

**PSYC 1010 6.0 C: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY  
2016-2017**

**Instructor:** Dr. Rebecca Jubis

**Secretary:** Agnes Levstik located in Rm 281 BSB; phone: 416-736-5125.

**Email:** [jubis@yorku.ca](mailto:jubis@yorku.ca) Be sure to indicate your **course** and **section** and sign with your **full name**.

**Website:** Go to: <https://moodle.yorku.ca>  
Log in with your Passport York account  
Click on your course  
If you require assistance in accessing the website, please contact Client Services at [ithelp@yorku.ca](mailto:ithelp@yorku.ca) (I will not be able to help)

All course-related information, links to course resources, and grades will be posted on Moodle. Also, you must be logged onto Moodle in order to receive important announcements and reminders that I periodically will be emailing to the class. It's important to check the course website and your York email regularly.

**Distance Education Website:** <http://www.yorku.ca/laps/disted/>

This website contains information, procedures and services offered by the distance education department, including information about **writing tests off-site**.

**Teaching Assistant Contact Information:** soon to be posted on Moodle

The duties of teaching assistants (TAs) are assisting students with understanding course material, grading tests/assignments, and compiling grades. Please feel free to contact your teaching assistant for help. Students will be assigned to a given TA according to the first letter of the student's surname.

**Prerequisites:** None.

However, a regulation has been passed by the Senate of York University stating that students require a **minimum grade of C (60%) in Psych 1010 6.0** to be allowed to pursue a degree in Psychology, or to enrol in further Psychology courses even if they do not plan on majoring in Psychology.

**Required Text:**

**David G. Myers and C. Nathan Dewall (2015). Psychology: 11th edition in MODULES. Worth Publishers.**

**IMPORTANT:** The 11<sup>th</sup> edition in Modules is similar to the earlier edition (10th edition in modules; Special Update for DSM-5 version with a red stamp on the cover) but there ARE differences in content and modules have been re-organized. **Tests will be based on the 11<sup>th</sup> edition in Modules** and if you choose to use other versions of the text, "use at your own risk". I have put a copy of the 11<sup>th</sup> edition at the Reserve Desk of the Scott Library (2-hr loan).

This **textbook** is available in either a "loose-leaf" or a "hard cover" version (the loose-leaf version being the least costly), and is bundled with **Launchpad, an on-line resource** that contains a study guide, tutorials, quizzes, animations etc. Be sure to make good use of it!!

**To activate LaunchPad see the link on Moodle or go to:**

**<http://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/myers11einmodules/4119945>**

**and enter your access code that was provided when you purchased the textbook.** If you don't have an access code, you can go to this site and purchase one.

### **Course Description:**

This course will guide you on a journey to learning about human behaviour and mental processes. Psychology is a very broad field ranging from the study of the biological basis of behaviour to the study of complex social interactions. This course will provide you with a sampling of a wide variety of topics, concepts, theories, and methods of research that form part of contemporary Psychology. Among the topics covered will be: personality, memory, social behaviour, learning, intelligence, and psychological disorders.

Psychology does not have definitive solutions to our personal and societal problems, nor does it have definitive answers to questions like, "What makes me behave the way I do?" Nevertheless, it is a valuable tool for better understanding the causes and consequences of behaviour.

Hopefully, this course will provide you with a greater appreciation of the intricacies of human behaviour and the difficulties that psychologists encounter in conducting behavioural research.

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

1. Define psychology and explain how it meets the criteria of science.
2. Recognize key concepts, methods, theories and assumptions in psychology.
3. Describe basic characteristics of the scientific method in psychology.
4. Discern differences between personal views and scientific evidence.

### **Mode of Instruction:**

It is important to note that this on-line course differs from typical university courses in that lectures are not held and interaction with the instructor TAs is primarily via email (although face-to-face appointments are possible). Consequently, **you must be prepared for self-study and for monitoring and pacing your studying** in order to avoid last minute cramming before tests. I have provided a link on Moodle to "Reading Guide and Test Schedule" to help you pace your studying. Your textbook is clear and concise and should be quite manageable on your own. If you encounter difficulties, however, we are here to help you. We will be meeting on campus only four times over the year, when you write your tests.

### **On-Line Open-Forum Discussion:**

You can participate in a general discussion forum where you are free to discuss with classmates, course-related issues or any psychology-related topic or concern. Discussions will be monitored regularly by a teaching assistant.

### **Resources Posted on Moodle:**

PowerPoint slides for all modules on which you will be tested, are posted on Moodle.

Under the different topic headings, you will sometimes find additional materials that you might find helpful or interesting. These include exercises to test your understanding of the textbook material, and short video-clips that demonstrate some of the concepts presented in the text. Although you will not be tested on these supplemental materials, I urge you to check them out.

## **METHODS OF EVALUATION**

There will be four tests, research participation (Undergraduate Research Participant Pool), and a short “experiential exercise” (for bonus marks).

