Mar 3	TEST 4	
Mar 10	Stress & Health	Chpt 14
Mar 17	Psychopathology I	Chpt 15
Mar 24	Psychopathology II	Chpt 16
Mar 31	TEST 5	

NOTE: There is no exam for this course in the Final Exam Period. Test Evaluation is based on the 5 in-class tests. 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

COURSE FORMAT

The lectures will discuss and expand upon text readings. You should 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. This course will be conducted primarily in a lecture format (there are no tutorials). Videos will be shown from time to time and general questions derived from this material may appear on tests. Periodically, research demonstrations and experiments will be conducted in class. These are generally designed to illustrate important concepts or to give experience in participating in a subject role in research. 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.

EVALUATION OF STUDENTS

Tests: 5 equally weighted tests constitute **90%** of your final grade. Each test counts 18% toward your final grade. Tests must be completed individually by students and cheating or plagiarism will be dealt with according to University Policy. These tests typically consist of 80 multiple-choice questions. The Unit tests deal primarily with material discussed in that unit; that is, they are noncumulative.

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 Professor McCann.

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. If you have any concerns regarding urpp points or participation, email them, not your instructor or TA.

In-class Assignments

Two in-class exercises will be conducted. The in-class assignments will contribute 6% toward your final grade. The first will count for a maximum of 2% and the 2nd will count a maximum of 4%. The assignments will consist of an experiential exercise with a written component. Each written report will be short and will be handed in directly to the instructor in class. The in-class assignments will be written under the same conditions as exams, i.e., no phones, talking, computers etc and students will be expected to work on their own to complete the assignments in the class period.

Only students who come to class that day will be allowed to complete the assignments since an in-class experiential component is involved. If you are absent and can provide a signed ATTENDING PHYSICIAN'S REPORT (<http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/pdf/attending-physicians-statement.pdf?tab=3>) an alternative assignment will be provided. A Doctor's note is not sufficient: an Attending Physician's form is required.

MISSED TESTS

Missed tests happen – some students occasionally miss tests. Such an occurrence is not to be taken lightly. The instructor – not the TA – decides if you will be given a make-up exam opportunity. The only officially recognized reason for missing a test is a medical one, documented with a medical note. 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.

YOU MUST OBTAIN AND USE THE MEDICAL FORM titled "Attending Physician's Form: It is available from <http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/pdf/attending-physicians-statement.pdf?tab=3>

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](#)). The only reason other than a medical one for missing a scheduled make-up exam is that you have a previously scheduled exam that conflicts. Contact your TA immediately upon missing a test.

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 without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sept. 17	Sept. 17	Jan. 19
Last date to add a course with permission 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.*

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 [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

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Religious Observance Accommodation

If any test dates pose a problem for you with regard to your Religious Observance please inform Dr. McCann at least three weeks before the test. Alternative tests dates will be

arranged. You may wish to complete a Religious Accommodation Form available at http://registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam_accommodation.pdf.

The taking of photographs/videos in class is prohibited.

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