



# ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

**St. Jerome's University in the University of Waterloo**

**Department of Psychology  
PSYCH101 - Introductory Psychology  
Winter 2018**

**Tuesdays 6:30 - 9:20pm, SJ2 Room 1004 (Vanstone)**

## **Instructor Information**

**Instructor:** Dr. Sara Crann

**Office:** SH 2109

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 3 - 4pm

**Email:** scrann@uoguelph.ca

Please contact me by email with your name and the course code in the subject line. I will respond within 48 hours (excluding weekends). If I haven't responded to your email after 48 hours, please send me a follow-up email.

## **Course Description and Goals**

Introductory Psychology is a general survey course designed to provide you with an understanding of the basic concepts and techniques of modern psychology as a behavioural science.

The goal of this course is to provide you with foundational knowledge in psychology, that is, the study of human behaviour and experience. This course will provide you with an overview of the discipline of psychology, including key concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical research, and scholars in the field. This course offers a 'sample' of some of the different sub-areas within psychology, including neuroscience, cognitive, developmental, social, health, and clinical psychology, that you can explore further in more specialized courses.

## **Learning Outcomes**

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

1. Demonstrate knowledge of key psychological concepts, processes, and theoretical perspectives.
2. Identify and explain different models and approaches to understanding human behaviour.
3. Identify the foundations of conducting psychological science/research.
4. Evaluate knowledge gained from psychological scientific inquiry against common knowledge and intuitive "truths" about human behaviour and experience.
5. Relate psychological concepts and theories to real-world experiences in everyday life.

## Required Text

Weiten, W., & McCann, D. (2016). *Psychology: Themes and Variations*, 4th Canadian Edition. Toronto, ON: Nelson Education.

Note 1: Older editions or other texts books should be used “at your own risk” – content and page/chapters numbers likely differ.

Note 2: Two copies of the course textbook are on reserve at the SJU Library Circulation Desk.

## Course Requirements and Assessment

Due to the nature of introductory courses (focus on breadth rather than depth, large class sizes), you will be assessed almost entirely through tests. There are no written assignments. While the lecture material will be guided by the textbook, lectures will include additional materials, videos, and in-class exercises. Success in this course is facilitated by attending and actively engaging in the lecture.

Assessment	Date of Evaluation	Weighting
Mid-term test #1	January 30	25%
Mid-term test #2	March 6	30%
Final Exam	TBA	35%
Self-assessment quiz participation	Ongoing	6%
Experiential learning	Ongoing	4%
Experiential learning bonus points		Up to 2%
Total		100%

### Mid-term tests (55%)

Two multiple-choice tests will be completed in-class throughout the semester. Tests are not cumulative (i.e., each test covers only the specified chapters and lectures – see Class Schedule on page 5).

Tests will only be rescheduled under very limited conditions. You must notify me by email prior to the test (the earlier the better and a minimum of 1 week is required for religious accommodations) if you are unable to write at the scheduled time due to medical, religious, or bereavement circumstances. Failure to notify me prior to the test will result in a grade of zero. You must also provide appropriate documentation (see UW Policy Regarding Illness and Missed Tests - a Verification of Illness form is required) in order to have a test rescheduled due to medical emergency or illness. Additional documentation may be required for other circumstances. Rescheduling is at the discretion of the course instructor. Tests will typically be scheduled within 2 days of the date on the VOI form.

### Final Exam (35%)

The final exam will be multiple-choice and scheduled during the exam period. This test is not cumulative – it will cover Chapters 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, and lecture material.

### Self-assessment quiz participation (6%)

At the end of each class (with the exception of classes with one of two in-class tests), you will participate in a self-assessment quiz to test your comprehension of the course material and self-identify areas of improvement. Each quiz is worth 1%, up to a total of 6% of your final grade. Your grade is not dependent on answering the questions correctly. In other words, even if you answer all of the questions incorrectly,

you will still receive 1% for participating. The weeks before a test (i.e., Jan 23, Feb 27, April 3), the quiz will include questions from the chapters and course material covered on the test as a form of test review.

The quizzes will be administered using [Quizizz](#). You can participate through any internet-connected device, including the Quizizz app for smartphones/tablets. Instructions for using the program will be provided during the first class, including alternative ways to participate if you do not have an internet-connected device. There is no make up for missed self-assessment quizzes.

### **Experiential learning (4% + 2% bonus)**

Experiential learning is considered an integral part of the undergraduate program in Psychology. A number of undergraduate courses have been expanded to include opportunities for Psychology students to earn grades while gaining research experience. In this course, you will participate in research opportunities available at the University of Waterloo (see Option 1 below), or participate in an alternative article review assignment (see Option 2 below).

#### ***Research Experiences Information and Guidelines (Experiential Learning Component)***

Students may earn up to 4% in this course through research experience. Course work (in-class tests and self-assessment quiz participation) will make up 96% of the final mark, for a total of 100%. You can earn up to an additional 2% bonus grade by participating in research experience (either Option 1 or Option 2 below). 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.