### **A) TESTS**

**Important – Photo ID is required to write all tests and York photo ID (YU-card) is preferable. Without it, you will NOT be permitted to write the test- no exceptions!! You should also bring pencils and an eraser to answer the multiple-choice questions because they will be computer-corrected (the computer may not recognize pen).**

There will be a total of 4 non-cumulative tests, worth 28%, 20%, 28% and 20%, respectively. Tests will consist of about 100 multiple-choice and four or five short-answer questions. Each test will contain 1 or 2 general multiple-choice questions from each assigned video (videos are discussed below). I would strongly advise you against writing a test if you are feeling ill because grades will NOT be adjusted after-the-fact to compensate for such circumstances. Once you begin a test, you must complete it.

### **Make-up Tests:**

If you miss any tests, for valid reasons only and with prior permission, **there will be only ONE make-up session at the end of the fall term (Sun., Dec 4, 2-4pm) and ONE at the end of the winter term (Sun, Apr 2, 2-4pm).** There will be no individualized testing sessions to accommodate the schedules of individual students.

### **Missed Tests:**

If you are unable to write a test for medical reasons or personal crisis, **you must notify me ([jubis@yorku.ca](mailto:jubis@yorku.ca)) directly** (not your teaching assistant) **no later than 48 hours** after the test (official university policy). Also, you must provide appropriate documentation for your absence. **If you miss a test for medical reasons, your physician must complete the “Attending Physician’s Statement” found on the course website.** To be deemed valid, the document must contain the **office stamp** and must be **dated close to the time** of illness. Be sure to look over the completed form before leaving the doctor’s office because if it is incomplete or filled out inaccurately, it will not be accepted. **Alternative medical notes will not be accepted.** You should hand in your documentation when you write the make-up test.

### **Test Accommodations for Persons with Disabilities:**

If you are registered with the Counselling and Disability Services (CDS) and will be writing your tests through “alternative exams” (arranged by the Registrar’s Office), you must provide me with your letter of accommodation at the beginning of the course. It is important that, at the **beginning of the year, you schedule ALL four tests with that office.** If you miss a test, you must make arrangements to write a make-up test, and you must provide me with your documentation for missing the test unless it is directly related to your disability. **Be sure that you understand all rules and procedures** and any questions should be directed to your counsellor.

Learning Disability Services (LDS)

Location: W128 Bennett Centre for Student Services

Tel: 416-736-5383

Website: [lds.info.yorku.ca](http://lds.info.yorku.ca)

Mental Health Disability Services (MHDS)  
 Location: N110 Bennett Centre for Student Services  
 Tel: 416-736-5350  
 Website: [mhds.info.yorku.ca](http://mhds.info.yorku.ca)

## **B) UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PARTICIPANT POOL (URPP):**

**There are two options:** participating in research or analyzing a published research report.

### **Research Participation**

The Department of Psychology requires that students earn 4% of their final grade by either participating in research or analyzing a published research report (see below). This research is conducted by faculty and graduate students and has received ethical approval. The types of studies are quite varied and a number of them are on-line studies. This 4% is earned by participating in research for a total of 6 hrs (6 credits). You can earn 3 credits (2%) by participating for 3 hrs in the fall term and earn another 3 credits (2%) by participating for 3 hrs in the winter term. **IMPORTANT: you cannot earn all 6 credits (4%) in just one term. If you complete all 6 credits in the fall, or all 6 credits in the winter, you will earn only 2% and NOT 4%. Also, if you earn 3.5 credits in the fall, for instance, the .5 credits will NOT be carried over into the winter term.**

You are strongly encouraged to partake in this research. Not only does it give you the opportunity to experience what types of studies are conducted in Psychology, but 4% can make a difference in your letter grade! Do not wait until the last minute to participate because your choices might be limited, and all available studies might be filled.

**URPP opens on Sept. 8 and the deadline for participation for the fall term is Dec. 22. (Winter term – Jan 5-Apr 5, 2017).**

### **“Paper Stream” Alternative**

It may be difficult for some students to earn the 4% by participating in research because some of you might not be on campus regularly or there may not be many on-line studies available. Also, some studies require that you meet certain criteria in order to participate (for example, a study might request bilingual people only). If that’s the case, there is an alternative that you should seriously consider – the “Paper Stream Alternative”. For this alternative, you must analyze a published psychology research report and this will be assigned to you by the URPP office after you **notify them of your preference for this option**. Depending upon the quality of your responses, you can earn up to 4% of your final grade.

**IMPORTANT: If you choose this option, you must notify URPP ([urpp@yorku.ca](mailto:urpp@yorku.ca)) of your choice by SEPTEMBER 30.**

It is your responsibility to ensure that URPP has assigned you the proper credits (you can simply check your URPP account), and report any discrepancies to [urpp@yorku.ca](mailto:urpp@yorku.ca) directly. **A link to URPP information will be set up on our course website as soon as that information becomes available.** It will provide you with instructions about how to register with URPP, important URPP rules, as well as important dates and deadlines.

Be sure to provide your **correct course section (1010 C)** when you register with URPP.

Otherwise, you will not receive credit for your participation because they won’t recognize you.

