

## COURSE SYLLABUS

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Instructor:	Richard Ennis	
Class Meeting:	Tuesday, 6:30 - 9:20 p.m., HH159	
Office:	PAS 3017	
Office Hours:	Tuesday, 10:00 - 11:30	
Phone:	519-888-4567 ext 35333	
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:rennis@uwaterloo.ca">rennis@uwaterloo.ca</a>	(Note: I do <b>NOT</b> use or check the ACE email system)
Course Website:	<a href="http://uwace.uwaterloo.ca">http://uwace.uwaterloo.ca</a>	
Teaching Assistants:	Dee Gavric	Students A - C
	Vanessa Huyder	Students D - Ho
	Michelle Jarick	Students Hu - Li
	Ester Moher	Students Lo - S
	Jennifer Tomaszczyk	Students T - Z

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### Course Resources

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#### *Required Textbook:*

Myers, D. G. (2010). *Psychology: Myers in Modules* (9<sup>th</sup> Ed.). New York: Worth Publishers.

The official text is the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of *Psychology: Myers in Modules* written by David Myers. The “modules” are basically just small chapters. There is another version of Myers’ text called simply *Psychology*. It contains the identical information but in longer (and fewer) chapters. It is also the 9<sup>th</sup> edition. It is an acceptable text for this course but, beware, that chapter titles and page numbers will be different. The 8<sup>th</sup> edition in Modules is acceptable and a list of readings is available on ACE.

**Beware:** There are various other Intro Psych texts also titled *Psychology* but written by other authors. Be sure you purchase one of the versions written by David Myers.

#### *Study Guide:*

The publisher-supplied *Study Guide* is not necessary but is recommended. It acts like a private tutor to enhance your understanding of the text material. Regard the *Study Guide* not as an extra task to master, but as a friend to help with the text.

#### *Course Websites:*

The website for this course provides lecture outlines, learning objectives for lectures and instructions for research participation, as well as other helpful information. You can log into the course site through the UW-ACE system.

There is also a publisher’s website for the text ([www.worthpublishers.com/myers](http://www.worthpublishers.com/myers)) that offers a wide range of helpful items, such as critical thinking exercises, quizzes, study aids, links, and demonstrations. Regular visits to this site will prove beneficial.

## Course Objectives

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A primary objective of any "introductory" course is simply that: to introduce you to the subject matter of the discipline and to familiarize you with the vocabulary and concepts. Psychology is the study of human experience: the thoughts, feelings, and behaviours that we experience as we interact with our world. You already have several years of experience in psychology based on your own observations and knowledge about yourself and your environment. In this course you will see how research has been applied to test intuitive assumptions about human life. You will find that many of your beliefs about human existence are scientifically supported; but you will also find many beliefs are refuted by the evidence.

Certainly, as a student in this course, you will receive a more comprehensive understanding of yourself and your world. I also hope that you will develop greater skills of critical thinking that will make you a better consumer of psychological information. Unfortunately, there is a lot of "pop" psychology practiced in our culture and popularized by the media. At best, these pseudosciences are a harmless diversion; at worst, they are billion-dollar industries that exploit the ignorance and gullibility of the populace. By the end of the course you should be able to differentiate between legitimate psychology and the "pop" pretenders.

Finally, I hope that you will derive some personal benefits from the course by reaching a deeper understanding and acceptance of yourself and others. Hopefully, this class will enrich your personal relationships and contribute to your success in your future endeavors.

## Examinations and Grading Scheme

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### *Midterm Exams:*

There will be one midterm exam on February 9 that will consist of 76 multiple-choice items worth 38% of your final grade. The midterm will be administered in two sittings during class time: students with surnames A to Li from 6:30 to 7:45 and surnames Lo to Z from 8:00 to 9:15 pm. Refer to the **Overview of Exams** contained in this syllabus for more detailed information.

### *Final Exam:*

The final exam will be scheduled by the university. The final exam will be 2 hours in duration and will consist of 116 multiple-choice items. The final exam will account for 58% of your final grade. The final exam will test lecture material from the entire course and text material not tested on the midterm. Refer to the **Overview of Exams** contained in this syllabus for more detailed information. The exam period is April 9 to 23. Keep this time available. Alternate times will NOT be provided due to conflicts with travel, vacations, etc.

### *Deferred Testing:*

The deferred midterm will be held on Friday, February 12, 9:00-10:15 a.m. It will be provided for students with exceptional circumstances. I will insist on supportive documentation. **You must contact me within 24 hours of the regularly scheduled midterm.** The deferred test will NOT contain the same items as the scheduled test, therefore I cannot guarantee they will be equal in difficulty with the scheduled tests.

### *Research Participation: 4% + 2% bonus*

The remaining 4% of your grade will be based on participation in research. You can also earn an additional 2% in bonus marks. More detailed information is available on ACE.

## Class Format

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There are two sources of material for the course: the textbook and the lectures. The lectures will focus on specific topics and are not meant to provide coverage of all material in the text. Lectures will elaborate and build upon (not duplicate) the text material, therefore, it is recommended that you attend class meetings and complete the readings beforehand. A proposed schedule of lectures and related readings is included.

Be aware that you are responsible for your class attendance. There will be several announcements made in class regarding exams, course material, research participation, etc. If you are not in attendance you will still be held responsible for being aware of these announcements. Further, I will not respond to emails that ask me to repeat information presented in class or any other information contained in this syllabus.

