

University of Waterloo
Department of Psychology
Psychology 101, Sec. 2
Introduction to Psychology
Fall 2018

Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00 – 11:20 STC 1012

Instructor and TA Information

Instructor: Dr. Stephanie Denison
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Office Phone: 519-888-4567 ext. 33409
Office Hours: Tuesdays 11:30 – 12:30 and by appointment
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Office Hours	Thursdays 12:30 – 1:30 and by appointment	Wednesdays 11 - 12 and by appointment

- Your TA is assigned by surname (last name).
- You may attend either of the TA's office hours for course related help (you do not need to attend your specific TA's office hour). But, to view your exams, you must see your specific TA.
- **Please do not** email your instructors with questions regarding research participation or SONA (see pg. 5-6 of this document). You must contact the REG coordinator (regadmin@uwaterloo.ca) with these questions. It's not that we don't want to help with this, it's that we can't.

Course Description

As in all introductory courses, the purpose of this class is to provide a foundation for students to understand and interpret a new field of study. Psychology is the study of human behaviour. Researchers in the field ask questions about why people think, feel, and ultimately behave the way they do.

Course Goals and Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, you will have learned (at least) three things:

- A. You will learn what psychology is and what psychology is not. In a discipline that studies the human experience, which we all participate in each day, it is tempting to think that all of psychology boils down to our common-sense intuitions. You will find that researchers in the field have discovered that some of our intuitions regarding human behaviour are correct and some are not. The work of psychologists is to formulate scientific theories with testable hypotheses and to create innovative experiments that can potentially falsify these hypotheses.
- B. You will develop your critical thinking skills. This will help you interpret "pop" psychology and will aid you in your other studies (and in life). By the end of this course, when you set out to

read a blog, for example, you will know to ask yourself questions like: “How did this person arrive at these ideas? Are there any empirical data to support their opinions?”

- C. You will develop a deeper understanding of yourself and the people around you. You will learn how infants, children, adults, and aging populations think and learn; how persons of different cultural backgrounds interpret behaviours; how psychological pathologies impact people’s lives. These insights should enrich your personal relationships and promote compassion.

Required Text and Materials

Custom course material: A compilation of chapters from Peter Gray and David Bjorklund’s Psychology. Alternatively, you can purchase an ebook of Gray and Bjorklund Psychology seventh edition or a used copy of this textbook (note that it must be the **seventh** edition).

- Three copies of the textbook will be available at the Dana Porter library (call number: UWP7070). I *strongly* encourage students to save costs by using this resource.
- **Optional:** Launchpad. This is included with new copies of the text but is not required. To register your license: <http://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/gray7e/2375308>

Lecture Slides Available on LEARN

The course website will include PowerPoint slides for lectures. The PowerPoint slides will be posted before lecture whenever possible, as many students prefer to take notes directly on the slides. That said, these slides will be minimal, providing an outline of the material covered in lecture. Solely studying these slides will NOT be sufficient for success in this course; class attendance will be critical.

*****There is very little overlap in this course between the lecture and textbook for many topics. This is due to the vast number of topics that must be covered. Reading the textbook and attending the lectures are critical – doing just one or the other will not be sufficient.*****

Course Requirements and Assessment

This syllabus is extensive, and it is your responsibility to read it in its entirety.

Class attendance is mandatory but you should not email instructors if you will miss a class (except in the case that you’ll miss an exam). You are responsible for obtaining notes from a classmate if you miss a lecture. You are responsible for being aware of any important announcements made in class.

You are responsible for checking your uwaterloo email account daily for possible important announcements about the course. You must check LEARN for important announcements.

Assessment	Date of Evaluation/Due date	Weighting
Midterm 1	Oct. 11 (during class time)	25%
Midterm 2 (non-cumulative)	Nov. 13 (during class time)	25%
Final Exam (cumulative)	Exam period	34%
Quizzes	Ongoing (note schedule on pg 4)	12%
Research participation	Ongoing (Please note the REG deadlines)	4%
Bonus (optional) Research participation	Ongoing (Please note the REG deadlines)	2%
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Total (not including optional bonus)		100%

Exams (84%)

This course consists of three exams. Only your final exam is cumulative. Exam details will be provided prior to exam dates.

