

# PSYC 4260

## Seminar in sensation and perception

### Summer 2011

<b>Instructor:</b>	Richard Murray     rfm@yorku.ca
<b>Lectures:</b>	Tuesday and Thursday, 1:00 - 4:00 pm, Chemistry Building 120
<b>Office hours:</b>	TBD
<b>Readings:</b>	journal articles posted on course website
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.yorku.ca/rfm/psyc4260">www.yorku.ca/rfm/psyc4260</a>
<b>Evaluation:</b>	quizzes (10%), two seminar presentations (5% each), two midterm tests (20% each), final exam (20%), term paper (20%)
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	The usual prerequisites for fourth-year seminars (consult the undergraduate office), plus PSYC 2220

**Seminar format.** Each three hour class will be divided into two 1.5 hour seminars. Each seminar will begin with one or two students jointly presenting the day's articles. The presentation should take around 20 minutes, and should explain the articles and suggest ideas for discussion.

**Weekly quizzes.** There will be a short quiz at the beginning of each class on the day's articles. Your two lowest quiz scores will be dropped.

**Midterm tests and final exam.** The midterms and the final exam will cover both the in-class discussions and the readings. The final exam will cover the entire course.

**Term paper.** The term paper will be a review and discussion of one or two journal articles. The paper will be around 2500 words long, and the journal articles will normally be the ones you presented in one of your seminars.

**Missed tests and quizzes.** There will be no makeup tests or quizzes. If you provide suitable documentation for missing a test or quiz, you will have the weight of the missed test added to the weight of the final exam, and the weight of the missed quiz distributed amongst the remaining quizzes. Tests and quizzes missed without adequate documentation will be assigned a mark of zero.

**Plagiarism.** Representing others' work as your own is a serious academic offense. Consult the Department of Psychology's undergraduate calendar for the departmental policy on plagiarism.

**Drop date.** The last date to withdraw without receiving a grade is May 27, 2011.

## LECTURE SCHEDULE

<b>topic</b>		
1a	3-May	perceptual organization
2a	5-May	face adaptation
2b		social perception
3a	10-May	natural illumination
3b		brain imaging
4a	12-May	animal vision
4b		colour constancy
5a	17-May	signal detection theory
5b		recognition by components
6a	19-May	<i>midterm test</i>
6b		stereo vision
7a	24-May	philosophy of mind I: dualism and behaviourism
7b		philosophy of mind II: identity theory and functionalism
8a	26-May	3D shape
8b		shape from shading
9a	31-May	cue combination
9b		number perception
10a	2-Jun	<i>midterm test</i>
10b		classification images
11a	7-Jun	evolution of vision
11b		perceptual upright
12a	9-Jun	the moon illusion
12b		<i>review session</i>

## **LETTER GRADES**

Final course marks will be converted to letter grades as follows.

90 – 100	A+
80 – 89.99	A
75 – 79.99	B+
70 – 74.99	B
65 – 69.99	C+
60 – 64.99	C
55 – 59.99	D+
50 – 54.99	D
45 – 49.99	E
0 – 44.99	F

## **ATTENDANCE**

This is a seminar course, so attendance is crucial. The instructor will take attendance, and 2% will be deducted from the final course mark for each class missed without a valid, documented reason.