Introduction to Psychology Lecture Syllabus
Optional Online Q&A Synchronous Sessions
Tuesday 6:45 pm – 7:30 pm + or
Wednesday 1:30 pm – 2:15pm + or
Thursday 10:30am – 11:15am +
Instructor: Dr. Darren Campbell
Email: darrenc@nipissingu.ca

Assigned Readings
(Freely available) Digital Documents include: PDFs, ODTs (Word-like formats), PowerPoint, & Videos
Access → Login to Nip. U. BlackBoard: Select PSYC 1106 Course → Content → Lecture Topic (specific folder)
Most items listed represent *required* reading, viewing, or participation, but some items are o*ptional*. For *optional* materials, any content specifically from these materials will not be on any tests.

Course Objectives and Content
This survey course aims to increase your understanding of psychology. PSYC 1106 stresses *biological* and *environmental* explanations of human/animal *thoughts, feelings,* and *actions.*

Lectures will focus on *psychological theories, research methods, neuroscience, development, the senses, classical and operant conditioning, personality, and psychological disorders.*

By the end of the course, you will be able to:
1. identify the key characteristics of the foundational theories of psychology,
2. contrast psychological explanations of human and animal behaviour (broadly defined),
3. recognise core psychological findings, and
4. derive real-world implications of the psychological theories and findings.

Labs offer *small-group* instruction for *"hands-on"* experiences to explore *the scientific method in psychology*. More specifically, the labs help you develop *statistical analysis* skills and refine your *oral and visual presentation skills*.

By the end of the lab portion of the course, you will be able to:
5. demonstrate simple data-analysis skills, and
6. present psychological findings to demonstrate your content comprehension, understanding of visual presentation techniques, and oral communication skills.

Lectures: I have created and posted the lectures in Blackboard. I also will be having weekly, optional, online synchronous Q&A meetings through BB. Login access links will be available/sent to you.

Evaluation
Wiki Group Assignment	20% (up to 10 people per Group)
Forum-Posting Participation	20% (comments & assignments)
Midterm	5% (lecture topics covered up to that date)
Final Exam	30% (all course content)
Lab	25% (see Lab Syllabus for details)
	/100%
+Bonus (Optional)	1% (Volunteer Research Participation or a TED Talk Write-up)

<u>Wiki Group Assignment</u> (20%)
For this assignment, you will contribute to the construction of a Wiki on a select Psychological Topic. For each Wiki assignment, there will be from 8-10 subtopics and 1-2 general topics. Amongst group members, you can decide which subtopic each of you will "take point" on. But all group members should provide feedback to each other to improve the overall quality of the Wiki. As well, each group member is expected to contribute meaningfully to the 1-2 general topics. Your personal contributions to the Wiki are tracked in BlackBoard. In addition, to encourage sincere effort and fair work-sharing among group members, group members are expected to complete a group-member evaluation form. If one (or more) of the group members has clearly lower ratings than the others, I will seek follow-up information. If deemed justifiable, I will lower individual group members grades accordingly and potentially substantially. Let's hope this is unnecessary.

<u>Forum-Posting Participation</u> (20%)
Forum Postings aim to facilitate thoughtful reflection on the lecture materials and readings. The Forum-Posting instructions and links will be contained in their corresponding content-specific topic folder.

Some Postings will seek your personal **opinions, reflections, or thoughts**. As long as your responses are meaningful*, you will earn the corresponding **participation points**. *One- or two-word comments or random character sequences are not meaningful responses. **Other Postings** will require **assignment-like** responses and be **graded**.

<u>Exams</u>
For the **Midterm** (5%), questions will focus on all course materials (readings, lectures, videos, etc.) covered prior to the test. As we approach the Midterm, I will identify which topics are included on it.

For the **Final Exam** (30%), questions will focus on all content covered throughout the course including lab content (aka a Comprehensive or Cumulative test).

You are expected to **arrange your schedule** to **be available for** each of the **planned exams**. To make scheduling easier for you, I have created **two time-window options** for the **Midterm**. This requires two separate, parallel test versions. Given the nature of the exam and its delivery format, **no make-up exam** will be available for the Midterm. If you have a <u>legitimate reason</u> for missing it <u>with sufficient justification</u>, I will transfer the value of the Midterm (10%) to the value of the Final Exam.

Strict university rules apply to writing exams. https://www.nipissingu.ca/about/governance/academic-senate/policies/exams .

<u>Lab</u> (Total 25%)
The lab syllabus will provide you with a detailed break-down of the lab grading system and the instructions, rules, and deadlines regarding the lab components of the course.

<u>Grade Monitoring</u>
If you notice a mistake in one of your grades, please contact the appropriate instructor. Your grades will be posted in Blackboard Grade Centre periodically. Please keep copies of your assignments until you have your official final grade.

Questions

Please check the course **Syllabi** and Blackboard (BB) resources for basic information. BB contains syllabi, readings, assignments, lecture postings, informative online resource links, and lab materials. We love to hear from you, but for basic information check the BB resources.