Make-up exams are not permitted in this course without medical documentation. Email your TA immediately if you think you need to write a make-up exam for any reason. **Note that make-up exams can be in a different format than the original exam (they may include short answers, essays, multiple choice, fill in the blanks, or a combination of these question formats).**

In the case of illness or injury, you must obtain a completed uWaterloo [Verification of Illness Form](#). This documentation must state that you were, or will be, incapacitated on the day of the exam. If you do not email within 48 hours of missing an exam to notify the TA or instructor of your absence, **you will receive zero on the exam**, even with medical documentation (except in rare circumstances where your condition made it impossible to notify an instructor). If you miss an exam due to illness and email your TA, your TA will get back to you with options for when to write a make-up. It is imperative that you respond to these emails immediately and check your email daily while scheduling make-ups. If you miss the scheduled make-up because you were not checking emails, you will receive a score of zero unless your medical documentation notes that you were severely incapacitated during that time. **No waiving of exams or re-weighting of exam scores will occur, as per our course policy.** In the case of a missed final exam, the instructor and student will negotiate an extension for the final exam, which will typically be written as soon as possible, but no later than the next offering of the course. Note that elective arrangements such as travel are not acceptable grounds for granting accommodations to course requirements per the Examination Regulations and Related Matters.

There are some other situations for which I will grant make-ups on a case-by-case basis if you come to see me or send an email to your TA **as soon as you discover the conflict** to schedule an alternate date. Your TA will let you know whether an exception can be made in your specific case. In the case of bereavement, the instructor will provide similar accommodations to those for illness.

Quizzes (12%)

Quizzes will be administered via LEARN. The purpose of the quizzes is to keep students on track with textbook reading and to provide practice for exams. On weeks with quizzes (see schedule), quizzes will be open from **Tuesday at 11:30am until Thursday at 8am**. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped from your grade. **Therefore, students will receive a score of zero on any quiz that they do not complete before the submission deadline, no exceptions.** Quizzes are open-book but students should not share the content of the quizzes with classmates who have not completed them.

Research Participation (4%)

Please see the details on pages 5-6. Note, for questions regarding any aspect of your research participation, you must contact REG (regadmin@uwaterloo.ca) and not your instructor or TAs.

Bonus (2%)

You can obtain bonus points through the research participation bonus. You obtain these points **in the exact same way** as your research participation credits (i.e., just do two more credits).

Course Outline – tentative schedule

Please read the assigned chapters *before* the lectures on these topics.

Date	Topic or Assessment	Associated Reading
Sept. 6, 11	Introducing Psychology: History and Scope	Chapter 1: pgs 3 – 22 Also: See the SONA pdf on LEARN under the Introductory Material tab.
Sept. 13, 18, 20	Research Methods	No Readings
Sept. 18 – 20	*Quiz 1 is open, covers the Chapter 1 assigned reading	
Sept. 25, 27	Neuro/Biological Psychology	Chapter 5: 147 – 179 (skip the section on Mirror neurons)
Sept. 25 – 27	*Quiz 2 is open, covers the Chapter 5 assigned reading	
Oct. 2, 4	Sensation and perception	No readings
October 11	Midterm 1 (in class)	Includes material from Sept. 8 – Oct. 6
Oct. 16, 18, 23	Developmental Psychology	Chapter 11: pgs 413 – 442 (skip the entire “Physical Development” section and stop at the heading, “The Nature of Language...”)
Oct. 16 – 18	*Quiz 3 is open, covers the Chapter 11 assigned reading	
Oct. 25, 30	Cognitive Psychology (knowledge acquisition)	No reading
Oct. 30 – Nov. 1	*Quiz 4 is open, covers the Chapter 9 assigned reading	
Nov. 1, 6, 8	Cognitive Psychology (Memory) (Nov. 8 will be canceled if we are through the material to permit a study day, although this rarely happens)	Chapter 9: Full chapter
Nov. 13	Midterm 2 (in class)	Includes material from Oct.16 – Nov.8
Nov. 15	Motivation	Chapter 6: pgs 195 – 212 (stop at the heading, “Sex” – it’s not as interesting as you’d think, you’re not missing out!)
Nov. 20 – 22	*Quiz 5 is open, covers the Chapter 6 and 13 assigned reading	
Nov. 20, 22	Social Psychology (social behaviour & social cognition)	Chapter 13: Full chapter
Nov. 27, 29	Clinical/Abnormal Psychology	Chapter 16: 631 - 661
Oct. 27 – 29	*Quiz 6 is open, covers the Chapter 16 assigned reading	
Exam period	Final Exam	cumulative (i.e. includes all material)