#### **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 at the end of the term the REG Coordinator will provide the course instructor with a credit report of the total credits earned by each student.

#### 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 login into your SONA account and for a list of important deadlines, go to: [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 is available at: [REG Participants' Homepage](#)

### **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 (1½ to 2 pages) of research articles relevant to the course. Scientific, peer-reviewed journals are suitable source of articles for this course. ***You must contact the instructor to get approval for the article you have chosen before writing the review.*** Each review article counts as one percentage point. To receive credit, you must follow specific guidelines. The article review must:

- **Be submitted before the last day of lectures. Late submissions will NOT be accepted under ANY circumstances.**
- Be typed.
- Fully identify the title, author(s), source and date of the article. A copy of the article must be attached.
- Identify the psychological concepts in the article and indicate the pages in the 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.
- Clearly evaluate the application or treatment of those concepts in the article.
- Keep a copy of your review in the unlikely event we misplace the original.

## Class Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Readings Due
1	Jan 9	Introduction to the course A Brief History and Introduction to Psychology	Chapter 1
2	Jan 16	The Scientific Study of Psychology Biological Bases of Behaviour	Chapter 2 Chapter 3
3	Jan 23	Sensation and Perception Consciousness	Chapter 4 Chapter 5
4	Jan 30	<b>Part A: Mid-term Test # 1</b>  Part B: Lecture – Memory	Test content: Chapters 1-5 & lecture material  Chapter 7
5	Feb 6	Language and Thought	Chapter 8
6	Feb 13	Learning Intelligence	Chapter 6 Chapter 9
	Feb 20	Reading Week – No class	
7	Feb 27	Personality	Chapter 12
8	March 6	<b>Part A: Mid-term Test #2</b>  Part B: Motivation & Emotion	<i>Test content: Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, 12 &amp; lecture material</i>  Chapter 10
9	March 13	Human Development	Chapter 11
10	March 20	Social Relationships and Behaviour	Chapter 13
11	March 27	Stress, Coping, & Health	Chapter 14
12	April 3	Psychological Disorders & Treatment	Chapter 15 Chapter 16

It is your responsibility to regularly check LEARN for course announcements, updates to course content, supplementary materials, and lecture slides.

### Electronic Device Policy

Please be respectful of your peers and the instructor and restrict your laptop use during lectures to note-taking or other course-relevant activities and silence your phone and other devices. Texting and social media use during class is distracting to other students and to the instructor.

Do not record lectures without permission from the instructor.

## **Important Information**

### **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 [St. Jerome's University Policy on 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](mailto: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 [St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances](#). When in doubt, please be certain to contact Richard Eibach, the Associate Chair for Undergraduate Affairs who will provide further assistance.

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or the St. Jerome's University Policy on 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 [St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Appeals](#).

### **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.

### **Mental Health Services**

Mental Health Services aim is to provide holistic programming and services to help you lead a healthy and balanced life. We strive to provide a secure, supportive environment for students of all orientations and backgrounds.

Students suffering from problems with anxiety, depression, problems with sleep, attention, obsessions or compulsions, relationship difficulties, severe winter blues, etc., may make an appointment by phone or in

person. Appointments are usually available within two days of initial contact with one of our medical doctors. All contacts are completely confidential.

Contact Health Services Health Services Building

Call 519-888-4096 to schedule an appointment

Call 1-866-797-0000 for free 24/7 advice from a health professional

Contact Counselling Services Needles Hall Addition, NH 2401

Call 519-888-4567 x 32655 to schedule an appointment [counserv@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:counserv@uwaterloo.ca)

### **Accommodation for Course Requirements**

Students requesting accommodation for course requirements (assignments, midterm tests, final exams, etc.) due to illness should do the following: Consult the University's examination regulations for information about procedures and policies for requesting accommodations

- seek medical treatment as soon as possible
- obtain documentation of the illness with a completed [uWaterloo Verification of Illness Form](#)
- submit that form to the instructor within 48 hours. Students in Centre for Extended Learning (CEL) courses must submit their confirmation of the illness to CEL.
- inform the instructor by the due date for the course requirement that you will be unable to meet the deadline and that documentation will be forthcoming.

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.

In the case of a missed assignment deadline, midterm test, or quiz, the instructor will either

- waive the course component and re-weight remaining term work as he/she deems fit according to circumstances and the goals of the course, or
- provide an extension.

In the case of bereavement, the instructor will provide similar accommodations to those for illness. Appropriate documentation to support the request will be required. Students who are experiencing extenuating circumstances should also inform their academic advisors regarding their personal difficulties.

Elective arrangements such as travel plans are not acceptable grounds for granting accommodations to course requirements per the uWaterloo Examination Regulations and Related Matters.

### **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.

### **Territorial Acknowledgement**

We acknowledge that we are living and working on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes six miles on each side of the Grand River.

