



**Department of Psychology**  
**Psych 101-002**  
**Introductory Psychology**  
**Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 11:30am – 12:20pm, UTD 105**

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### **Instructor and T.A. Information**

**Instructor:** Dr. Paul Wehr

**Office:** PAS 4037

**Office Hours:** Mondays & Wednesdays: 2:35pm - 3:45pm

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### **Course Description**

Psychology 101 introduces students to the fundamental theories, concepts, phenomena, methods, and issues relevant to the field of psychology. Psychology helps to inform us of the human condition by studying behaviour using the scientific method. As a student of psychology, you will gain greater insight into yourself and those you interact with. The field is diverse, covering a broad range of topics such as human development, the social forces that affect behaviour, memory and decision making, language, learning, mental disorders and treatment, neuroscience, and many more. Given that this is only a 12-week course and the number of topics is large, it is not possible to cover all the content during class time. Students will be expected to complete a large number of **online modules** on their own, but should take advantage of the instructor's office hours to discuss and clarify concepts. There is **no assigned textbook** for this course.

### **COURSE GOALS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon completion of this course, students should:

- A. Build a foundation of knowledge upon which upper division psychology courses can build: i.e., explain and apply the core concepts of psychology.
- B. Gain an appreciation for the role of science in learning about human behaviour:
  1. Appraise research conducted in psychology.
  2. Participate in psychological research.
- C. Gain greater insight into yourself, others, and the human condition:
  1. Apply core concepts to yourself and others.
  2. Recognize and value human diversity.

## Information Available on LEARN

The course web page can be found on LEARN (<https://learn.uwaterloo.ca/>). Here, you will find links to the syllabus, lecture slides, supplementary modules, and important announcements. I will do my best to have slides for the upcoming lecture available at least 24 hours in advance of class time.

## Course Assessment

Unfortunately, given that large size of the class, it is a practical impossibility to evaluate students using paper submissions. Consequently, over 90% of students' grades will be determined using a mixture of multiple-choice and long-answer examinations. Four percent of your grade will be based on participation in research (or the library option) and there is also the potential to earn a bonus of +2% by engaging in extra research participation.

Assessment	Date	Weight
In-class Long-answer Exam 1	Feb 03	12%
Online Multiple-choice Exam A	Feb 10	15%
In-class Long-answer Exam 2	Mar 03	12%
Online Multiple-choice Exam B	Mar 17	15%
In-class Long-answer Exam 3	Mar 24	12%
Final Exam	Apr 13 – 28	30%
Research Experience		4%
Research Experience Bonus		2%
Total		102%

## Examinations

There will be five midterm examinations in this class: three long-answer tests that take place during class time, and an additional two multiple-choice quizzes that take place online using LEARN. There will also be a final exam during the April final exam period.

*LONG-ANSWER TESTS* (12% each). These assessments will take place on the Friday of the week that they are scheduled. Half the class will write the exam at 11:30am and the other half will write at 11:55am. Everyone will have approximately 20 minutes to answer two questions. On LEARN, you will find a list of potential test questions, TWO of which will appear as the long-answer questions on the test. These questions are meant to require considerable thought and preparation. Students should craft detailed, accurate, disciplined answers prior to each test.

*MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUIZZES* (15% each). These quizzes will become available Friday immediately following class (12:30pm) on the week that they are scheduled and will remain open until 11:59pm the same night. Thus, you will have a 11.5 hour window to complete the assessment. Exams will consist of 40 multiple-choice questions (each worth 1 point) and cover approximately 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the course content (i.e., they are NOT cumulative).

*FINAL EXAM* (30%) The final exam will take place during the final exam period and will also consist of 40 multiple-choice questions and 4 long-answer questions from the list of questions posted on LEARN, but will be entirely written. The exact date of the final exam will be announced later in the term after the university publishes the final exam schedule.

*POLICY ON MISSED ASSESSMENTS*: Students who miss an assessment deadline due to respiratory illness (i.e., covid, flu, cold) should self-declare their illness in Quest and then contact their instructor as soon as possible to receive further instructions. If the university once again offers self-declared two-day holidays in quest, please note that students need to contact the instructor immediately in the event that an assessment is missed. For reasons that take longer than two days (e.g., incarceration or kidnapping), valid documentation is required

(e.g., arrest sheet or ransom note) in order to avoid receiving a zero for the missed assessment. Absence due to *religious holiday* is a valid excuse, but please notify your instructor at the beginning of the course in the event of a conflict.

