

PSYC 2030 3.0 C
INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
FALL 2013

Instructor: Dr. Rebecca Jubis

Office: Rm 251 B.S.B.

Office hours: by appointment or after lecture

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

Email: jubis@yorku.ca (Be sure to indicate that you are a 2030 C student).

Please do not email me for issues that can be dealt with by the teaching assistants (grades, make-up tests)

Teaching Assistants:

Kristin Thornback (for students whose last name begins with A-K)

Email: kgragtma@yorku.ca Office hours and location: TBA

Kyla Baird (for students whose last name begins with L-Z)

Email: bairdka@yorku.ca Office hours and location: TBA

If you are unable to attend these office hours, please make arrangements with your TA to meet at an alternative time.

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 or call 416-736-5800 (I will not be able to help)

Lectures: **Time:** Wednesdays 2:30-5:30 **Location:** CLH-D

Required Text:

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

Study Guide:

Online at www.wiley.com/college/goodwin

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
- Reading and writing empirical reports (pg 453-462 in text)
- Library Workshop
- Chapter 8 - Experimental Design II: Factorial Designs
- 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 (even if the material was not covered in class), and all material presented in lectures. If you are unable to attend class, it is your responsibility to obtain pertinent material.

Take-Home Assignment (due Nov. 20):

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.

You are expected to work on this assignment independently.

If you do not hand in the assignment in class, please submit it to my secretary, Agnes, in Rm 281 BSB by 5:00pm. Five marks will be deducted for late submission and the assignment will not be accepted after Fri., Nov. 22

Important Dates:

		weighting	
Test 1	Oct 9	30%	Chap 5, 6, 7
Library Workshop	Oct 16		
Test 2	Nov 13	30%	Chap 8, 9, 12, Chap 4 (pg 117-122 only- reliability and validity)
Assignment due	Nov 20	20%	
Test 3	Dec 4	20%	Chap 11, 1, 3, 2, Empirical reports (pg 435-462)

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 (not me)** by email **within 48 hours** after the test (absolutely no later!). 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” form that can be downloaded from the course website. Alternative medical notes will not be accepted.** 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.

Please Note

The last day to withdraw from this course without academic penalty is Friday, Nov. 8.

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.

Grades will be “rounded up” only when calculating your overall, final grade (not individual tests). Your final grade will be rounded up if it ends in .50 or higher. For instance, if your final grade is 74.50%, it will be rounded up to 75% (B+).