

Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology
PSYC 1010 6.0 C: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY
2017-2018

Instructor: Dr Rebecca Jubis

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Office Hours: by appointment

Email: jubis@yorku.ca Be sure to indicate your course, section, and sign with your full name.

Teaching Assistants (TAs): a list of TAs and their contact information will be provided on Moodle

Course Prerequisite(s): None. However, York University Senate requires a minimum grade of C (60%) in Psych 1010 to pursue a degree in Psychology or to enrol in further Psychology courses even if you have no intention of majoring in Psychology.

Course Credit Exclusions: please refer to [York Courses Website](#) for a listing of any course credit exclusions.

Course website: [Moodle](#)

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**.

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.

Program Learning Outcomes:

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.

Required Text:

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

IMPORTANT: The 11th 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 11th edition in Modules** and if you choose to use other versions of the text, “use at your own risk”. I made the 11th edition available at the Reserve Desk in the Scott Library if you want to compare. 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**. **LaunchPad** is an excellent tool for studying and testing your understanding of course material and contains a study guide, tutorials, quizzes 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/myers11inmodules/5887863> 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 REQUIREMENTS and ASSESSMENTS:

TEST 1 – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15 (worth 28%) Modules 1-4; Modules 5-7; Modules 46-48; Video (The Mind Hidden and Divided)

TEST 2 - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26 (worth 20%) Modules 21-23; Modules 42-45; Modules 8-10; Videos “The Power of the Situation” and “The Mind Awake and Asleep”

TEST 3 – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 (worth 28%) Modules 24-26; Modules 27-28; Modules 29-32; Modules 33-36 (but only section 35-6 for Module 35); Modules 37-39; Video “Testing and Intelligence”

OPTIONAL EXPERIENTIAL EXERCISE – FEBRUARY 4 when you write Test 3 (2% bonus)

TEST 4 – SUNDAY, MARCH 25 (worth 20%) Modules 40-41; Modules 49-53; Modules 54-56; Modules 18-20; Videos “Sensation and Perception” and “Health, Mind and Behavior”.

URPP – (Research Participation) (worth 4%)

INFORMATION ABOUT EACH COURSE ASSESSMENT:

There will be 4 tests, URPP participation, and an optional “experiential exercise”.

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.

Tests/assignments are not returned to students, however, you can make arrangements with your TA to view them. You will need to produce photo ID. The deadline for notifying your TA of your wish to view any of your four tests is Mar 25 .

Missing a Test : please see information on page 6

B) UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PARTICIPATION POOL (URPP)

There are two options: research participation or the “paper stream” option.

Research Participation:

The Department of Psychology requires that students earn 4% of their final grade by participating in research. 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. 7 and the last day to participate in the fall term is Dec. 20.

URPP opens again on Jan 4 and the last day to participate in the winter term is Mar 29.

“Paper Stream” Option:

If you prefer not to participate in research, you can choose to participate in the **“paper stream”** option instead. For this alternative, you must analyse a published psychology research report that 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. **IF YOU CHOOSE THIS “PAPER STREAM” OPTION, YOU MUST NOTIFY URPP BY OCTOBER 6 (urpp@yorku.ca) . The deadline for paper submission is Mar 29.**

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. In addition, a URPP representative will soon be visiting the class to provide details.

Be sure to provide your correct **course section** when you register with URPP or you may not receive credit for your participation.

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: Feb 4 in class when you write Test 3.

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.

Supplemental Materials Posted on Moodle: PowerPoint slides provided by the textbook publisher will be posted for all assigned modules.

Under the different topic headings posted on Moodle, you will sometimes find additional helpful and interesting resources that relate to course material. 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. (You will not be tested on this extra material, but I urge you to check it out).

On-Line Open-Forum Discussion:

You can participate in a general discussion forum on Moodle 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.

Videos:

You will be required to view a few videos (25 mins long) that are relevant to some of the topics that we will be covering. 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.

<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 and Asleep	Test 2
16	Testing and Intelligence	Test 3
7	Sensation and Perception	Test 4
23	Health, Mind and Behaviour	Test 4

Important Information about Grades:

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. You must draw the line somewhere and .50% is the designated cut-off.

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:

A+= 90-100, 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

(For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - [Grading Scheme for 2017-18](#))

Missed Tests:

Students with a documented reason for missing a test, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation, may request accommodation from the course director. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

If you miss a test for medical reasons, your physician must complete an Attending Physician Statement which can be found at: <http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/pdf/attending-physicians-statement.pdf> To be deemed valid, the document must be the **original**, contain the **doctor's signature, office stamp** and be **dated close to the time** of illness. Be sure to look over this 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.**

If you miss a test, **you must notify me (jubis@yorku.ca) directly (not your TA) NO LATER THAN 48 HOURS** after the test. You must have appropriate documentation for your absence and you should submit it at the time of the make-up test. You will NOT be allowed to write a make-up test under any other circumstances! I would strongly advise against writing a test if you are ill, because grades will not be adjusted after-the-fact to compensate for such circumstances.

Make-up Tests:

If you miss a test, for valid reasons only and with prior permission, you can write a make-up test. **There will be only ONE make-up session (Sun, Dec 3) for fall term tests and ONE make-up session (Sun, Apr 1) for winter term tests.** There will be no individualized testing sessions to accommodate the schedules of individual students. Please note that make-up tests are not necessarily the same as the original tests.

Add/Drop Deadlines:

For a list of all important dates please refer to: [Fall/Winter 2017-18 - Important Dates](#)

	FALL (F)	YEAR (Y)	WINTER (W)
Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sept. 20	Sept. 20	Jan. 17
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Oct. 4	Oct. 18	Jan. 31
Drop deadline: Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Nov. 10	Feb. 9	March 9
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of “W” on transcript – see note below)	Nov. 11 - Dec. 4	Feb. 10 - Apr. 6	March 10 - Apr. 6

**Note: You may withdraw from a course using the registration and enrolment system after the drop deadline until the last day of class for the term associated with the course. When you withdraw from a course, the course remains on your transcript without a grade and is notated as "W". The withdrawal will not affect your grade point average or count towards the credits required for your degree.*

Academic Integrity for Students:

York University takes academic integrity very seriously; please familiarize yourself with [Information about the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#).

It is recommended that you review Academic Integrity by completing the [Academic Integrity Tutorial](#) and [Academic Honesty Quiz](#).

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 Accommodations for Students 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 submit a test-reschedule form, along with my permission to re-schedule your test with the alternative exams center. **Be sure that you understand all rules and procedures** and any questions should be directed to your counsellor.

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 1010C 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.

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