

**University of Waterloo**  
**Department of Psychology**  
**Psychology 101, Sec. 2**  
**Introduction to Psychology**  
**Fall 2019**

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

**Instructor and TA Information**

**Instructor:** Dr. Stephanie Denison  
Office: PAS 4020  
Office Phone: 519-888-4567 ext. 33409  
Office Hours: Tuesdays 11:30 – 12:30 and by appointment  
Email: [stephanie.denison@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:stephanie.denison@uwaterloo.ca)

<b>T.A.</b>	<b>Shaneene Heupel</b>	<b>Reem Tawfik</b>
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Office	PAS 4214	PAS 4007
Office Hours	Tuesdays 12:30 – 1:30 and by appointment	Mondays 2:30 – 3:30 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](mailto: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 eighth edition or a used copy of this textbook (note that previous editions are quite different so using one would be very risky, you’d be much better off using the reserved copies at the library).

- Two copies of the textbook will be available at the Dana Porter library. 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: <https://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/gray8e/11442419>

### 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 (make a friend at the beginning of term if you don’t know anyone in class). You are responsible for being aware of any important announcements made in class. If you have a VOI or evidence of an extenuating circumstance, I will provide an audiorecording of the lecture for you.

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. 8 (during class time)	25%
Midterm 2 (non-cumulative)	Nov. 12 (during class time)	25%
Final Exam (cumulative)	Exam period	36%
Quizzes	Ongoing (note schedule on pg 4)	10%

Assessment	Date of Evaluation/Due date	Weighting
Research participation	Ongoing (Please note the REG deadlines)	4%
Bonus (optional) Research participation	Ongoing (Please note the REG deadlines)	2%
Total (not including optional bonus)		100%

### Exams (86%)

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. 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 (10%)

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 typically be open from **11:30am on the day they launch to 8am on the day they close**. 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. 5, 10	Introducing Psychology: History and Scope	Chapter 1: pgs 3 – 20 Also: See the SONA pdf on LEARN under the Introductory Material tab.
Sept. 12, 17, 19	Research Methods	No Readings
<b>*Quiz 1: covers the Chapter 1 assigned reading*</b> <b>Opens Sept. 17 (11:30am) and closes Sept. 19 (8:00am)</b>		
Sept. 24, 26	Neuro/Biological Psychology	Chapter 4: 101 – 134 ( <b>stop before the heading “Hemispheric Differences...”</b> )
<b>*Quiz 2: covers the Chapter 4 assigned reading*</b> <b>Opens Sept. 24 (11:30am) and closes Sept. 26 (8:00am)</b>		
Oct. 1, 3	Sensation and perception	No readings
<b>October 8</b>	<b>Midterm 1 (in class)</b>	<b>Includes material from Sept. 5 – Oct. 3</b>
Oct. 10, 22, 24	Developmental Psychology	Chapter 11: pgs 401 – 433 ( <b>skip the entire “Physical Development” section and stop before the heading, “Autism:...”</b> )
<b>*Quiz 3: covers the Chapter 11 assigned reading*</b> <b>Opens Oct. 15 (11:30am) and closes Oct. 24 (8:00am)</b>		
Oct. 29, 31	Cognitive Psychology (knowledge acquisition – *might start Memory*)	No reading
<b>*Quiz 4 is open, covers the Chapter 9 assigned reading*</b> <b>Opens Oct. 31 (11:30am) and closes Nov. 7 (8:00am)</b>		
Nov. 5, 7	Cognitive Psychology (Memory)	Chapter 9: Full chapter
<b>Nov. 12</b>	<b>Midterm 2 (in class)</b>	<b>Includes material from Oct.10 – Nov.7</b>
Nov. 14, 19, 21	Social Psychology (social behaviour & social cognition)	Chapter 13: Full chapter
<b>*Quiz 5: covers the Chapter 13 assigned reading*</b> <b>Opens Nov. 14 (11:30am) and closes Nov. 21 (8:00am)</b>		
Nov. 26, 28, Dec. 3	Clinical/Abnormal Psychology	Chapter 15: 591 - 623
<b>*Quiz 6: covers the Chapter 15 assigned reading*</b> <b>Opens Nov. 26 (11:30am) and closes Dec. 3 (8:00am)</b>		
<b>Exam period</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>	cumulative (i.e. includes all material)

## **Sona Participation 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.
- **UP TO 50%** of your credits can be earned through ONLINE studies. The remaining need to be earned through in-lab participation.

### ***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 Director 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 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:

[Sona Information on the REG Participants website](#) or you can check the [Sona FAQ on the REG website homepage](#) 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 Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>; 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 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

### Note for Students with Disabilities

The [AccessAbility Services](#) office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (NH 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 for Psychology courses.

*Policies of the Psychology department pertaining to course requirements are available on the [department website](#).*

Students who are experiencing extenuating circumstances (e.g., illness, bereavement) should also inform their academic advisors regarding their personal difficulties.

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

1. Waive the course component and re-weight the remaining term work as she deems fit according to circumstances and the goals of the course, or
2. Provide an extension

\*Note that it is almost always the case that extensions will be provided for midterm exams, rather than waiving of the component. In the case of quizzes, because the lowest quiz grade is dropped, no other quizzes will be waived or extended unless there are substantial extenuating circumstances.

## **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 [Office of 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. Check [the Office of Academic Integrity](#) for more information. 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](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 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](mailto: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).

### **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.*