

Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology
PSYC 2220 3.0 B: SENSATION AND PERCEPTION I
Day/Time/Location
Term/Year

Instructor and T.A. Information

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Office Hours	By appointment

Course Prerequisite(s): Course prerequisites are strictly enforced

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

Course Credit Exclusions

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

Course website: [Moodle](#)

Course Description

Sensation and perception are at the heart of psychology. The first academic psychology departments focussed on perception and many things that we study in psychology today, ultimately depend on our ability to make sense of the world around us.

This course will illustrate how the study of sensation and perception combines results from psychology with insights from biology and computer science. We will focus on the sensory systems responsible for seeing and hearing, and proceed from an understanding of the respective stimulus (light/sound), to the physiology of the receptors and the cortical areas involved in processing, to the way we use the information that reaches our eyes and ears to "compute" meaningful interpretations of the world.

Program Learning Outcomes

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

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

Required Text

- Wolfe, Kluender, Levi, Bartoshuk, Herz, Klatzky, Merfeld (2018): Sensation and Perception. (Fifth Edition). New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

The course will be based on the book by Wolfe et al, which covers all the topics of the course in great detail.

- Optional: Snowden, Thompson, Troskianko (2012): Basic Vision. Revised Edition. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

The book by Snowden et al does only cover a subset of the course's topics and is *not required to succeed in the course*. However, students have asked in the past for books that are more entertaining and the book by Snowden et al is really quite entertaining and fun to read. However, given that the book does not cover all of the course's content it is not a required text.

Course Requirements and Assessment:

Assessment	Date of Evaluation (if known)	Weighting
Midterm	October 7, 2019	20%
Final Exam	December 2019	25%
Online test: Chapter 1	September 12, 2019	5%
Online test: Chapter 2	September 19, 2019	5%
Online test: Chapter 3	September 26, 2019	5%
Online test: Chapter 4	October 3, 2019	5%
Online test: Chapter 5	October 24, 2019	5%
Online test: Chapter 6	October 31, 2019	5%
Online test: Chapter 7	November 7, 2019	5%
Online test: Chapter 8	November 14, 2019	5%
Online test: Chapter 9	November 21, 2019	5%
Online test: Chapter 10	November 28, 2019	5%
Online test: Chapter 11	December 5, 2019	5%

Description of Assignments

Online tests do not require physical presence and require students to go to a website that will be announced in class.

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](#))

If you cannot write an exam you must contact the TA BEFORE the start of the test. If you do not speak to a person directly you must email them – if you don't receive a response, email again. If you are unable to contact someone during a 24 hour period, documentation accounting for the delay must be provided. Documentation verifying the reason for the missed exam (see below) must be provided either prior to or at the time of the make-up. Failure to provide appropriate documentation will result in a grade of 0 on the exam.

There will be no make-up tests for the midterm. Students who miss the midterm must provide appropriate documentation to have the weight of the midterm assigned to the final exam.

For the final exam, there will be only one chance for a make-up test and that will be in the form of an oral exam. Dates for the oral make-up exam need to be made with the instructor within a week after the original final exam date.

The actual date for the oral make-up must not be later than January 31, 2020.

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.*

Information on Plagiarism Detection

Does not apply.

Electronic Device Policy

Students may use electronic devices during classes except during the midterm and final examinations. See below as well.

Attendance Policy

Class attendance is mandatory but will not be enforced. Students missing classes are responsible for getting the relevant information (e.g. announcements, date changes, ...) as these may not immediately (or not at all) be updated on the moodle page of the course.

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

These course materials are designed for use as part of the PSYC 2220 3.0B 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

- 09.09. Chapter 1 Introduction
- 09.16. Chapter 2 First steps of vision
- 09.23. Chapter 3 Spatial Vision
- 09.30. Chapter 4 Perceiving and recognizing objects
- 10.07. Midterm
- 10.21. Chapter 5 Perception of color
- 10.28. Chapter 6 Space perception and binocular vision
- 11.04. Chapter 7 Attention and scene perception
- 11.11. Chapter 8 Visual motion perception
- 11.18. Chapter 9 Hearing: Physiology and psychoacoustics
- 11.25. Chapter 10 Hearing in the environment
- 12.02. Chapter 11 Music and speech perception

Chapter numbers correspond to the chapters in the book by Wolfe et al.