Sona and Research Experience Marks Information and Guidelines

Experiential learning is considered an integral part of the undergraduate program in Psychology. Research participation is one example of this, article review is another. A number of undergraduate courses have been expanded to include opportunities for Psychology students to earn grades while gaining research experience.

Since experiential learning is highly valued in the Department of Psychology, students may earn up to 4% of their final mark in this course through research experience (i.e., course work will make up 96% of the final mark and research experience will make up the other 4% for a maximum grade of 100%). In addition, for those students who wish to sample a wider range of these experiences, a further "bonus" of up to 2% may be earned and will be added to the final grade if/as needed to bring your final grade up to 100%. **In total, students may add up to 6% to their final grade.**

The two options for earning research experience grades (participation in research and article review) are described below. Students may complete any combination of these options to earn research experience grades.

Option 1: Participation in Psychology Research

Research participation is coordinated by the Research Experiences Group (REG). Psychology students may volunteer as research participants in lab and/or online (web-based) studies conducted by students and faculty in the Department of Psychology. Participation enables students to learn first-hand about psychology research and related concepts. Many students report that participation in research is both an educational and interesting experience. Please be assured that all Psychology studies have been reviewed and received ethics clearance through a University of Waterloo Research Ethics Committee.

How to earn extra marks for your Psychology course(s) this term by participating in studies ...

- You will earn "credits" which will be converted to "marks" (1 credit = 1%)
- You can schedule your LAB and/or ONLINE studies using the "Sona" website.

Educational focus of participation in research

To maximize the educational benefits of participating in research, students will receive feedback information following their participation in each study detailing the following elements:

- Purpose or objectives of the study
- Dependent and independent variables
- Expected results
- References for at least two related research articles
- Provisions to ensure confidentiality of data

- Contact information of the researcher should the student have further questions about the study
- Contact information for the Chief Ethics Officer of the Office of Research Ethics should the student wish to learn more about the general ethical issues surrounding research with human participants, or specific questions or concerns about the study in which s/he participated.

Participation in LAB studies is worth 0.5 participation credits (grade percentage points) for each 30-minutes of participation. Participation in ONLINE studies is worth .25 credits for each 15-minutes of participation. Researchers will record student's participation and will advise the course instructor of the total credits earned by each student at the end of the term.

How to participate?

Study scheduling, participation and grade assignment is managed using the SONA online system. All students enrolled in this course have been set up with a SONA account. You must get started early in the term.

For instructions on how to log in to your SONA account and for a list of important dates and deadlines please, as soon as possible go to:

[Participating/SONA information: How to log in to Sona and sign up for studies](#)

**** Please do not ask the Course Instructor or REG Coordinator for information unless you have first thoroughly read the information provided on this website.****

More information about the REG program in general is available at: [REG Participants' Homepage](#) or you can check the [Sona FAQ](#) for additional information.

