

YORK UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
PSYCHOLOGY 2240 3.0 A: BIOLOGICAL BASIS OF BEHAVIOUR
FALL 2016

TUESDAYS 8:30 – 11:30

CLH E

Course Director: Dr. Agnieszka Kopinska

TAs:

E-mail: kopinska@yorku.ca

Raman Sehra sehraram@yorku.ca 057 BSB

Office Hours: by appointment

Shira Yufe syufe@yorku.ca 312 BSB

Office: 251 BSB

Text: James W. Kalat, Biological Psychology, 12th Edition
Please wait with the purchase until the first class.

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

	DATE	TOPIC	CHAPTER
Sep	13	Introduction	
	20	Nerve Cells and Nerve Impulses and Synapses	1 & 2
	27	Anatomy and Research Methods / Assignment posted	3
Oct	4	Genetics, Evolution, Development and Plasticity	4
	11	Exam 1 (25%)	1-4
		Sensory Systems	5 & 6
	18	Movement	7
	25	Wakefulness and Sleep	8
	28	<i>Assignment Due (18%) @ 23:59</i>	
	Nov	1	Internal Regulation and Reproductive Behaviours
8		Exam 2 (25%)	5-10
		Emotional Behaviours	11
<i>11</i>		<i>Last date to drop course without receiving grade</i>	
15		Learning and Memory and Cognitive Functions	12 & 13
22		Psychological Disorders	14
	29	Exam 3 (20%)	11-14

General Description:

An introduction to biological basis of behaviour. The physiological, genetic, developmental and evolutionary perspectives will be utilized to discuss a broad variety of topics, including perception, sleeping and dreaming, memory, motor and cognitive processing, as well as emotions and consciousness. This will be accomplished by looking at normal and impaired functioning and illustrated by classic findings and current research.

Learning Objectives:

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

1. Demonstrate broad knowledge of biological determinants of behaviour.
2. Describe and evaluate current theory and research in biological psychology.
3. Understand and interpret principles of biological psychology in everyday life.
4. Discuss human behaviour from biological psychology perspective.

Course Prerequisite(s): Course prerequisites are strictly enforced.

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

Evaluation

1. Exam 1	25%
2. Exam 2	25%
3. Exam 3	20%
4. Assignment	18%
5. Clicker (optional)	12%
6. Online Participation (bonus)	3%

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 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

(For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - <http://calendars.students.yorku.ca/2016-2017/academic-and-financial-information/academic-services/grades-and-grading-schemes>)

Information on Plagiarism Detection

Turnitin will be used to detect plagiarism.

Electronic Device Policy

Unless there are documented needs, there will be no personal electronic device usage during the class time (computers, mobile devices, etc.).

Assignment Submission: Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment. You will be asked to submit your assignment to your TA by e-mail and to www.turnitin.com by a specified date.

Lateness Penalty: Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized 5% per day. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the Course Instructor but will require supporting documentation (e.g., an attending physician's statement—see "documentation" below).

Attendance Policy: The student is responsible to know the material presented in class.

Clickers: The clickers NEED to be purchased and REGISTERED 24 HOURS before the second lecture. For more information about clicker purchase and registration go to <http://www.yorku.ca/prs/students/index.htm>

Test Banks: The use of test banks is not permitted in this course and may be considered a potential breach of academic honesty. This includes but is not limited to; buying or selling test banks.

POLICY ON MISSED EXAMINATIONS

1. Within 48 hours of the missed test or examination, students **MUST** contact the instructor either in-person or by e-mail. Be sure to clearly state your name, student number, course and a number/time at which you can be reached. In the case of a missed test the student will be required to write a MAKE-UP TEST. Only **ONE** make-up test is allowed in the course, any other missed tests will stand at the value of zero.
2. Appropriate documentation verifying the circumstances for the missed test or examination must be provided prior to or at the time specified by the instructor. Failure to provide appropriate documentation will result in a grade of 0 on the missed test.
 - A. Tests or examinations missed on the grounds of medical circumstances must be supported by the Attending Physician's Statement, which can be found at <http://registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/attending-physicians-statement.pdf> This is the **ONLY** form of medical documentation acceptable in this course. A "doctor's note" is **NOT** sufficient.
 - B. Tests or examinations missed on grounds of non-medical circumstances must be supported by appropriate documentation, i.e., death certificates, obituary notice, automobile accident reports, airline/train/bus tickets/receipt for emergency travel, etc.

Add/Drop Deadlines

For a list of all important dates please refer to: [Important Dates](#)

Important dates	Fall (F)	Year (Y)	Winter (W)
Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sep. 21	Sept 21	Jan. 18
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Oct 5	Oct 19	Feb. 1
Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Nov 11	Feb 10	Mar 10
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a “W” on the transcript)	Nov 12 - Dec 5	Feb 11 - Apr 5	March 11 - Apr. 5

Academic Integrity for Students

York university takes academic integrity very seriously, please visit [an overview of Academic Integrity at York University](#) from the Office of the Vice-President Academic.

The following links will assist you in gaining a better understanding of academic integrity and point you to resources at York that can help you improve your writing and research skills:

- [Information about the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#)
- [Online Tutorial on Academic Integrity](#)
- [Information for Students on Text-Matching Software: Turnitin.com](#)
- [Beware! Says who? A pamphlet on how to avoid plagiarism](#)
- [Resources for students to help improve their writing and research skill](#)

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. It provides tools, assistance and resources.

Policy Statement: 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 2240 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](#)