

**Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology
HH/PSYC 2030 3.0 P
INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS
Winter 2017**

IMPORTANT NOTE:

This document contains two sections. Section I contains information compiled and disseminated by the Department of Psychology. All rules, regulations, and procedures in this section apply to and will be strictly enforced in PSYC2030 (P). Section II contains information specific to PSYC2030 (P), Winter 2017 with K. Phillips.

SECTION I: DEPARTMENTAL COURSE OUTLINE

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

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

Course Prerequisite or Corequisite(s); One of:

HH/PSYC 2020 6.00 (Statistical Methods I and II)

HH/PSYC 2021 3.00 (Statistical Methods I)

Learning Outcomes

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

1. Distinguish between experimental and non-experimental designs.
2. Demonstrate understanding that various research designs.
3. Define hypotheses, independent and dependent variables, validity and reliability.
4. Use traditional and electronic sources to locate psychological findings.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the basics of scientific writing.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of the basics of referencing using APA style.
7. Understand ethical principles in the CPA code of ethics.

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 - 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.

*******Make- up opportunities will be provided ONLY FOR THE FINAL EXAM (not missed midterms) in PSYC2030 (P). See Section II for specific policies in PSYC2030 (P)**

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. 19Feb. 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 offering for sale of, buying of, and attempting to sell or buy test banks (banks of test questions and/or answers), or any course specific test questions/answers is not permitted in the Faculty of Health. Any student found to be doing this may be considered to have breached the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty. In particular, buying and attempting to sell banks of test questions and/or answers may be considered as “Cheating in an attempt to gain an improper advantage in an academic evaluation” (article 2.1.1 from the Senate Policy) and/or “encouraging, enabling or causing others” (article 2.1.10 from the Senate Policy) to cheat.

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 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. The Accessibility Hub provides tools, assistance and resources.

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](#)

SECTION II: COURSE OUTLINE FOR PSY2030 (P)

Course Director: K. Phillips, Ph.D.

Rm. 253 BSB

Office Hours: Wednesdays 1:30 - 2:30

e-mail: phillips@yorku.ca

*****you MUST put the course number in the subject line for all e-mail communications and use your York account*****

Teaching Assistants: *For students with last names A-L*

Kristina Cordeiro (krismc85@yorku.ca)

For students with last names M-Z

Alex Porthukaran (alexp12@yorku.ca) BSB 307C

Secretary: Barbara Thurston, Rm. 283 BSB, (416) 736-2100 ext. 66253

Class Time and Location: Wednesdays 2:30 -5:30 CLH-G

Required Text: Rosnow, R.L. & Rosenthal, R. (2012). *Beginning behavioral research: A conceptual primer* (7th ed.). New York: Pearson Prentice Hall

Course Description:

This course will provide a comparative analysis and critical evaluation of the major methodologies employed by researchers in the behavioural sciences including: observational techniques, surveys and questionnaires, correlational methods, and experimentation. Important considerations in the design of research studies such as ethics, sampling procedures, reliability and validity of psychological measures, and the interplay between theory and data will be addressed

Procedures: Classes will meet for lectures of approximately 2.5 hours. The balance of the sessions will comprise informal discussions or (in-class) tutorials. In-class tutorials are designed to supplement various topical areas and will provide additional opportunities for questions and discussion. Students are advised to read assigned materials and prepare questions concerning problematic material in advance of the tutorials. The TA will also be available for individual consultation by appointment. Students are advised to check Moodle frequently for course announcements

Evaluation: Evaluation is based on 2 written assignments, one midterm exam and a final exam weighted as follows:

Assignment 1	10%	Assignment 2	15%
Midterm	35%	Final Exam	40%

Exams will be non-overlapping in terms of course material and will consist of multiple-choice items based on the text material, lectures, films, and tutorial presentations. There will be no make up tests for missed midterms. In the event that the midterm is missed for legitimate reasons (and supporting documentation is provided), students will write a cumulative final exam covering ALL course materials, the structure of which is determined by the course director. Students who miss the Midterm waive the right to have graded feedback prior to the drop date. A grade of 0 will be assigned to a missed midterm in instances where students fail to provide appropriate supporting documentation. TAs must be notified of absence within 48 hrs. of the midterm. A grade of 0 will be assigned to missed midterms in instances where students fail to provide appropriate supporting documentation.

All students must write the Final Exam. Opportunities to write a Final Exam make up will be provided only to those students with legitimate reasons (see website below) and appropriate supporting documentation. Deferred final exams are held on a single common date determined by the Department of Psychology. No individualized testing opportunities will be available

Grading: As noted in Section 1, the grading scheme for this course will conform to the 9-point grading system outlined in the York University Undergraduate Calendar. With increasing frequency, students have requested grade adjustments at the end of term, in service of enhancing their GPA standings. Grade adjustments, when

warranted, will be applied to ALL students in the class, rather than on an individual basis. This practice is designed to ensure fairness.

Course Materials Copyright Information: These course materials are designed for use as part of the PSYC 2030 3.0P 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](#)

LECTURE SCHEDULE

January 11:	Introduction (Chapter 1)
January 18:	Paradigms, Theories and Data (Chapter 2)
January 25:	Ethics in Psychological Research (Chapter 3 text and the APA Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct which may be found on the APA website at: www.apa.org/ethics/code/principles.pdf **Students should download and peruse this document prior to lecture.
February 1:	In-class Library Tutorial: Using PsycInfo and other databases (guest librarian) Assignment 1 will be distributed (due beginning of next class). Late assignments will NOT be accepted.
February 8:	Methods of Measurement (Chapters 4 & 5) Tutorial : Scaling
February 15:	Reliability and Validity (Chapter 6)
February 22:	Reading Week - no classes
March 1:	MIDTERM
March 8:	The Experiment I: Logic (Chapters 7 & 8)
March 15:	The Experiment II: Research Designs (Chapters 7 & 8) Tutorial: Variables and Confounds
March 22:	Survey Research (Chapter 9)
March 29:	Correlational Techniques (Chapter 11) Chi Square Tutorial Assignment 2 will be distributed (due beginning of next class). Late assignments will NOT be accepted
April 5:	Making Inferences (Chapter 12)
April 7 - 24:	<i>Final Exam Period</i>