Option 2: Article Review as an alternative to participation in research

Students are not required to participate in research, and not all students wish to do so. As an alternative, students may opt to gain research experience by writing short reviews (1 to 2 pages) of research articles relevant to the course. The article(s) must be from a scholarly journal. *You must contact your TA to get approval for the article(s) you have chosen before writing the review.* Each review article counts as one percentage point, just as one hour of research participation would translate to one percentage point (also called a "credit"). To receive credit, you must follow specific guidelines. **Under the Course Content tab in LEARN, there is a tab titled: Article Reviews to replace REG.** If you wish to replace research participation with article reviews, read the document located here **immediately**, or you will risk missing deadlines for article approval.

The review(s) must be submitted by Nov. 29th; however, article approval is required before this date (by Nov. 15). Late submissions will NOT be accepted under any circumstances.

Supports and Academic Integrity

Mental Health Support

All of us need a support system. The faculty and staff in Arts encourage students to seek out mental health supports if they are needed.

On Campus

- Counselling Services: counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca / 519-888-4567 ext 32655
- [MATES](#): one-to-one peer support program offered by Federation of Students (FEDS) and Counselling Services
- Health Services Emergency service: located across the creek from Student Life Centre

Off campus, 24/7

- [Good2Talk](#): Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454
- Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 519-749-433 ext. 6880
- [Here 24/7](#): Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
- [OK2BME](#): set of support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning teens in Waterloo. Phone: 519-884-0000 extension 213

Full details can be found online at the Faculty of ARTS [website](#)

Download [UWaterloo and regional mental health resources \(PDF\)](#)

Download the [WatSafe app](#) to your phone to quickly access mental health support information

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

Note for students with disabilities: The [AccessAbility Services](#) office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (1401), 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 AS office at the beginning of each academic term.

Accommodation for course requirements

Students who are experiencing extenuating circumstances should also inform their academic advisors regarding their personal difficulties.

No re-weighting of course requirements or additional bonus percentages not stated on the syllabus will be granted in this course, as this practice is unfair to other students and goes against University policy, except in extreme circumstances.

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity webpage](#) and the [Arts Academic Integrity webpage](#) for more information.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (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](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

Concerns About a Course Policy or Decision

Informal Stage. We in the Psychology Department take great pride in the high quality of our program and our instructors. Though infrequent, we know that students occasionally find themselves in situations of conflict with their instructors over course policies or grade assessments. If such a conflict arises, the Associate Chair for Undergraduate Affairs (Richard Eibach) is available for consultation and to mediate a resolution between the student and instructor: Email: reibach@uwaterloo.ca; Ph 519-888-4567 ext. 38790

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. When in doubt, please be certain to contact Richard Eibach, the Associate Chair for Undergraduate Affairs who will provide further assistance; reibach@uwaterloo.ca.

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72 - Student Appeals](#).

Intellectual Property

Students should be aware that this course contains the intellectual property of their instructor, TA, and/or the University of Waterloo. Intellectual property includes items such as:

- Lecture content, spoken and written (and any audio/video recording thereof);
- Lecture handouts, presentations, and review guides (e.g., PowerPoint slides);
- Questions or solution sets from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, tests, final exams)

Course materials and the intellectual property contained therein, are used to enhance a student’s educational experience. **Sharing this intellectual property without the intellectual property owner’s permission is a violation of intellectual property rights.** For this reason, it is necessary to ask the instructor, TA and/or the University of Waterloo for permission before uploading and sharing the intellectual property of others online (e.g., to Facebook, One Class, or any other similar website).

Permission from an instructor, TA or the University is also necessary before sharing the intellectual property of others from completed courses with students taking the same/similar courses in subsequent terms/years. In many cases, instructors might be happy to allow distribution of certain materials. However, doing so without expressed permission is considered a violation of intellectual property rights.

Please alert the instructor if you become aware of intellectual property belonging to others (past or present) circulating, either through the student body or online. The intellectual property rights owner deserves to know (and may have already given their consent).

Grievances and Appeals

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. When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72 - Student Appeals](#).

Official version of the course outline

If there is a discrepancy between the hard copy outline (i.e., if students were provided with a hard copy at the first class) and the outline posted on LEARN, the outline on LEARN will be deemed the official version. Outlines on LEARN may change as instructors develop a course, but they become final as of the first class meeting for the term.