

**COURSE OUTLINE**  
**Introduction to Psychology PSYC 1010A**  
**York University**  
**Fall 2011**

**Last date to drop courses without receiving a grade Feb 10, 2012**

**TIME:** Monday: 7:00-10:00

**CLASSROOM:** CLH L

**COURSE DIRECTOR:** Gerry Goldberg, Ph.D., C. Psych. (email: [gegold@yorku.ca](mailto:gegold@yorku.ca))

**OFFICE HOURS:** **After class and by appointment before class by appointment.** Contact through email to secure appointment or to ask questions.

**ROOM NUMBER:** Behavioural Science Building (BSB): Room 277

**SECRETARY:** Agnes Levstik (email: [alevstik@yorku.ca](mailto:alevstik@yorku.ca))  
Office: BSB: 281  
Tel: 416 736-5125

**REQUIRED TEXT:** Weiten, W. & McCann, D. (2010). Psychology: Themes and Variations (2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Edition). Toronto, Canada: Nelson Education  
*ISBN: 0176432418.* The Textbook package I have ordered for the course includes the textbook, Concept Charts (an ideal tool for studying) and PsykTrek ( a CD study/review tool many students in the past have found useful for exam preparation).

**Research Participation: TO BE ANNOUNCED**

**TESTS/Evaluation:**

- Student evaluation is based on two components. 4 exams constitute 96% of your final grade.
- Four percent of your grade comes from your participation in the URPP (Undergraduate Research Participant Program) research opportunities. The URPP coordinator will visit our class in the first few weeks of the course to describe the URPP program and your participation in it. All Introductory psychology students can receive 4% for participating in 6 hours of research run by the URPP. The 4% is added on to your exam grades to give you a final grade out of 100%. You can contact them at [urpp@yorku.ca](mailto:urpp@yorku.ca). If you have any concerns regarding urpp points or participation, email them, not your instructor or TA.

**Tests**

- **Students must present their York student ID card or a government (Can.) issued pictured ID. Students will not be permitted to write without such documentation.**
- As indicated below, there are two exams per semester, four in total each of different weight.
- Exams are **non**-cumulative and each cover roughly four chapters + class material.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> and final exam will take place during the final official exam period
- All questions will be drawn from the text, lectures and media presentations.
- Each exam will consist of approximately 75 multiple choice questions (= 80%) and a series of short answer and/or essay questions (= 20%). NOTE: You will select 3 of 5 essay options.
- The multiple-choice answer sheets need be marked in pencil, so students should make sure they have an adequate supply of pencils with erasers.

**Test 1:** Oct 17 (20%) Chapters 1-4, Appendix B, plus lectures  
**Test 2:** Nov 30 (20%) Chapters 6,7,10,11 plus lectures following previous test to date.  
**Test 3:** Feb 15 (28%) Chapters 5,8,12,13 plus lectures following previous test to date.  
**Final:** (exam period) (28%) Chapters 14-16, 9 plus lectures following previous test to date.  
 (Apr.4-20)

**SHOULD WEATHER OR OTHER PROBLEMS MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO HOLD TESTS ON THE DATE SCHEDULED, THEY WILL BE HELD THE NEXT LECTURE PERIOD**

## COURSE FORMAT

This course will be conducted in a lecture format with films and occasional in class demonstrations. The lectures will discuss and expand upon text readings. The first lectures will follow the text fairly closely but as the course progresses the lectures will deviate from the text. **Although not all text material will be discussed directly in class you are responsible for the material for test purposes. Some of the lectures will discuss material not available in the text. Again, you are responsible for this material as well as films shown in class. If you miss a class, try to borrow notes from a classmate.**

**When studying for tests, do not study just from the text or just from the lecture notes.** Films and videos will be shown from time to time and general questions derived from this material may appear on tests. Periodically, research demonstrations and experiments will be conducted in class. These are generally designed to illustrate important concepts or to give experience in participating in a subject role in research. Although direct participation is voluntary, it is encouraged and the results of any such exercise will be discussed in class where relevant and questions based on this material may appear on tests. If in doubt as to the material to be examined on tests, please ask the TA or Dr. Goldberg.

## MOODLE PAGE

**(Posting of Grades, updates, PowerPoint slides, and other important information)**

The Moodle course site has important information about the course (including a copy of this course outline) and most of the lecture slides in PowerPoint format. These slides are not a substitute for attending lectures and taking notes. The grades will also be posted on this site. New information concerning the course, such as make-up exam information (date, time and room) will be posted.

**It is your responsibility to check the Moodle site for this course frequently for updates.**

Go to <http://moodle.yorku.ca/index.htm> to learn how to access and use Moodle.

