

St. Jerome's in the University of Waterloo
Department of Psychology
Psychology 212 – Winter 2011
Educational Psychology

Course Outline

Instructor: Dr. M. Drysdale
Office: STJ 2020
Phone: 884-8111, EXT. 28288
Email: mdrysdal@watarts.uwaterloo.ca
Office Hours: T 11:30 – 12:30 & W 1:00 – 2:00, or by appointment
Lectures: Tuesday and Thursday 2:30 – 3:50, STJ 1036
Teaching Assistants: Caitlin Chiupka, SJU 2021, cachiupk@artsmail.uwaterloo.ca
Office hours: TBA

Course Overview:

Educational psychology is the branch of psychology that specializes in understanding theories and methods of teaching, learning, and assessment in educational settings. The content of this course includes human development, theories of learning, and the application of psychological principles in educational settings. There is a special focus upon the conditions essential to efficient learning. In addition, a substantial portion of the course focuses on psychological testing and measuring learning outcomes.

Learning Objectives:

At the end of this course, students will have an understanding of:

- aspects of human development through the school years
- individual differences in cognitive, social, emotional, and intellectual functioning in an educational setting
- explanations of how we learn and learning problems
- applications of learning theories to teaching
- motivation in educational settings
- educational measurement and assessment

Required Text:

Santrock, J., Woloshyn, V., Gallagher, T., Di Petta, T., & Marini, Z. (2010). Educational Psychology (3rd Canadian Edition). Toronto: McGraw Hill Ryerson.

*Note: The 2nd Canadian Edition is acceptable

Correspondence:

Students using the telephone to contact me **must** include their first and last names, student number, and course in which they are enrolled. Please address me as Professor or Dr. Drysdale. Always email using UW-ACE. Please allow at least 24 hours for an email sent between Monday and Thursday and allow the weekend for a response to an inquiry made on Friday, Saturday or Sunday. For content related questions, request for extra help with the content, or to go over one of your exams, please contact a TA (Caitlin). For all other inquiries or questions, please contact me (e.g., missing an exam, problems with the course, or extra help if a TA is not available).

If you miss a lecture, the best way to get notes is with an email request (using ACE) to the class.

Do not email or telephone asking for grades. For security reasons, grades are not released over the telephone or by email.

If my door is open, outside of office hours, feel free to approach. If I am busy, I will let you know. Please don't be offended if I can't drop what I am doing to talk. I will schedule a convenient time for both of us. This is especially important for students who have conflicts with my office hours.

Evaluation:

Exam 1:	15%	January 27, 2011
Exam 2:	15%	February 17, 2011
Exam 3:	15%	March 15, 2011
Exam 4:	15%	March 31, 2011
Final Exam:	40%	TBA

NOTE: EXAM DATES ARE FINAL: PLEASE DO NOT REQUEST ANY ALTERNATE DATES/TIMES (medical exceptions excluded, see below).

Exams

- **Term exams will NOT be cumulative** and will cover the lecture material, handouts, video material, and textbook material. Students are responsible for material covered in the lectures as well as the assigned chapters in the text that correspond to the lecture material.

- **The final exam WILL BE cumulative** and will cover all material presented during the term.
- All exams will consist of multiple-choice questions.
- Each of the term tests will contain six items that will require you to provide a rationale for your answer. Space to write your rationale will be provided beneath each target item. The rationales allow me to assess student understanding and provides students with the opportunity to explain their response. If the rationale is valid, a student can receive credit for an incorrect response.
- The cumulative final exam will contain 16 items that will require a rationale.
- Requests for changing the weighting of tests will not be considered.
- Students **MUST complete** all 5 exams to receive credit in the course.
- Calculators are NOT permitted during the exams.

POLICY REGARDING CHEATING

CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Students are referred to the university policy on academic offences. Looking at the test of another student, allowing another student to view your exam, obtaining information about a test in advance, having crib/cheat notes, and/or having information written on your body are all examples of cheating. Students found cheating will: receive a zero (0%) on the test and be asked to leave the room if cheating materials cannot be confiscated OR have cheating materials and the answer booklet/scantron confiscated and be given a new exam that must be completed in the time allotted.

A number of safeguards will be employed to discourage cheating. For example, invigilators of the tests can ask students to move to another seat during the exam, cover their paper, avert their eyes from other students' papers, remove baseball caps, check for crib/cheat notes, etc. This is not meant as a personal affront or as an accusation of cheating, rather as vigilant attempts at proctoring. It is strongly recommended that you **do not** sit with friends during the examinations. All incidences of cheating will be reported to the Department Chair and the Associate Dean.

POLICY REGARDING ILLNESS OR ACCOMMODATION – University of Waterloo

Students are entitled to a rescheduling of exams or an extension of deadlines for legitimate medical or compassionate reasons. Students are also entitled to rescheduling of exams based on religious grounds. *Students must provide confirmation of an illness to the instructor within 48 hours of the exam or due date by submitting a completed University of Waterloo Verification of Illness Form to support requests for accommodation due to illness.* Students who consult their own physician must provide the UW form to the attending physician for completion. The University of Waterloo charges a fee for a "Verification of Illness" certificate.

Deferrals of exams and extension of due dates are decided by the instructor (see Dr. Drysdale's Policy below). If a student completes an exam while ill, the grade stands. False claims of illness and/or submitting false documentation constitutes an academic offense that is subject to disciplinary action under Policy #71.

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, you should contact your instructor and the Academic Counselling Office as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for grade revisions on medical or compassionate grounds will not be considered (University of Waterloo Calendar).

