

**Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology
PSYC 3270 3.0 Section M
SENSATION AND PERCEPTION II
2017 Winter**

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.
- HH/PSYC 2220 3.00 (Sensation and Perception I)

Course website: [Moodle](#)

Course Description

The study of perception involves a complex combination of physiology, psychophysics, and cognition. In this course we will explore the major sensory systems focussing primarily on hearing, and the cutaneous and chemical senses, using these topics as a framework. It is expected that you have taken (or are currently taking) Sensation and Perception I, which covers the visual system in detail.

Throughout the course, issues will be explored from an experimental perspective. Therefore, in some lectures we will cover the fundamental experimental paradigms used to study perception (psychophysics). Over the course of the term we will discuss different sensory systems in turn; in each instance time will be spent describing the stimulus (light, sound), the physiology of the receptors and subsequent cortical areas that are activated.

One of the primary goals of this course is to introduce you to many of the fascinating aspects of how we perceive the world around us. At the conclusion of this course you should appreciate how your sensory perceptions are 'all in your head'.

A related, and important, aim is to provide a deeper understanding of how scientific methods are used to study perceptual processes. You will eventually be able to think through a perceptual experiment, understand the methodology used, and why.

Learning Outcomes

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

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

Specific Learning Objectives

In this course, students will study:

- the major sensory systems focussing primarily on hearing, and the cutaneous and chemical senses. Students will study the definition of the stimulus (light, sound), the physiology of the receptors and subsequent cortical areas that are activated.
- sensation and perception from an experimental perspective, covering the fundamental experimental paradigms used to study perception (psychophysics).
- examples of research on sensation and perception. Students will study how these findings can be applied to our understanding of sensation and perception in everyday life, but that there are limits to generalizability of such research.
- how our own personal expectations and prior knowledge of the world can influence perception, and how these cognitive influences are identified and assessed.

Required Text

Sensation and Perception, Goldstein (9th edition)
ISBN-10: 1133958494 | ISBN-13: 9781133958499

Take care in purchasing the correct text. We are using the 9th Edition.

Course Requirements and Assessment

Mid-term exam 1	27.5%
Mid-term exam 2	27.5%
Final exam (cumulative)	40%
Discussion Participation	5%

Assessment	Date of Evaluation (if known)	Weighting
MT 1	TBA	27.5
MT 2	TBA	27.5
Final	TBA	40
Discussion participation	April 5	5
Total		100%

Description of Assignments

Exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short answers (2-3 marks per question). See syllabus for the content covered in each exam.

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.

If you cannot write an exam you must contact a TA BEFORE the start of the test. If you do not speak to a person directly you must email them – if you do not receive a response, email again. If you are unable to contact someone during this 24-hour period, documentation accounting for the delay must be provided. Documentation verifying the reason for the missed exam (see syllabus) must be provided either prior to or at the time of the make-up. Failure to provide appropriate documentation will result in a grade of 0 on the exam.

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

Information on Plagiarism Detection

See links below

Electronic Device Policy

Online course – not applicable

Attendance Policy

Exams will be held on campus at York University (Keele campus). If you cannot write an exam you must contact a TA BEFORE the start of the test.

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 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. 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 Materials Copyright Information:

These course materials are designed for use as part of the HH/PSYC 3270 3.0M 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](#)

Course Schedule:

See syllabus