

**Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology**

**PSYC 1010 6.0 Section H: Introduction to Psychology
Fridays 2:30 – 5:30
Room: ACE 102
Fall/Winter 2024 - 2025**

Welcome to PSYC1010! Lectures will be held in person in ACE 102 every Friday from 2:30 to 5:30 pm. Here is some helpful information and guidelines to help you succeed in this course.

Instructor & T.A. Information

Instructor: Dr. Alisha Salerno
Office hours: TBA
Email: Sal3rnoa@yorku.ca

Teaching Assistants:

Surname		
TA		
Email		
Office Hours		

You will be assigned to a specific teaching assistant alphabetically by your last name within the first week of the course. This is a purely administrative decision and is designed to facilitate the organization of the course. The TA to whom you are assigned will keep your tests and is the person who you should contact or visit to inquire about your grades or see your tests. You can also contact your TA if you have any questions regarding the assignments. If you're having trouble with the lectures or the texts, please visit your TA. Your TA will be available each week for consultation regarding text readings, exams, grades, study habits, etc.

Emails: If you'd like to contact me, feel free to drop by my office during office hours or send me an e-mail. Please make sure to include the course code and section in your e-mail as I teach many sections of this course. When you email the course director or teaching assistants, please include your full name and student number in the body of your email, with "PSYC1010 Section H" in the subject line. Please read the syllabus before contacting the course instructors or teaching assistants. Please allow *two business days* for a reply.

Course Credit Exclusions

Please refer to [York Courses Website](#) for a listing of any course credit exclusions.

Course website: [E-class](#)

eClass will be your central access point for all course materials including important announcements from the instructor, weekly content-based slides, weekly Q&A discussion forums, assignment instructions and submissions, and information regarding TA and instructor office hours.

***** It is absolutely necessary that you regularly access eClass to be successful in this course.** This means that you should be logging on to eClass every week. It is the student's responsibility to review and become comfortable with using eClass for the purposes of this course. ***

Office Hours:

Email your TA(s) in advance to schedule a meeting during their posted office hours (or by appointment). They will respond by email with a specific timeslot. Meetings may be in person or over Zoom (at the TAs discretion). Meetings are 15 minutes by default, if you require more time, please make sure to let your TA know ahead of time.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to psychology, the scientific study of behaviour and cognition, by examining the basic principles of psychology and their application to everyday experience. The course surveys some core areas of psychology including research methods, biological bases of behaviour, sensation and perception, memory, and cognition. Note: This course is required for all students who intend to pursue additional courses in psychology at the 2000, 3000 and 4000 levels. Students must pass the course in order to pursue further studies in psychology.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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.

SPECIFIC LEARNING OBJECTIVES

In this course, I hope to provide you an introduction to the exciting field of psychology. More importantly, I hope that you can flexibly and fluently apply the concepts and methods learned in this course to novel scenarios or studies. I hope to provide you with a basis of knowledge that will allow you to seek out and comprehend additional information on your

own. I also hope to provide you information that is timely and current, by using popular media as reference points.

Textbook

Feldman, R. S., & Cavanaugh, L. (2021). *Essentials of Understanding Psychology* (Seventh Canadian Edition). McGraw Hill Ryerson Limited.

Course Requirements and Assessment:

Technical Requirements: Several platforms will be used to support this course (eClass, Zoom, Turnitin). These platforms will allow you to interact with the course materials, the course director/teaching assistant, as well as with one another.

E-class: Course materials (lecture slides, handouts) will be available on the course e-class site, unless otherwise indicated by the course directors. The lectures will take place in person and will **not** be recorded. This site will be your central access point for course information and materials.

Turnitin: To promote academic integrity in this course, you will be required to submit your written work (i.e., mini-assignment, exam answers) through Turnitin (within the course Moodle). Turnitin reviews textual similarity and helps in the detection of possible plagiarism (see below). By using this software, you are allowing your submitted material to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used only for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. Terms applying to the University's use of the Turnitin service are described on Turnitin.com.

