

**Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology
PSYC 3430 Section M
BEHAVIOUR IN GROUPS
Winter 2017**

Instructor and T.A. Information

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

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

Course website: [Moodle](#)

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to provide an overview of the fundamental aspects of human behaviour in groups of various sizes (from dyads to entire cultures). The investigation of human behaviour in group situations will be investigated from theoretical, empirical, and applied perspectives. The topics that will be explored include issues of group development, performance, and leadership. The course is designed to engage students with the material experientially through the integration of small group activities with lectures and audiovisual presentations.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of behaviour in groups.
2. Articulate trends in the psychology of behaviour in groups.
3. Express knowledge of behaviour in groups in written form.
4. Describe and explain limits to generalizability of research findings on behaviour in groups.
5. Demonstrate ability to relate information on behaviour in groups to own and others' life experiences.

Specific Learning Objectives

- Understand the basic characteristics of groups and their functions
- Explain the role measurement, research design, and theory play in the scientific study of groups.
- Understand the basic assumptions of social identity theory (construction of the self through groups).
- Understand the impact of personal and situational factors on group formation.
- Conceptualize the construct of cohesion, as well as contrast between the theories/models of group development
- Explain how power processes influence individual and group performance.
- Compare and contrast trait, situational, and interactionist approaches to leadership se learning objectives that build on/extend the learning outcomes

Required Text

- Forsyth, D.R. (2013). Group Dynamics (6th edition). Belmont, CA: Thomson-Wadsworth.

Course Requirements and Assessment

Assessment	Date of Evaluation	Weighting
Test #1	Feb. 3, 2017	15%
Test #2	March 10, 2017	25%
Research Assignment	March 24, 2017	30%
Final Exam	April 7-24, 2017	30%
Total		100%

Description of Assignments

Research assignment document can be found on the Moodle course website.

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>)

Late Work/Missed Tests or Exams

Students with a documented reason for missing a course test, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation (Attending Physician Statement which can be found at: <http://registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/attending-physicians-statement.pdf>) may request accommodation from the Course Instructor. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

Students with a documented reason for missing a course test, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation (Attending Physician Statement which can be found at: <http://registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/attending-physicians-statement.pdf>) may request accommodation from the Course Instructor. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

The student must contact the instructor or TA in-person or by e-mail within 48 hours of the examination. Be sure to clearly state your name, student number, course, and a number and time at which you can be reached. If you are unable to contact the course instructor or TA before the exam, subsequent documentation accounting for the delay must be provided.

Tests or examinations missed on the grounds of non-medical circumstances must be supported by appropriate documentation (i.e., death certificates, obituary notice, automobile accident reports, airline/train/bus ticket/receipts with date of booking on ticket, etc.). Airline/train/bus ticket/receipts for emergency travel must indicate destination, departure and return dates.

In the case of a make-up test/exam, the student must be prepared to write within the week following the missed test (a date will be set by the instructor). Although the content to be examined will be the same, the format may or may not follow that of the original test/examination. It is the student's responsibility to check with the instructor, TA, and/or course website as to the date/time of the make-up. A conflict in another course during the time of the make-up is not an acceptable reason for missing the make-up. If a student misses a make-up opportunity for good reasons (see points mentioned above), then either the prorating option is applied, or a second and final opportunity for a make-up will be arranged. Missed make-ups must be supported by appropriate documentation (see points A and B above). Failure to provide appropriate documentation will result in a grade of F on the missed test.

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE POLICY

York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs of all members of the community and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus for in-class examinations pose such a conflict for you, contact the Course Director within the first three weeks of class. Please note that to arrange an alternative date or time for an examination scheduled in the formal examination periods, students must complete an Examination Accommodation Form, which can be obtained from the Registrar's Office.

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)	Sept. 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	March 10
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a "W" on the transcript – see note below)	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](#)

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 too; buying or selling test banks.

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 devise 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 proam 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 Schedule:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lecture Topic</u>	<u>Readings</u>
Jan. 6	Syllabus Review Orientation to the Course Website Group Introduction	
Jan. 13	Introduction to Group Dynamics	Chapter 1
Jan. 20	Studying Groups	Chapter 2
Jan. 27	Individual and the Group	Chapter 3
Feb. 3	Test #1: Chapters 1, 2, & 3 Powerpoints & Handouts from Jan. 17-31	
Feb 10	Formation	Chapter 4
Feb. 17	Structure	Chapter 6
Feb. 24	No Class	
March 3	Cohesion & Development	Chapter 5
March 10	Last day to withdraw from Winter half courses without a grade. http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/fw16.htm	
March 10	Test #2: Chapters 4-6 Powerpoints & Handouts from Feb. 14-March 7	
March 17	Leadership	Chapter 9
March 24	Power Research Assignment Due	Chapter 8
March 31	Decision Making	Chapter 11
April 7-24	Final Exam: Chapters 8, 9, 11 Powerpoints & Handouts from March 21-April 4	