

**Faculty of Health  
Department of Psychology  
PSYC 2220 3.0 A: SENSATION AND PERCEPTION I  
Online  
Fall 2023**

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**This is a fully online course that will be hosted on e-Class. All materials will be posted to this site including lectures (streamed), slides, and assignment information. Tests will all be held online and will be multiple choice format.**

**Instructor and T.A. Information**

Instructor: L. Wilcox

Office Hours: Meetings will be arranged as needed

Email: lwilcox@yorku.ca

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<b>Office Hours</b>	By appointment	By appointment

**Course Prerequisite(s): Course prerequisites are strictly enforced**

- HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 (Introduction to Psychology)

**Course Credit Exclusions**

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

**Course website:** [eClass](#)

All course materials will be available on the course eClass site, unless otherwise indicated by the instructor. The site will be your central access point for course materials

**Course Description**

The study of perception involves a complex combination of physiology, psychophysics, and cognition. In this course we will explore the major sensory systems focussing primarily on vision and hearing, using these topics as a framework.

Throughout the course, issues will be explored from an experimental perspective. Therefore, in some lectures we will cover the fundamental experimental paradigms used to study perception (psychophysics). Over the course of the term we will discuss different sensory systems in turn; in each instance time will be spent describing the stimulus (light, sound), the physiology of the receptors and subsequent cortical areas that are activated.

Very often what we perceive results not only from the information gathered by our sensory systems, but from our expectations and prior knowledge about the world we inhabit. As a

result we will also study cognitive influences on perception and how they are identified and assessed.

### Program Learning Outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate broad knowledge of biological determinants of sensation and perception .
2. Describe and evaluate current theory and research in sensation and perception.
3. Understand and interpret principles of sensation and perception in everyday life.
4. Define causes of human sensation and perception from different perspectives.

### Specific Learning Objectives

A related, and important, aim is to provide a deeper understanding of how scientific methods are used to study perceptual processes. You will eventually be able to think through a perceptual experiment, understand the methodology used, and why.

### Required Text

B. Goldstein Sensation and Perception 11<sup>th</sup> edition: ISBN: 9780357446478

Students should purchase this edition, earlier versions contain different material and/or are organized differently. *Do not purchase a different edition of the text.*

### Course Requirements and Assessment:

Assessment	Date of Evaluation (if known)	Weighting
Midterm 1	Oct 20	25%
Midterm 2	November 17	25%
Assignment	December 3	10%
Final Exam	Final exam period	40%
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>

### Description of Assignments

Assignment details will be posted on the course website. It will be a brief written assignment, submitted online.

### 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 2024-2025](#)

### Missed Tests/Midterm Exams/Late Assignment

For any missed quiz or late assignment, students MUST complete the following online form which will be received and reviewed in the Psychology undergraduate office.

[HH PSYC: Missed Tests/Exams Form](#). Failure to complete the form within 24 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 <b>without permission</b> of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	September 18	September 18	January 20
Last date to add a course <b>with permission</b> 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**

The tests and final exam are written in person at York University and there will be no electronic device use permitted, including calculators.

## **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 Psych 2220A 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.

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](#).