## **Grading**

In order to maintain equity among sections and conformity across University, faculty, department or school norms, students can expect a class average of approximately 73% by the end of the course. It should also be noted that **I do not respond to requests for a higher grade.**

Results for each exam will be posted in the gradebook on LEARN. Following the Long-answer exams, the instructor will announce the time and location of a 3-hour exam review session hosted by the TAs. Students are strongly encouraged to review their exams during this time, but may make an appointment with one of the TAs for an alternative time if unable to do so. Results for the Research Participation will be posted on LEARN at the end of term, but before the final exam.

## **Accommodation for Students**

The AccessAbility Services office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension, 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.

<https://uwaterloo.ca/accessability-services/>

## **Counselling & Psychological Services**

The Counselling & Psychological Services office at the University of Waterloo, located on the second floor of the Needles Hall extension, offers a variety of resources for those struggling with the challenges of university life, including coping skills seminars and workshops, peer support, group therapy, and clinical referrals. Their home page is:

<https://uwaterloo.ca/campus-wellness/counselling-services>

## **Student Success Office**

The Student Success Office at the University of Waterloo, located on the second floor of South Campus Hall, offers tutoring, workshops, success coaching, and a variety of other resources for students looking for guidance to be successful in university. Their home page is:

<https://uwaterloo.ca/student-success/>

## **Writing Centre**

The Writing Centre, located on the second floor of South Campus Hall, works across all faculties to help students clarify their ideas, develop their voices, and communicate in the style appropriate to their disciplines. Writing Centre staff offer one-on-one support in planning assignments, using and documenting research, organizing papers and reports, designing presentations and e-portfolios, and revising for clarity and coherence.

You can make multiple appointments throughout the term, or drop in at either the Dana Porter or Davis Centre libraries for quick questions or feedback. Group appointments for team-based projects, presentations, and papers are also available. To book a 50-minute appointment and to see drop-in hours, visit:

<https://uwaterloo.ca/writing-and-communication-centre/>

## **Concerns About the Course or Instructor (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 (Dr. Richard Eibach) is available for consultation and to mediate a resolution between the student and instructor. Dr. Eibach's contact information is as follows: Email: [reibach@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:reibach@uwaterloo.ca), Phone: 519-888-4567, x48790. 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. See Policy 70 and 71 below for further details.

## **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.

*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.

<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71>

*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.

<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70>

*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.

<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72>

*Other sources of information for students*

Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo): <https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/>

## Term Schedule

Week	Dates	Lecture Topics	Module Assignment	Assessment
1	Jan 09 – 13	Learning	Memory	
2	Jan 16 – 20			
3	Jan 23 – 27	Biological Psychology	Statistics & Research Methods	
4	Jan 30 – Feb 03		Evolution in Psychology	Long-Answer 1 (Feb 3 <sup>rd</sup> )
5	Feb 06 – 10	Sensory Perception	Visual Perception	Multiple-choice A (Feb 10 <sup>th</sup> )
6	Feb 13 – 17	Intelligence	Consciousness	
7	Feb 20 – 24	READING BREAK	No classes	
8	Feb 27 – Mar 03	Language	Problem Solving	Long-answer 2 (Mar 3 <sup>rd</sup> )
9	Mar 06 – 10	Motivation	Emotion	
10	Mar 13 – 17	Development	Attachment	Multiple-choice B (Mar 17 <sup>th</sup> )
11	Mar 20 – 24	Social Psychology	Behaviour in Groups	Long-answer 3 (Mar 24 <sup>th</sup> )
12	Mar 27 – 31	Personality	Depression, Anxiety & Schizophrenia	
13	Apr 03 – 10		Psychological Therapy	

Note: Lecture topics BEGIN during the week they are scheduled, but will often spill over into the following week before completed.

## Withdrawal Dates

Withdrawal deadline and receive no penalty: January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Withdrawal deadline to receive “WD” on transcript: March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Withdrawal deadline to receive “WF” on transcript: April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023