

Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology
PSYC 3310 3.0 Section B: PSYCHOLOGY AND LAW
Tuesdays 2:30 PM – 5:30 PM (in-person)
Fall 2024

Instructor and T.A. Information

Instructor: Andrew Brankley, Ph.D., C.Psych. (he/him/his)
Office Hours: Tuesday 12:00PM to 2:00PM ([Through Microsoft Bookings Only](#))
Email: brankley@yorku.ca

T.A.	Samantha Feldman	Toluwanimi Faromika
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Student Last Name	A – Lee	Lee-Fortune – Z

Course Prerequisite(s): HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 and completed at least 54 credits.

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 Dr. Brankley. The site will be your central access point for course materials.

Course Description

Welcome to Psychology and Law! The main goal of this course is to enable students to critically examine the Canadian justice system. This system-level emphasis engages students with the ethical and legal conflicts inherent within our justice system and the role of psychology to better understand and serve the public. The course is divided into three sections that reflect the separate, but related, government systems responsible for public safety: law enforcement and policing, court procedures, and punishment and rehabilitation.

Program Learning Outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate in-depth knowledge in at least 2 sub-disciplines.
2. Articulate trends in sub-disciplines of psychology.
3. Express psychological knowledge in written form in more than 1 sub-discipline.
4. Describe and explain limits to generalizability of research findings.
5. Demonstrate ability to relate information in psychology to own and others' life experiences.

Specific Learning Objectives

1. Demonstrate the ability to collect, describe, understand, and think critically about research results and inference, and their potential impact on the justice system
2. Effectively communicate scientific research and informed conclusions on research in a range of communication media for a general public audience understanding level.
3. Reflect upon own attitudes towards the justice system and critically examine how they compare to others.
4. Explore issues found at the intersection of psychology and the justice system that are of personal interest
5. Engage peers in discussion while demonstrating an understanding of the systems of justice and empirical basis that informs recommendations for action

Required Text

- Pozzulo, J., Bennell, C., & Forth, A. (2021). *Forensic Psychology*. 6th Edition. Pearson. <https://www.pearson.com/store/p/forensic-psychology/P200000002510/9780137682973>
- Plato's Republic (Online version posted on eClass)
- Plato's Laws (Online version posted on eClass)

Course Requirements and Assessment:

Assignment	Date of Evaluation (by 23:59)	Weighting
Attitudes Reflection	Week 3 – September 27	15%
Applied Policy	Week 5 – October 11	20%
Choose Your Own Adventure	Week 9 – November 8	20%
Infographic Project	Week 12 – November 29	20%
eClass Forum Participation	Throughout the course	25%
Total		100%

Description of Assignments

All assignment instructions and rubrics will be posted on eClass. Please feel free to reach out to your TA or myself if you have any questions about the assignments. I will also be discussing all assignments in class with opportunity for questions.

Class Format and Attendance Policy

Class will be in-person. I will post all mandatory course content on eClass. I will not be recording attendance, and I do not have a mandatory attendance policy. So, why should you come? This course is delivered in-person and discussion driven, which means I will be giving lectures, facilitating class activities and discussions, and discussing assignments in more detail. In class, you also can ask me questions, work in groups, and earn bonus marks. I am committed to

creating an inclusive and engaging classroom environment where you succeed, and I need you there to do that!

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](#)

Missed Tests/Midterm Exams/Late Assignment

In this course, we do not have any tests or exams. 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 the course, no questions asked, no documentation required. This means that if an assignment is due Friday at 11:59PM, using one extension coupon would mean a new deadline of Saturday at 11:59PM. You can also use all three at one time if you would like. Using three coupons at once would mean a new deadline of Monday at 11:59PM. 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 rules:** these coupons must be redeemed before an assignment deadline, and you cannot use these coupons on for the discussion forum. After that, the late penalty for an assignment is 2% per day, including weekends. I will accept assignments up to 10 days late, including weekends (resulting in a 20% grade deduction). Following that, the missed assignment will result in a grade of zero.

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 5	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

All assignments will be submitted online using eClass and Turnitin. Students who do not want their work submitted to Turnitin must, by the end of the second week of class, consult with Dr. Brankley to make alternate arrangements

Electronic Device Policy

This course will be delivered in an in-person format. Electronic devices (e.g., tablets, laptops) are permitted during class time for course-related purposes.

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](#)

Artificial Intelligence Software

According to York's Senate Policy on Academic Honesty, using AI software such as such as ChatGPT, GPT-3, DALL-E, among others to complete academic work without your instructor's knowledge or permission, is **a breach of academic honesty**.

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. **Students must book their own exams with SAS.**

<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 3310 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.

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.](#)

Calumet and Stong Colleges’ Student Success Programming:

[Calumet](#) and [Stong](#) Colleges aim to support the success of Faculty of Health students through a variety of **free programs** throughout their university career:

- [Orientation](#) helps new students transition into university, discover campus resources, and establish social and academic networks.

- [Peer Mentoring](#) connects well-trained upper-year students with first year and transfer students to help them transition into university.
- [Course Representative Program](#) aims to build the leadership skills of its Course Reps while contributing to the academic success and resourcefulness of students in core program classes.
- [Peer-Assisted Study Session \(P.A.S.S.\)](#) involve upper-level academically successful and well-trained students who facilitate study sessions in courses that are known to be historically challenging.
- [Peer Tutoring](#) offers one-on-one academic support by trained Peer Tutors.
- Calumet and Stong Colleges also support students' [Health & Wellness](#), [leadership and professional skills development](#), [student/community engagement and wellbeing](#), [Career Exploration](#), [Indigenous Circle](#), [Awards & Recognition](#), and [provide opportunities to students to work or volunteer](#).
- Please connect with your Course Director about any specific academic resources for this class.
- For additional resources/information about [Calumet and Strong Colleges Student Success Programs](#), please consult our websites ([Calumet College](#); [Stong College](#)), email us at scchelp@yorku.ca, and/or follow us on Instagram ([Calumet College](#); [Stong College](#)), **X** (formerly Twitter: [Calumet College](#); [Stong College](#)), Facebook ([Calumet College](#); [Stong College](#)) and [LinkedIn](#)
- Are you receiving our **weekly email** (Calumet and Stong Colleges - Upcoming evens)? If not, please check your Inbox and Junk folders. If you do not find our weekly emails, then please add your 'preferred email' to your Passport York personal profile. If you need support, please contact ccscadm@yorku.ca, and request to be added to the listerv.
- Feel free to consult [additional resources and student supports at York University](#)

Course Schedule

Date	Week	Topic
Sept 10	1	Psychology in/of/and the Law
Sept 17	2	Ethics, Power, and the Law
Sept 24	3	Policing: Police Psychology
Oct 1	4	Policing: Investigations
Oct 8	5	Policing: Deception
Oct 15	6	Reading Week (no class)
Oct 22	7	Check-in with Dr. Brankley/ Assignment Retreat
Oct 29	8	Judiciary: Eyewitness Testimony
Nov 5	9	Judiciary: Juries
Nov 12	10	Judiciary: Mental Illness
Nov 19	11	Corrections: The Language of Risk
Nov 26	12	Corrections: The Measurement of Risk
Dec 3	13	Corrections: Sentencing and Parole in Canada