

Undergraduate Research Participant Pool

Welcome Psychology 1010.06 students

Here is a handy spot to find answers to the most common questions about the URPP. If your question isn't listed please email [URPP](#).

1. What is the URPP?

The Undergraduate Research Participant Pool (URPP) was established in the Department of Psychology at York University in 1997. It is a web-based system that allows students enrolled in Introductory Psychology 1010.06 to earn a portion of their grade (up to 4% out of 100% of their final grade) for participating in research.

For more information read the handout given to PSYC 1010 students.

- **ANY AND ALL QUESTIONS ABOUT THE URPP SHOULD BE SENT BY EMAIL TO THE [URPP OFFICE](#).**

2. What is the SONA system and how do I create an account on it?

The [SONA](#) system is the online software that we use to make the URPP work.

However, the SONA system is very easy to use and you can create an account yourself. Just follow our [tutorial](#). All students should complete the prescreening questionnaire, by doing so students are then eligible for the maximum number of studies.

3. How do I sign up for studies?

Once a student has created an account student may sign up for studies through the online [SONA](#) system, follow our [tutorial](#).

Studies are added every week so check back often.

Many studies can be completed at York University campus but some may also be completed online, anywhere with an internet connection.

4. How do I check how many credits I have earned so far?

The [SONA](#) system provides this information to participants, students can check how many credits earned at any time by following our [tutorial](#).

5. I have created my account but I have not received my login information? What do I do?

First, check the SPAM or Junk folder in your email. Often messages from the URPP get filtered there.

Second, be patient. Often the automated SONA URPP system will take a little while before sending out your account and password details. However, if you have not received an email from the system **after 48 hours** please let us know by sending a email to [URPP](#).

Verify your email account has not filtered the email to your SPAM or Junk Mail folder..

6. How many credits do I need? Can I get all of my credits in one term? (*Updated April 25th 2012*)

- **Full year fall/winter courses:** Students need to earn 6 credits by participating in 3 hours of research during the fall term and 3 hours of research during the winter term (See Fall/Winter term student handout for exact dates). Students are **not permitted** to earn all 6 credits in one term.
- **Winter term courses** (*beginning in January*): Students need to earn 6 credits by participating in 6 hours of research during the winter term (See Winter term student handout for exact dates).
- **Summer term courses:** Students need to earn 6 credits by participating in 6 hours of research between the start date and end date of the Summer term in which they are registered. Keep in mind that start and end dates are different for S2 and SU courses. (See Summer term student handouts for exact dates).

7. I am unable to come to the campus very often. What options do I have for obtaining full participation marks?

Studies are available at all times of the day including after 5:00 P.M. However, if a student should find that there are not enough studies to complete while on campus there are **two options** available.

1.) Student may **participate in online studies**. These are studies that are administered over the internet so they may be completed at home or anywhere there is an internet connection. There are generally a large of number of online studies available for students to participate in.

2.) Any student may choose not to participant in studies at all. Instead, those students may **write a 3-page typed evaluation of a psychology article that will be assigned**. Acceptable papers will earn 4%

toward their final grade. This option is referred to as the "Paper Stream". Students who choose this option must notify the URPP office by sending an email to [URPP](#) **by the paper stream deadline date (See student handout for exact date)**.

8. What are the prescreening questions? Do I have to complete them?

When you first create an account you will have the option of answering several prescreening questions. Students do not have to complete these items, but we highly recommend it. By answering these questions students will be eligible for more studies, thus making it easier to earn 4%.

All **prescreening responses are confidential**, no researcher will contact you based on your prescreening answers.

9. I completed a study but the credit hasn't been awarded to my account yet.

OR

The credit total that my professor posted for my URPP participation is incorrect. What should I do? How long do I have to make an appeal?

If there is a discrepancy between your credits on the website and your actual participation, the student must contact [URPP](#) office no later than **the last day of the URPP term (see student handout for exact date)**. After that date, there can be no corrections made to your URPP participation credits or that portion of your PSYC 1010.06 final grade.

If there is a discrepancy between your credits on the website and the credits posted by your professor, student must contact [URPP](#) office **immediately and no later than one week from the time that your end of the course marks get posted**. Again, after that date, there can be **no corrections** made to your URPP participation credits or that portion of your PSYC 1010.06 final grade.

10. I have a question that I would like to meet with you in person about? How can I meet with you?

Generally we find that most problems can be solved by reading this FAQ page, reading the handout, or by emailing [URPP](#).

Most emails receive a response within 48 hours, if a student does not receive a response in that time please email [URPP](#) again.

However, if a student has an exceptional problem a face-to-face meeting may be necessary. In this

situation please email [URPP](#) , every effort will be made to arrange a meeting as soon as feasible.

11. How can I get my 'credit card' signed if I completed the study online.

Students may email the researcher to set up an appointment to get your card signed if they wish. Please note, once the student's [SONA](#) account accurately shows that they have earned the credit then students do not need to have their card signed. The system automatically sends a confirmation email when you sign up for and after you complete both lab based and online studies. It is recommended that you save these emails as proof of participation in the event of a discrepancy, until the end of the term.

12. What if I switch sections of PSYC 1010 throughout the year? What happens to the credits I already earned.

If a student does switch sections of PSYC 1010 during a semester the student will keep all credits, provided the student does remember to change their listed section in your [SONA](#) account.

Students have to make this change if they switch sections of PSYC 1010. Simply login and change your personal information to include the new course.

If a student does retake PSYC 1010, student **may not** keep their old earned participation credits and **must recomplete** all 6 hours worth.