

Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology
Intermediate Research Methods
(PSYC 3010 3.0 Section N)
Winter 2020

Meeting Times: Wednesday 2:30 – 5:30pm

Meeting Location: FC 105

Course Website: <https://moodle.yorku.ca/>

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Joey Cheng

Office: Behavioural Sciences Building (BSB) Room 322

Office Phone: 416-736-2100 Ext. 33439

Office Hours: Wed 1:00-2:00pm (Book your timeslot here: <https://www.canumeeet.com/joeycheng>)

Email: chengjt@yorku.ca

COURSE PREREQUISITE(S)

Course prerequisites are strictly enforced

- HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 (Introduction to Psychology), with a minimum grade of C.
- HH/PSYC 2020 6.00 (Statistical Methods I and II) or HH/PSYC 2021 3.00 (Statistical Methods I)
- HH/PSYC 2030 3.00 (Introduction to Research Methods)
- Completed at least 54 earned credits

COURSE CREDIT EXCLUSIONS

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

COURSE WEBSITE

<https://moodle.yorku.ca/>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

“To raise new questions, new possibilities, to regard old problems from a new angle, requires creative imagination and marks real advance in science.”
--Albert Einstein

“Science is a way of thinking much more than it is a body of knowledge.”
--Carl Sagan

This course is about how to use the tools of science to understand human behavior. Working together, we will explore the foundations of the scientific method, and the different types of research designs that are commonly used today by scientists, policymakers, and other curious souls to understand the complexities of our species' mind and behavior. This course is highly experiential and involves a hands-on research project, in which you will take an active role in your learning by designing and executing your own research study in a team of 3-5 students.

By the end of this course, you will have developed and honed transferable skills important to your future classes, workplace, and personal lives, including the ability to: (a) be a critical consumer of claims and scientific evidence; (b) evaluate, analyze, and interpret data and evidence; (c) communicate effectively using evidence-supported arguments; and (d) work effectively in teams.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Explain and critique psychological methodologies across sub-disciplines.
2. Analyse and interpret results from simple psychological studies.
3. Generate testable hypotheses in psychology.
4. Express in written form psychological findings using APA style.
5. Demonstrate knowledge that conclusions are limited by methods.

SUGGESTED TEXT (NO REQUIRED TEXT)

- Any undergraduate textbook on research design and methods
- Original journal articles that you select
- Supplemental readings assigned by the instructor

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT:

Assessment	Assessment Type	Weighting	Due Date
Hypothesis Presentation	Team	10%	Jan 22
Pre-Registration Document	Team	10%	Feb 5
Data Collection Log	Individual	2%	Feb 12
Poster Presentation	Team	20%	March 11
Podcast Showdown	Team	20%	March 25
APA-Style Final Report	Individual	30%	April 1
Participation (based on instructor & teammate evaluations)	Individual	8% (minimum to pass course: 60%)	Ongoing
TOTAL		100%	
Bonus: Take-home assignment: 'TCPS tutorial'	Individual	+2%	Jan 21
Bonus: Winner of 'Class-voted favorite podcast'	Team	+2%	March 25

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](#))

Out of fairness, for late submissions, you will lose 10% (out of 100%) for each day that the work is submitted late. Any submission received 4 days (i.e., 96 hours) past the deadline will receive a grade of zero. For all late submissions, students must contact the instructor the instructor no later than 24 hours after the original deadline to receive late-submission approval.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance in all classes is expected because each meeting involves extensive group work.

In particular, attendance is mandatory on days of hypothesis presentation (Jan 21) and poster presentation (March 10). Failure to attend on these days will result in a grade of zero on the ‘Hypothesis Presentation’ or ‘Poster Presentation’, unless you have a valid documented reason (see above). Exceptions will not be made, except with a doctor’s note or evidence of extenuating circumstances.

Your attendance in all classes is crucial to your participation in the team project. Your participation will be subjected to evaluation by both the instructor (e.g., based on attendance, focus shown during group work) and that of your teammates, in the form of teammate evaluations conducted in the middle and end of the term. In particularly, in the rare occasion that teammate evaluations indicate a serious problem with lack of participation or failure to contribute to the project, this student may be denied from continuing to work with the team. Moreover, in order to pass the course, students must receive at least 60% on the ‘Participation’ component.

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

All submitted work is subject to plagiarism detection screening, which includes but is not limited to: TurnItIn, manual on-line searches, and automatic text-matching software.

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 3010 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 (TENTATIVE)

Week	Date	Topic
1	Jan 8	Course overview, and introduction to research study project Team assignment, designing a research study, and ethical considerations
2	Jan 15	No Class (Complete take-home bonus assignment: 'TCPS tutorial')
3	Jan 22	Giving scientific presentations overview Hypothesis presentation
4	Jan 29	Study pre-registration overview, and scientific writing Qualtrics for conducting experiments overview Experimental design (Day 1)
5	Feb 5	Experimental design (Day 2) Pre-registration peer-review, and data collection considerations
6	Feb 12	Data analysis and visualization (Day 1) Teammate evaluations (mid-term)
-	Feb 19	No Class: Reading Week
7	Feb 26	Data analysis and visualization (Day 2)
8	March 4	Science communication: Effective poster presentations
9	March 11	Poster fair
10	March 18	Science communication: Informative and engaging podcasts
11	March 25	Podcast showdown Teammate evaluations (end-of-term)
12	April 1	APA-Style Final Report Due

Adjustments to this course schedule may be made at any time. For the most up-to-date version of the syllabus, please refer to the course website on Moodle.