## **C) OPTIONAL “EXPERIENTIAL” EXERCISE (to be posted on Moodle)**

This exercise is intended to encourage you to have a more direct experience with some psychological concepts, and a greater appreciation of how psychological variables impact your everyday lives.

Partaking in this exercise will also give you a chance to earn a **BONUS 2% to be added to your final overall grade** (over and above the 100% accounted for by tests and URPP participation).

There is no obligation to complete this exercise, but if your final grade is borderline, this 2% bonus could raise your mark to a higher letter grade. **All that is required is for you to submit a 1-page paper.**

**DUE DATE: IN CLASS ON FEBRUARY 5 WHEN YOU WRITE TEST 3.**

### SUMMARY OF EVALUATIONS

#### TEST DATES

#### WEIGHTING

**TEST 1** – Sunday, Oct 16, 2:00 – 4:00pm 28%

**TEST 2** - Sunday, Nov. 27, 2:00 – 4:00pm 20%

**ONLY FALL MAKE-UP SESSION** (with prior permission and documentation only) -  
Sunday, Dec. 4, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

**TEST 3** - Sunday, Feb. 5, 2:00 – 4:00pm 28%

**OPTIONAL EXERCISE** – due during Test 3 on Feb. 5 – 2% bonus

**TEST 4** - Sunday, Mar. 26, 2:00 – 4:00pm 20%

**URPP** 4%

**ONLY WINTER MAKE-UP SESSION**(with prior permission and documentation only) –  
Sunday, Apr. 2, 2:00-4:00 pm

#### Videos:

You will be required to view a few videos that are relevant to some of the topics that we will be covering. These 25-min long videos are available on-line. One or two multiple-choice questions from a given video will be asked on a test, and the questions will be quite general in nature.

There is a link to the videos on Moodle, or go to:

<http://www.learner.org/resources/series138.html> and click on the “VoD” icon located on the right of the video title. If you have trouble accessing the videos this way, try to simply “google” the title.

<u>Video #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Test</u>
14	The Mind Hidden and Divided	Test 1
19	The Power of the Situation	Test 2
13	The Mind Awake an Asleep	Test 2
16	Testing and Intelligence	Test 3
7	Sensation and Perception	Test 4
23	Health, Mind and Behaviour	Test 4

**Grades:**

Grades for tests will be posted on the course website about 10-14 days after they are written and I will send you an email notification as soon as they are posted. Grades will be posted using the last 5 digits of your York student ID#, and they will be ordered so as to facilitate finding your own grade. If for any reason your grade is not posted, please contact your assigned TA directly.

**Please Note:**

Tests/assignments are not returned to students, however, should you wish to view them, you can make arrangements for doing so directly with your TA. The most convenient time to view your test might be when you come on campus to write a test. **If you wish to view any tests, you must notify your TA by March 26. To view your tests, you will need to produce photo ID.**

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.

A letter grade will be “rounded up” when calculating your overall final grade if your final percentage ends in .50 or higher. For example, if your final grade is 74.50% it will be rounded up from a B to a B+. However, if your final percentage is 74.38% for example, your letter grade will remain a B. One must draw the line somewhere and .50% is the designated cut-off.

**Marking Scheme**

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

**Important Deadline Dates:**

-The last day to withdraw from the course (or any full-year course) such that your grade will not appear on your transcript is February 10, 2017. You can drop using the enrolment system.

- The Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a “W” on your transcript) is from Feb 11-Apr 5, 2017. You can withdraw from the course from Feb 11 to Apr 5 using the enrolment system but, because it’s after Feb 10, it will result in a “W” on your transcript. The “W” will not affect your grade point average or count towards the credits required for your degree.

- Please note that financial deadlines for refunds when you drop course are different (see <http://sfs.yorku.ca/refunds/tables/> for refund tables).

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: CHEATING**

**Don’t even consider it...it’s not worth it! York University considers cheating and plagiarism a serious offence and penalties can be harsh. I HAVE A ZERO-TOLERANCE**

**POLICY** and if I have good reason to believe that someone has cheated, I assure you that I will pursue the case following the university's official procedures for dealing with potential breaches of academic honesty (see <http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/policy.htm>).

**Test Banks:**

The use of test banks is **NOT** permitted in this course and may be considered a breach of academic honesty (cheating). This includes, but is not limited to, buying or selling test banks or attempting to do so.

**Electronic Devices During Tests:**

Electronic mobile devices of any kind are not allowed during a test. 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 is in progress. Any student observed with an electronic device while in the classroom when a test is taking place may be reported to the Psychology Department for a potential breach of academic honesty. If for any reason you need to touch your phone during a test (you forgot to turn it off etc), permission is required.

**Academic Honesty for Students:**

York University takes academic dishonesty very seriously. To familiarize yourself with the issues and procedures surrounding cheating, 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 honesty 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](#)

**Third-Party Use of Course Material:**

Some course materials for Psych 1010 6.0 C at York University are the property of the instructor. Copying this material for distribution (e.g. uploading material to a commercial third-party website) may be considered a violation of copyright law!