One of the "secrets" to success in university is keeping up with your courses. Try not to fall behind!

## If You Are Having Trouble With The Course

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The instructor and teaching assistants are here to help. If you are experiencing difficulty understanding the material or you are concerned about your exam performance, seek help as soon as possible. We can assist you with the material and provide helpful guidance for studying. The Arts Undergraduate Office, PAS 2439, also has advisors to help with study skills, note-taking, exam prep, course selections, etc. If you attend lectures regularly, study the text, and seek help when needed, there is no reason you should not pass the course.

## Additional Notes

Note for students with disabilities: The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.

Academic Integrity: in order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm>

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm>

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm>

## Research Participation:

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You may acquire these marks by signing up for research projects being conducted by faculty and graduate students in the Department of Psychology. You can earn a total of 6 research credits (1 credit = 1% of your grade). Four credits (4%) are part of your grade and 2 credits (2%) are bonus. Although you can earn 6 credits during the semester, the credits will be spread out. Three credits (3%) should be earned prior to the midterm exam on February 9 and 3 credits (3%) after the midterm exam but prior to the last class on March 30. Some research is online while other studies requires you to appear in person. You can only earn a maximum of 2 credits (2%) with online studies. The researchers will record your participation and the marks will be added to your final grade.

**Comprehensive instructions are available on ACE under the LESSONS menu.**

Please note that research participation is conducted independent of the course instructor. It is administered by the Research Experience Group (REG). A representative will be visiting the class to explain the details. You should visit their website ([www.arts.uwaterloo.ca/~regadmin/](http://www.arts.uwaterloo.ca/~regadmin/)) If you have any questions about research participation please contact the Research Experience Group.

## Another Way to Earn Bonus Marks

If you are not called for enough experiments to receive your participation marks or if you do not want to participate in research, you can still earn these marks. You may submit short reviews (1½ to 2 pages) of articles relevant to psychology from the popular press. An article can be from almost any source provided it has genuine psychological substance but you should contact your TA to get approval before writing the review. To receive credit, you must follow these specific guidelines:

- 1) **All reviews should be submitted before the midterm exam (for the initial 3%) or the final class (for the last 3%). Late submissions will NOT be accepted under ANY circumstances.**
- 2) The review must be typed.
- 3) Fully identify the title, author(s), source, and date of the article. Attach a copy of the article.
- 4) Identify the psychological concepts discussed in the article and indicate the pages in the Myers textbook that are applicable. Critically evaluate the application or treatment of those concepts in the article. If inappropriate or incorrect, identify the error and its implications for the validity of the article. You may find, for example, misleading headings, faulty research procedures, alternative explanations that are ignored, failures to distinguish factual findings from opinions, faulty statements of cause-effect relations, errors in reasoning, etc. Provide examples whenever possible.
- 5) Keep a copy of your review in the unlikely event we misplace the original.

**Comprehensive instructions are available on ACE under the LESSONS menu.**

## Course Schedule

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Modules in 9<sup>th</sup> Ed</b>
Jan 5	Introduction to Science of Psychology	1 - 3
Jan 12	Developmental Psychology	13 - 15
Jan 19	Neuropsychology Sensation & Perception	4 - 6, 11 18, 20 - 22
Jan 26	States of Consciousness	8 - 10
Feb 2	Learning Memory	23 - 25 26 - 30
Feb 9	<b>Midterm Exam</b>	<b>A to Li: 6:30 - 7:45</b> <b>Lo to Z: 8:00 - 9:15</b>
Feb 16	READING WEEK: No Class	
Feb 23	Thinking and Intelligence	31, 33 - 35
Mar 2	Motivation and Emotion	36 - 40
Mar 9	Personality	45 - 47
Mar 16	Social Psychology	56 - 59
Mar 23	Disorders & Therapy	48 - 55
Mar 30	Disorders & Therapy	48 - 55
<p>Final Exam Period April 9 - 23</p> <p><b>DO NOT MAKE TRAVEL PLANS OR OTHER COMMITMENTS DURING THIS TIME PERIOD!</b></p>		

**Overview of Exams**  
(subject to change)

TOPIC	No. of items	Midterm		Final	
		Text	Lecture	Text	Lecture
<b>Introduction</b> Modules 1 - 3	11	6	3	0	2
<b>Development</b> Modules 13 - 15	19	9	5	0	5
<b>Neuropsychology</b> Modules 4 - 6, 11	19	9	5	0	5
<b>Sensation &amp; Perception</b> Modules 18, 20 - 22	13	8	3	0	2
<b>Consciousness</b> Modules 8 - 10	19	9	5	0	5
<b>Learning</b> Modules 23 - 25	19	9	5	0	5
<b>Memory</b> Modules 26 - 30	15			8	7
<b>Thinking &amp; Intelligence</b> Modules 31, 33 - 35	15			8	7
<b>Motivation &amp; Emotion</b> Modules 36 - 40	15			8	7
<b>Personality</b> Modules 45 - 47	15			8	7
<b>Social Psychology</b> Modules 56 - 59	16			8	8
<b>Pathology &amp; Therapy</b> Modules 48 - 55	16			8	8
<b>TOTAL ITEMS</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>76</b>		<b>116</b>	
<b>VALUE</b>		<b>38%</b>		<b>58%</b>	
<b>DATE</b>		<b>Feb 9</b>		<b>TBA</b>	
<b>DURATION</b>		<b>75 minutes</b>		<b>2 hours</b>	