

**PSYC 2030 3.0 N**  
**INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY**  
**WINTER 2016**

**Instructor:** Dr. Rebecca Jubis

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**Office hours:** by appointment

**Secretary:** Agnes Levstik, located in Rm 281 BSB (416-736-5125)

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**Teaching Assistants:**

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**Course Website:**

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

Login with your Passport York account and click on “My Courses”

If you require assistance with accessing this website, please contact [ithelp@yorku.ca](mailto:ithelp@yorku.ca) or call 416-736-5800 (I will not be able to help)

**Lectures:**      **Time:** Fridays 11:30-2:30      **Location:** CLH-E

**Required Text:**

C. James Goodwin and Kerri A. Goodwin (2013). Research in Psychology: Methods and Design (7<sup>th</sup> edition). Toronto: John Wiley and Sons Inc.

**Study Guide and on-line resources:**

<http://bcs.wiley.com/he-bcs/Books?action=index&itemId=1118360028&bcsId=7688>

**Course Description:**

This course will introduce you to the basics of research and will provide you with a good foundation for conducting your own research in higher-level courses. You will be introduced to different research methodologies, and the advantages and limitations of each will be discussed. Also, you will gain experience at effectively locating, reading and evaluating published research in psychology.

**Prerequisite:** Psyc 1010 6.0 with a minimum grade of C. **Pre- or co-requisite:** Psyc 2020 6.0 or Psyc 2021 3.0 or substitute.

## **Course Outline (in order of instruction):**

Chapter 5 - Introduction to Experimental Research  
Chapter 6 – Methodological Control in Experimental Research  
Chapter 7 - Experimental Design I: Single-Factor Designs  
Chapter 8 - Experimental Design II: Factorial Designs  
Reading and writing empirical reports (pg 453-462 in text)  
Library Workshop  
Chapter 9 - Correlational Research  
Chapter 12- Observational and Survey Research Methods  
Chapter 4- reliability and validity only (pg 117-122 in text)  
Chapter 11- Small N Design  
Chapter 1 - Scientific Thinking in Psychology  
Chapter 3 - Developing Ideas for Research in Psychology  
Chapter 2 - Ethics in Psychological Research

## **METHODS OF EVALUATION**

### **Tests:**

There will be 3 non-cumulative tests that will each consist of 5-6 short-answer questions, and multiple-choice questions. For testing purposes you are responsible for assigned chapters in the text and material presented in lectures. The vast majority of test questions will relate to material that I covered in class, and most of what I cover in class is in the textbook. If you are unable to attend class, it is your responsibility to obtain pertinent material.

### **Take-Home Assignment (due in lecture on Mar 18):**

#### **You are expected to work on this assignment independently.**

You will be required to “put into practice” some of the research concepts that we have covered in class. Your assignment will also allow you to gain experience at conducting a library search for psychology-related topics. To help you with this process, you will first be offered a Scott Library workshop that will be held in class.

If the assignment is submitted on Mar 18, but after class, there will be a 5 mark penalty and if it's handed in on Mon., Mar 21 there will be a 10 mark penalty. Assignments will not be accepted after Mar 21. Late assignments should be submitted to my secretary, Agnes, in Rm 281 BSB and must be stamped by her. Do NOT leave your assignment under my office door or under any other door.

### Important Dates:

		weighting	
Test 1	Feb 5	35%	Chap 5, 6, 7
Library Workshop	Feb 12		
Test 2	Mar 11	35%	Chap 8, 9, 12, Chap 4 (pg 117-122 only- reliability and validity)
Assignment due	Mar 18	10%	
Test 3	** Mon., Apr 4	20%	Chap 11, 1, 3, 2, Empirical reports (pg 453-462)

### **\*\*IMPORTANT**

The university is closed on Fri., Mar 25 because of Good Friday and the university's official replacement day for ALL Friday classes is Mon., Apr 4. **Test 3 will take place on MONDAY, Apr 4 (same time and location).**

**Take note that two tests and the assignment take place during the last few weeks of classes. It will be a busy time – plan accordingly.**

### Missed Tests:

If you are unable to write a test for medical reasons or personal crisis, **you must notify your teaching assistant** by email **within 48 hours** after the test (official university policy). Also, you must have appropriate documentation for your absence. **If you miss a test for medical reasons, your physician must complete the “Attending Physician’s Statement” (the version that is posted on Moodle. Alternative medical notes will not be accepted.** The form must be signed by the doctor around the time of your illness – not retroactively, and must have an office stamp. Hand in your documentation to your teaching assistant at the time of the make-up test. I would strongly advise against writing a test if you are ill, because grades will not be adjusted after-the-fact to compensate for such circumstances.

### Marking Scheme used in this Course:

A+ 90 and above	A 80-89
B+ 75-79	B 70-74
C+ 65-69	C 60-64
D+ 55-59	D 50-54
E 40-49	F below 40

### **On-Line Open-Forum Discussion:** (accessed through the course website)

You are strongly encouraged to participate in this general discussion forum where you are free to discuss with classmates, course-related issues or any psychology-related topic or concern.

***The last day to withdraw from this course without academic penalty is Friday, Mar 4.***

If you require a particular grade in this course, please work now towards attaining it. This course does not offer extra assignments or tests at the end of the course to accommodate students who are a few marks short of their desired grade.

A letter grade will be “rounded up” when calculating your overall final grade if your final percentage ends in .50 or higher. For example, if your final grade is 74.50% it will be rounded up from a B to a B+. However, if your final percentage is 74.38% for example, your letter grade will remain a B. You must draw the line somewhere and .50% is the designated cut-off.

**Cheating:**

**Don't even consider it....it's not worth it!! York University considers cheating and plagiarism a serious offence, and penalties are harsh.**

Please go to: [www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.htm](http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.htm) and read the **Senate Policy on Academic Honesty** and complete the **Online Tutorial on Academic Integrity**. (There is a link to this on Moodle).