Assessment	Date of Evaluation	Weighting
Test 1	October 11, 2024	17%
Test 2	November 29, 2024	17%
Test 3	February 14, 2025	17%
Test 4	April 4 th , 2025	17%
Assignment 1	November 8 th , 2024	8%
Assignment 2	March 7 th , 2025	10%
Applied reflections	Throughout the year	10%
URPP	Fall: Dec 11, Winter: April 14 th	4%
Total		100%

Course Evaluations:

In this course, you'll have many chances to earn grades in various ways. Instead of a few big tests, we'll have several smaller assessments. This means that if you don't do well on one assignment, you'll still have plenty of opportunities to improve your grade. Each assessment is worth a relatively small percentage of your overall grade, and tests are not cumulative. I've given you all of the dates, so please make sure to put them in your calendars now with reminders a week or two before, so that you're never feeling surprised by a due date!

Tests: Tests will be based on course material associated with the section of the course that is being tested. The test will be lecture-based, meaning that you will **not** be tested on content that appears solely in the textbook (although keep in mind the lectures are strongly based off of the text). **All tests are closed-book and written in-person. You must be present in the classroom for the four term tests. These dates are non-negotiable, and no online options will be provided.** On test days, please bring a pencil and eraser to fill in the scantron. Please do not wear any smart watches on test days. You will also be asked to place your cellphone in your backpack.

Assignments: There will be two small assignments in this course. These are both writing assignments that will allow you to apply what you have learned to your everyday life. More information regarding the assignment will be provided later in the term.

Applied Reflections: Throughout the semester, I will post discussion forums pertaining to activities we completed in-class. The purpose of these reflections is to give you an opportunity to apply your understanding of core concepts from the course and to assign marks for effort, rather than just correct answers. The TAs will assign marks for responses that show a significant level of effort and thoughtful consideration. You will have 1 week to submit your responses to each forum, but once the next forum opens, you will no longer be able to submit, so put those dates in your calendar early! Each reflection is worth 2%, complete 5 throughout the year to earn a total of 10% toward your grade. There will be more than 5 reflections, meaning that you can choose which 5 to complete and can skip some weeks.

Research participation: The final part of your grade in PSYC1010 comes from participating in research studies that are conducted by faculty and students from the psychology department. This is known as the Undergraduate Research Participant Pool (URPP). You must complete a certain number of studies each term in order to receive your full 4% for research participation. If you feel strongly about NOT participating, you will be provided with an alternative written assignment. Please note this is NOT optional. You will receive an email that explains all aspects of the URPP. You can contact URPP at

urpp@yorku.ca. If you have any concerns about the URPP, please email them, not me or the TAs.

Reviewing Exams and Assignments: Requests to review exams or assignments should be made within two weeks of the grade posting. Note that grade changes will be made only in exceptional circumstances. After the two-week period, there will be no opportunity for review, or for revisions to grades.

Class Format and Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend most or all lectures. If you don't attend, you miss out on a lot of what is said, as well as the amazing discussions and fun in-class demonstrations and activities we do. There is a positive correlation between actively participating in the course, asking questions, hearing your classmates' questions and responses, and your overall success in the course.

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 89, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar – [Grading Scheme for 2024-25](#)

Flexible deadlines, late assignments, & missed tests

If you are feeling overwhelmed or double booked, you can use my extension coupons! All students will have three, 24-hour extension coupons that can be used on any assignment in this course (not test), no questions asked, and no documentation required. This means that if an assignment is due Friday at 11:59 pm, using one coupon would mean a new deadline of Saturday at 11:59 pm. You can also use three at one time if you would like. Using three coupons at once would mean a new deadline of Monday at 11:59 pm. To redeem these coupons, email your TA and let them know which assignment you are using a coupon on, and how many coupons you are using. The only rule: these coupons **must** be redeemed before an assignment deadline. After that, the late penalty for an assignment is 10% per day, including weekends. I will accept assignments up to 5 days late. Following that, the assignment will result in a grade of zero.