## **FALL TERM 2011**

	DATE	TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF TOPICS	TEXT READING
1.	Sep. 12	Introduction	Ch. 1
2.	Sep. 19	Research Methods	Ch. 2
3.	Sep. 26	Biological Basis of Behaviour	Ch. 3
4.	Oct. 3	Sensation and Perception	Ch. 4
	Oct. 10	Reading week--NO CLASS	
5.	Oct. 17	<b>Test 1: Chapters 1-4, appendix plus lectures/media</b>	
6.	Oct. 24	Learning	Ch. 6
7.	Oct. 31	Human Memory	Ch. 7
8.	Nov. 7	Motivation and Emotion	Ch. 10
9.	Nov. 14	Motivation and Emotion	Ch. 10
10.	Nov. 21	Human Development	Ch. 11
11.	Nov. 28	<b>Test 2: Chapters 6,7,10,11 plus lectures/media from after Test 1 to present.</b>	
12.	Dec. 5	Variations in Consciousness	Ch. 5

**WINTER TERM 2011**

	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF TOPICS</b>	<b>TEXT READING</b>
13.	Jan. 9	Variations in Consciousness	Ch. 5
14.	Jan. 16	Language and Thought	Ch. 8
15.	Jan. 23	Language and Thought	Ch. 8
16.	Jan. 30	Personality	Ch. 12
17.	Feb. 6	Stress & Health	Ch. 13
18.	Feb. 13	Stress & Health	Ch. 13
	<i>Feb. 20</i>	<i>Reading week—NO CLASS</i>	
19.	Feb. 27	<b>Test 3: Chapters 5, 8, 12, 13 plus lectures/media from after Test 2 to present</b>	
20.	Mar. 5	Psychological Disorders	Ch. 14
21.	Mar. 12	Treatment of Psychological Disorders	Ch. 15
22.	Mar. 19	Social Behaviour	Ch. 16
23.	Mar. 26	Social Behaviour	Ch. 16
24.	Apr. 2	Intelligence, Testing and Ind/Organizational Psych	Ch. 9
	Exam Period	<b>Test 4: Chapters 9, 14 – 16, plus lectures/media from Test 3 to present</b>	

## Teaching Assistants for this course

***Contact via email to secure an appointment.***

<b>By Students Name:</b>	<b>TA</b>	<b>Email address</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>Office Hours</b>
<b>A→AZI</b>	Melina Condren	<a href="mailto:mcondren@yorku.ca">mcondren@yorku.ca</a>	BSB 403	Mon 4-6pm.
<b>BAD→DEV</b>	Kimberley Mercer-Lynn	<a href="mailto:kbmercer@yorku.ca">kbmercer@yorku.ca</a>	BSB 066	Thu 11-12
<b>DEW→HELL</b>	Julie Chamberlin	<a href="mailto:juliech@yorku.ca">juliech@yorku.ca</a>	BSB 072K	Tue 10:15-11:15am
<b>HEN→LIEU</b>	Odette Weiss	<a href="mailto:odettew@yorku.ca">odettew@yorku.ca</a>	BSB 041	Thu 10:15-11:15am
<b>LIU→PATE</b>	Liliana Tarba	<a href="mailto:tarba@yorku.ca">tarba@yorku.ca</a>	BSB 409A	Thu 9.30-11.30
<b>PATH→TAR</b>	Leiko Tanaka	<a href="mailto:leiko@yorku.ca">leiko@yorku.ca</a>	CSEB 0003C (Need to phone ext. 22050)	Fri 10am-12pm
<b>TAY→Z</b>	Caitlin Mullin 1	<a href="mailto:crmullin@yorku.ca">crmullin@yorku.ca</a>	Sherman 1004	Thu 1-2

Updated contact information, room locations and office hours of the Teaching Assistants will be posted on the website. Students will be assigned to a specific Teaching Assistant alphabetically by the student's last name (check the website about two weeks into the course to find out who your assigned TA is). This is an administrative decision and is designed simply to facilitate organization in the course. With a course enrolment this large, it's important that each student have someone who is familiar with them and their grades etc. If you have trouble meeting their office hours because other courses conflict simply contact them and they will arrange to transfer you to another TA whose hours you can make. Of course, since all the TA's will be familiar with course content feel free to drop by anyone's office hours to make inquiries. No appointments are necessary for these office hours. If you have a problem, drop by or email.

Each of the TA's will be available for one or two hours each week for consultation regarding text readings, exams, grades, study habits, etc.. If you are having trouble with the course visit the TA's. The TA's also will be happy to talk with you about improving your study habits and about graduate school in psychology and careers in psychology.

## Reviewing Tests with your TA

**Students are encouraged to review their tests with their TA (see chart).** Once graded, the TAs will be available during office hours to review these with you. The TAs will keep the written tests in order that students may examine their tests and receive feedback regarding how students are doing and how to do better. **Tests may not be removed from the office nor copies made.**

## Missed Exams

If you miss a test read below and go to the course moodle page for important details and forms. You must submit two forms found on this moodle page. These are a deferral form and an attending physician's statement.

