

Disclaimer

The material covered in this class will include topics (e.g., sexual offending) and possibly images or descriptions of crimes that are graphic and disturbing. While I do not present this material in a gratuitous way, I encourage you to carefully consider whether you wish to remain in this class, especially if you have been (or are close to someone who has been) the victim of a sexual or violent crime.

Course Information

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|-------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Instructor:</i> | Dr. Kate Pan |
| <i>Contact Information:</i> | Email: kate.pan.psych@gmail.com (put course number in subject line) |
| <i>Office:</i> | STJ 3022 |
| <i>Office Hours:</i> | Wednesdays 5:30PM to 6:30PM or by appointment |
| <i>Lecture Time & Location:</i> | Wednesdays, 6:30PM - 9:20PM, STJ 2017 |
| <i>Required Text:</i> | Pozzulo, J., Bennell, C. & Forth, A. (2014). <i>Forensic Psychology</i> , 4 th Edition. Toronto, ON: Pearson Education Canada. |

Prerequisites

PSYCH 101/101R or 121R

Course Objectives and Structure

This course will provide you with a general overview of psychology and law. The aim is to provide you with introductory information and a working vocabulary about psychological concepts and principles as they pertain to phenomena encountered in the criminal justice system. This course will look at important research in the area and examine the contemporary methodologies being used in social and forensic psychology. This course is designed to help develop your ability to use scientific methods to examine behaviours that occur in a legal context and to lay foundations for further study in the areas of psychology and law. The class format will consist primarily of lectures, video presentations, and in-class discussion.

Course Requirements and Grading Scheme

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|------------------------------|-----|--|
| Term Test 1 (May 27, 2015): | 25% | |
| Term Test 2 (June 17, 2015): | 25% | |
| Term Test 3 (July 15, 2015): | 25% | |
| Term Test 4 (July 28, 2015): | 25% | Note special date: this test will be held on Tuesday, July 28, 2015. |

The four non-cumulative in-class term tests will consist of multiple choice questions. Students should note that **all** tests will focus on a **synthesis** of lecture, video, and textbook materials, as well as in-class discussions. All tests will make use of scannable computer cards, so please bring a pencil and eraser.

Test results will be posted as soon as they are available. Please check your mark after each test, as we do not generally release marks over the phone or by email, and university policy prohibits final grades from being posted prior to the end of the examination period.

The mark received for a test stands – it will not be dropped, re-weighted, etc. because you weren't feeling well, had a lot on your mind, etc., nor will "extra" assignments be given to students who are dissatisfied with their grades.

Make-up Tests

Students are entitled to a rescheduling of tests for legitimate medical or compassionate reasons. Students are also entitled to rescheduling of tests based on religious grounds. However, it is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor **prior** to the test date to arrange a timely makeup, and to **provide acceptable documentation** to support a medical, compassionate, or religious claim. Make-up exams may differ in format from the original.

Make-up tests will be scheduled during my office hours on the Wednesday following the missed test.

With regard to tests, I follow the same policy as that found in the [UW Examination Regulations](https://uwaterloo.ca/registrar/final-examinations/examination-regulations-and-related-matters), which can be found at: <https://uwaterloo.ca/registrar/final-examinations/examination-regulations-and-related-matters>, and which state that:

Make-up Tests (cont'd)

- A medical certificate presented in support of an official petition for relief from normal academic requirements must provide all of the information requested on the “University of Waterloo Verification of Illness” form or it will not be accepted.
- If a student has a test/examination deferred due to acceptable medical evidence, he/she normally will write the test/examination at a mutually convenient time, to be determined by the course instructor.
- The University acknowledges that, due to the pluralistic nature of the University community, some students may on religious grounds require alternative times to write tests and examinations or hand in assignments.
- Elective arrangements (such as travel plans) are not considered acceptable grounds for granting an alternative test or examination time or to modify an assignment deadline.

Missing classes

Missing a single class is the equivalent of missing an entire week’s lectures. I strongly advise you to ensure that you are present at every lecture. I do not provide my lecture notes for any reason. Please ask a fellow student for notes if you miss a class.

Electronic devices rules and etiquette

If you bring a laptop to class, I expect you to use it only for note-taking purposes. Watching videos, emailing, etc. is very distracting to other students. If you wish to engage in these activities during class, please take your laptop to the very last row of the class. Students who use their laptops inappropriately will lose the privilege of bringing them to class.

Please turn off your cell phones and put them out of sight before class begins. There is no reason to touch your phone during class. If you need to keep your phone on your desk for a particularly urgent matter, please speak to me before class.

Email me for administrative purposes only and not to ask about course content or assignments. For example, you may email me to set up an appointment or to explain why you will miss a test, but not to ask me to explain the different approaches to risk assessment. You may ask those kinds of questions after class or during my office hours.

Course website

learn.uwaterloo.ca. Sign in using your QUEST username and password.

Activate your uwaterloo.ca account. I email announcements to the class from the UW Learn website. In order to receive them you must activate your UW email account. You may forward mail from that account to your existing account (e.g. gmail, hotmail, rogers, etc.) if you wish.

Academic Integrity

To maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo and the Affiliated and Federated Institutions at UW are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility.

Academic Integrity Office (UW)

A resource for students: <https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/node/3>

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 Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under the St. Jerome’s University Policy on Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to University of Waterloo Policy 71 (Student Discipline).

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. Students who decide to file a grievance should refer to University of Waterloo Policy 70 (Student Petitions and Grievances). For more information, students should contact the Associate Dean of St. Jerome’s University.

Appeals

A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline or University of Waterloo Policy 70 (Student Petitions and Grievances) if a ground for an appeal can be established. In such a case, read St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Appeals.

Note for Students with Disabilities

The AccessAbility Services (AS) Office, 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 AS Office at the beginning of each academic term.

Course Schedule (Note: some dates and topics may be subject to change)

| Date | Topic | Reading |
|----------|---|------------------|
| May 6 | Introduction to Psychology and Law | Chapter 1 |
| May 13 | Research Methods | |
| May 20 | Criminal Profiling | Chapter 3 |
| May 27 | 1. Term Test 1 (<u>covers all material from May 6 to May 20</u>) 2. Deception Detection | Chapter 4 |
| June 3 | Memories and Eyewitness Testimony | Chapters 5 and 6 |
| June 10 | Jury Selection and Jury Psychology | Chapter 7 |
| June 17 | 1. Term Test 2 (<u>covers all material from May 27 to June 10</u>) 2. Sentencing | Chapter 9 |
| June 24 | Mental Illness in Court | Chapters 8 |
| July 1 | Canada Day – No Class | |
| July 8 | Psychopathy and Violent Crime | Chapter 11 |
| July 15 | 1. Term Test 3 (<u>covers all material from June 17 to July 8</u>) 2. Risk Assessment | Chapter 10 |
| July 22 | 1. Sexual Offenders 2. Treatment of Offenders and Recidivism | Chapters 14 & 15 |
| July 28* | Term Test 4 (<u>covers all material from July 15 to July 22</u>) | |

***The loss of a Wednesday class on Canada Day (July 1) will be made up by following a Wednesday schedule on Tuesday, July 28, 2015. Consequently, classes scheduled on Tuesday will not meet that day.**