Missed Tests: Students who miss a test due to illness or severe distress must email the instructor and TA within 24 hours and follow the Faculty of Health guidelines for missed tests or examinations. If this missed test is prior to the drop date, regardless of reason, the student has waived the right to have a specific percentage of graded feedback available to them prior to the drop date.

There will be one make-up test session held at the end of the semester. Please note that make-up exams may **not** necessarily be in the same format as the original exam.

For any missed test, students MUST complete the following online form which will be received and reviewed in the Psychology undergraduate office. At this time, due to COVID-19 an Attending Physician’s Statement (APS) is not required, however, a reason for missing an evaluated component in the course must be provided.

[HH PSYC: Missed Tests/Exams Form](#). Failure to complete the form within 48 hours of the original deadline will result in a grade of zero for the missed quiz or late assignment.

Add/Drop Deadlines

For a list of all important dates please refer to [Undergraduate Fall/Winter 2024-2025 Important Dates](#)

	Fall (Term F)	Year (Term Y)	Winter (Term W)
Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	September 18	September 18	January 20
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	October 2	October 16	January 31
Drop deadline: Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	November 8	February 7	March 14
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of “W” on transcript – see note below)	November 9 – December 3	February 8- April 4	March 15- April 4

Add and Drop Deadline Information

There are deadlines for adding and dropping courses, both academic and financial. Since, for the most part, the dates are different, be sure to read the information carefully so that you understand the differences between the sessional dates below and the [Refund Tables](#).

You are strongly advised to pay close attention to the "Last date to enrol without permission of course instructor" deadlines. These deadlines represent the last date students have unrestricted access to the registration and enrolment system.

After that date, you must contact the professor/department offering the course to arrange permission.

You can drop courses using the registration and enrolment system up until the last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (drop deadline).

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.

Information on Plagiarism Detection

Turnitin and other software may be used to detect plagiarism. Any student found to be engaging in plagiarism or other academically-dishonest behaviour will be reprimanded in accordance with university policy.

Electronic Device Policy

This course will be delivered in an in-person format and therefore electronic devices (e.g., tablets, laptops) are permitted during class time for course-related purposes. **No exam in this course is open-book** and so you are expected to complete the exams without the use of any external aid.

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.

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 university encourages students with disabilities to register with ***Student Accessibility Services (SAS)*** to discuss their accommodation needs as early as possible in the term to establish the recommended academic accommodations that will be communicated to Course Directors as necessary. **Please let me know as early as possible in the term if you anticipate requiring academic accommodation so that we can discuss how to consider your accommodation needs within the context of this course.**

<https://accessibility.students.yorku.ca/>

Excerpt from Senate Policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

1. Pursuant to its commitment to sustaining an inclusive, equitable community in which all members are treated with respect and dignity, and consistent with applicable accessibility legislation, York University shall make reasonable and appropriate accommodations in order to promote the ability of students with disabilities to fulfill the academic requirements of their programs. This policy aims to eliminate systemic barriers to participation in academic activities by students with disabilities.

All students are expected to satisfy the essential learning outcomes of courses. Accommodations shall be consistent with, support and preserve the academic integrity of the curriculum and the academic standards of courses and programs. 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 PSYC 1010 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. You are not permitted to share or post any course materials to any websites.

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](#).

Other important class policies

- Test & assignment grades will be posted to two decimal places and will not be rounded under any circumstances. Final letter grades will be rounded using regular rounding rules (e.g., a 79.6 will be rounded to an A)
- There is a 24-hour cool-down period after grades are posted. Please wait 24 hours to contact your TA after your assignment grades are posted.

SEE COURSE SCHEDULE FOR WEEK-BY-WEEK LECTURE SCHEDULE