Only medical circumstances or compassionate grounds are valid reason for missing an exam. The following statements conform to the Psychology Department's policies on missing an exam (available at [http://www.yorku.ca/health/psyc/advising\\_missedtests.html](http://www.yorku.ca/health/psyc/advising_missedtests.html))

What to do if you miss an exam:

1. Contact the appropriate Course Director for the current semester via email within 48 hours of the exam. You must provide the following information:
  - Your name, your student number, course, and section
  - Email and phone number at which you can be reached and the best time to call you back
2. If you cannot contact the Course Director within this 48 hour period, subsequent documentation accounting for the delay must be provided.
3. Appropriate documentation verifying the circumstances for the missed exam must be provided at the time specified by the Course Director. Failure to provide appropriate documentation will result in a grade of F on the missed exam.

## What is appropriate documentation?

- a. **Medical circumstances:** an Attending Physician's Statement or Statement by a Psychologist or Counsellor which must include:
  - Full name, mailing address, and telephone number of the physician
  - Statement of the nature of the illness and its duration (ie. specific dates covered)
  - An indication of whether the illness and/or medication prescribed would have *seriously* affected the student's ability to perform over the period in question.Note: An MD's note is not sufficient and the APS. Alternative medical practitioners such as those practicing Chinese Medicine will not be accepted. The physician's office may be contacted to verify that the forms were completed by the physician)
- b. **Non-medical circumstances:** Death Certificate, Obituary Notice, Automobile Accident Reports, or Airline/Bus ticket/receipt for emergency travel with date of booking, destination, departure date and return date.  
Note: Having to work at the time of an exam is *not* considered a valid excuse for missing the exam.

## Makeup exams

- Permission to write a makeup exam is given at the discretion of the Course Director. Appeals must be made to the Faculty.
- Makeup exams will cover the same content as the missed exam but may or may not follow the format of the original exam.
- It is your responsibility to confirm the date, time and location of the makeup exam with the Course Director.

## Grading

The grading scheme for the course conforms to the grading system used in undergraduate programs at York. For a full description of the grading system, see the Undergraduate Calendar (<http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/calendars/2009-2010/PDF/UndergradCalendar.htm>) Assignments and exams will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade:

90-100	A+	60-64	C
80-89	A	55-59	D+
75-79	B+	50-54	D
70-74	B	40-49	E
65-69	C+	0-39	F

Students may take a limited number of courses for degree credit on an ungraded (pass/fail) basis. For full information on this option see Alternative Grading Option in the Undergraduate Calendar.

## Continuing Study in Psychology

Students must obtain a **minimum grade of C (4.0) this course** in order to be permitted to pursue a degree in Psychology or to take any further course work in psychology even if they do not plan to major in Psychology. This regulation applies to students wishing to take Psychology courses in most faculties.

## Important Information for Students

The information in the following section has been taken from the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage. All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information (available online at [http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate\\_cte\\_main\\_pages/ccas.htm](http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cte_main_pages/ccas.htm))

### York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website

- York students are required to maintain high standards of academic integrity and are subject to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty. Students are expected to review the materials on the Academic Integrity website: <http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity>

### Access/Disability

- York provides services for students with disabilities (including physical, medical, learning, and psychiatric) needing accommodation related to teaching and evaluation methods/materials. Students in need of these services are asked to register with disability services as early as possible to ensure that appropriate academic accommodation can be provided. Information is available at <http://www.yorku.ca/disabilityservices>

### Religious Observance Accommodation

- York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the community, and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus for an in-class test or examination pose such a conflict to you, contact the Course Director within the first three weeks of class. Please note that to arrange an alternative date or time for an examination scheduled in the formal examination periods (December and April/May), students must complete an Examination Accommodation Form, which can be obtained from Student Client Services, Student Services Centre, or online at [http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam\\_accommodation.pdf](http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam_accommodation.pdf)

### Student Conduct

- Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect and to refrain from actions disruptive to such a relationship. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the instructor to maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom, and the responsibility of the student to cooperate in that endeavour. Further, the instructor is the best person to decide, in the first instance, whether such an atmosphere is present in the class. A statement of the policy

and procedures involving disruptive and/or harassing behaviour by students in academic situations in available on the York website: <http://www.yorku.ca/univsec/policies/document.php?document=82>

### **CHEATING/PLAGIARISM**

- The University does not look favourably on cheating of any kind – the penalties are harsh indeed. Become familiar with the rules and regulations regarding cheating/plagiarism published in the University Calendar. See the University Calendar for more detail.

### **NOTE: CONTINUING STUDY IN PSYCHOLOGY**

- Students must obtain a **minimum grade of C (4.0) this course** in order to be permitted to pursue a degree in Psychology or to take any further course work in psychology even if they do not plan to major in Psychology. This regulation applies to students wishing to take Psychology courses in most faculties.