PROFESSOR'S REQUIREMENTS REGARDING ILLNESS

Only on the documented basis of illness or other extreme circumstance will students be permitted to write a make-up test. **In the case of illness, it is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor PRIOR to the due date or exam date, (the voice mail stamps the date and time of telephone calls).** The student must provide an *official "Verification of Illness" certificate* from the University of Waterloo - which states that, due to medical reasons, it was **impossible** for the student to write the exam at the scheduled time (i.e., severe illness). Doctors' notes, forms created by a physician or clinic, or a note scribbled on a prescription pad is **not an acceptable medical certificate.**

If you are sick and you contact me after the exam, you will NOT be permitted to write the test. You will receive a 'zero' on that test. Exception to this: if you are involved in an accident on your way to the exam (documentation required) and as a result you are not able to call me. If you are extremely incapacitated, in hospital, or have had an unexpected death in the family within 24 hours of the test, then have a friend or family member call ASAP.

Any student missing an exam with a valid reason must write a make-up exam. The make-up exam may differ in format from the original exam (e.g., an entire essay exam). Eliminating an exam from the course requirements and

redistributing grades is not an option. All exams **MUST** be completed to receive a final grade in the course. Please note that the following are **NOT** valid reasons for rescheduling an exam:

- Travel plans (athletic or personal)
- Missing your bus or ride to campus
- Work overload. You can have as many as 5 exams in a single day during the regular term and be expected to write all of them.
- Sleeping-in or alarm clock problems.
- Forgetting you had an exam or forgetting you were registered in the course.

RELEASE OF GRADES:

When tests are graded, the results will be posted on UW-ACE. Grades are not released over email or telephone. Do not send an email to the Instructor or TA regarding “when will the grades be posted?” We endeavour to complete the grading as quickly as possible.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, DISCIPLINE, AND GRIEVANCE

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo and its Federated University and Affiliated Colleges are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

Discipline: All students registered in courses at St. Jerome’s University are expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their 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 Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed following St. Jerome’s University Academic Discipline Procedure and UW Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm.

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. In such a case, contact the St. Jerome’s University Grievance Officer. Read St. Jerome’s University Handbook, Section 4, item 8, www.sju.ca/faculty/SJU_handbook/grievance_policy.html.

Academic Integrity website (Arts): http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html

Academic Integrity Office (UW): <http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/>

PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS*

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under St. Jerome’s University Academic Discipline Procedure or Grievance Policy if a ground for an appeal can be established. In such a case, contact the St. Jerome’s University Appeals Officer. Read St. Jerome’s University Handbook, Section 6.4, www.sju.ca/faculty/SJU_handbook/examinations_grades_standings_and_appeals.html.

More information regarding appeals can be obtained by the Ombudsperson's Office (Student Life Centre, Room 2128, 885-1211). The full text of **Policy 70** is available on the Web as well as from the Secretariat (Needles Hall, Room 3060). <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.pdf>

OTHER INFORMATION

- **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: 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.
- **Laptops are permitted for note-taking purposes during the lectures** – however – other usage is not permitted (e.g., Facebook, Skype, Internet searches, streaming, gaming, etc.). Such usage is distracting to the instructor and to the students

around you. If you are caught using your computer for anything besides note-taking, you will be asked to turn your computer off and/or leave the room.

- **Absolutely no cellular telephones and/or headphones** are permitted during the lectures or examinations.
- **Student ID Cards** are necessary for examinations. Please place them on the corner of your desk.
- **Baseball caps** are not to be worn during examinations.
- **Backpacks** must be stored at the front or back of the classroom during examinations. Purses and other small personal items must be stored beneath the desk.
- Students who are dissatisfied with their academic achievement are *strongly* encouraged to seek advice from a study skills counsellor at Needles Hall (**888-4567, Ext. 32655**), the teaching assistant, or the professor *prior* to their next exam(s). Please let us know if you are having difficulty understanding the course content or having difficulty with the testing.
- If you bring beverages and/or food into the classroom, please take your empty cups, tins, wrappers, crumbs, etc. with you and dispose of them in the wastebasket.
- Please do not email the professor or the TA requesting information on required readings/chapters for exams. Please refer to your outline.

LECTURE, EXAM SCHEDULE AND REQUIRED READINGS

Date	Topic	Required Reading Chapter
January 4	No Lecture	
January 6	Introduction	
January 11	The Goals of Educational Psychology and Introduction to Study Strategies	Chapter 1
January 13	Research in Educational Psychology	Chapter 1
January 13 & 18	Physical, Cognitive and Language Development	Chapter 2
January 20 & 25	Social Contexts & Socio-Emotional Development	Chapter 3
January 27	Exam 1 (15%)	Chapters 1, 2, 3
February 1 & 3	Individual Variations & Learners Who Are Exceptional	Chapters 4 & 6
February 8 & 10	Behavioural Approaches, Social Cognitive Approaches & Teaching	Chapter 7
February 10 & 15	Managing The Classroom	Chapter 12
February 17	Exam 2 (15%)	Chapters 4, 6, 7, 12
February 22 & 24	Reading Week – No Lectures	
March 1 & 3	The Cognitive Information-Processing Approach & Teaching	Chapter 8
March 3 & 8	Planning & Instruction	Chapter 10
March 8 & 10	Motivating Students to Learn	Chapter 11
March 15	Exam 3 (15%)	Chapters 8, 10, 11
March 17 & 22	Assessing Student's Learning	Chapter 13
March 24 & 29	Standardized Tests & Teaching Interpreting Test Scores	Chapter 14
March 31	Exam 4 (15%)	Chapters 13, 14
April ? (TBA)	Final Exam (40%)	Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14

***NOTE: Test Blueprints will be provided before each exam.**