Please read **BB Announcements** for important information or updates.

For common questions, answers will be posted on BB.

Communications

Please join me in one of the optional weekly (Q & A) live meetings for virtual group discussions. For one-on-one virtual meetings, we can arrange a mutually convenient time. Alternatively, post questions on the relevant forum posting which allows others as well as myself to offer helpful responses. Lastly, you can email me.

Ask Questions! If you are confused about something, other students also are very likely confused.
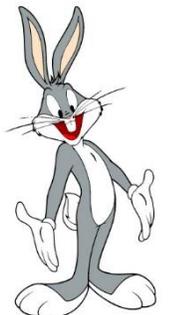
Fair Behaviour and Respect for Others

We all prefer a positive online environment that supports learning and fair evaluations. Disruptive or negative behaviour is not helpful. Please see the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities:
https://www.nipissingu.ca/departments/student-development-and-services/student-rights-responsibilities.

Lecture Schedule and Important Dates

Lecture Topic	Due Dates for Readings, *Lectures*, & *Forum Postings*	Due Dates **Wiki Project**
Syllabus & Admin		
Psychological Perspectives	Sep 18	S15 Start Wiki
Research Design	Sep 28	
BB Secure Testing Information Test Any day until Mon. Oct 23 @ 10 pm		
Neuroscience	Oct 9	O9 Prelim Wiki Drafts
Study Week	**Oct 12-16**	
Development	Oct 19	
Midterm	**Mon. Oct 26 @ 8am to Tues Oct 27 @ 8am** with 80 minutes to finish from your start time	
	(So, start no later than Tues Oct 27th at 6:40am if you wish to have the full 80 minutes.)	
Sensation & Perception	Oct 30	
Nov 6	**Last Day to withdraw from FA courses**	
Classical & Operant Conditioning	(~~Nov 9~~ -> cancelled)	N11 Wiki Feedback provided
Personality	(~~Nov 16~~ -> cancelled)	
Personality Disorders	(~~Nov 23~~ -> cancelled)	**N26 Final Wiki Due**
Developmental Disorders	(~~Nov 30~~ -> cancelled)	
Anxiety Disorders / Review	Dec 4	
Final Exam 30%	Dec **8** – 23 The specific date is set by the University.	

Your Final Exam will be given in the final examination date. You must be available for it.

Course Goals

I hope and expect that you will enjoy Psychology. But, just as importantly, I hope and expect that you will develop greater understanding and insight into the complexities of human (and animal) behaviour!

Intellectual Property

All materials developed for this course, including, but not limited to, lectures, lecture notes and slides, assignments, examinations and syllabi, that are provided in class or online, are the intellectual property of the course instructor. Posting, providing, sharing or selling unauthorized audio, video, or textual material violates an instructor's intellectual property rights, the Canadian Copyright Act, and may violate the rights and privacy of others in the classroom. Failure to follow these instructions is in contravention of the university's Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Participation in this course constitutes an agreement by all parties to respect the intellectual property and privacy of others during and after their association with Nipissing University.

Bonus Mark Instructions / Guidance

You have two options for your bonus-mark. With Option 1, sign-up to participate in a study, show up and participate. With Option 2, you complete a TED-talk write-up (see instructions below) and I grade it. If you are not sure about how to complete Option 2, please ask me for clarification. The deadline for Option 1 is the last day of classes (for the Term). The deadline for Option 2 is the Friday of the last week of classes at 6pm.

Option 1: Participate in research

You may volunteer to participate in research being carried out by Nipissing University researchers who have registered with the SONA system. Each study will have details about what participating entails and the number of credits received for participating. In this class, the maximum numbers of credits you can earn up is identified above under **Evaluation**. The credits will be added to your final grade at the end of the term.

Note: 1 credit = 1 hour of research = 1%, ½ credit = ½ hour of research = 0.5%. Research studies are accessed via an online system called SONA. **To use this system, you first must enroll yourself as a user.**

To enroll in SONA, go to:
https://nipissingu.sona-systems.com/Default.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f .

        Once there, click "**Request an account here**" located in the lower left-hand corner of the screen just below "**New Participant?**" You will then be prompted to enter some basic information about yourself. You will also be asked to submit an "**xxxxxx@community.nipissingu.ca**" email address. You MUST use your Nipissing email address for this. Once completed, you will be sent an email with password.
        When you are looking at the full list of studies that you are eligible for, simply click an study, and information will be displayed about the length of the study, what the study entails, and where the study takes place. If you choose to participate YOU MUST click on "**view available time slots,**" and **register for a timeslot that fits in your schedule**. You cannot simply show up at a time without having registered for that timeslot.

If you need to cancel the time you have signed up for, you must login to the system and cancel your time as many hours in advance as required by the particular study (often it is 24 hours but this time can differ by study so make sure to note this information when signing up). Failure to do so will be counted as a "no show." **After two "no shows," your access to the system will be blocked, and you will not be able to participate in any further studies for the remainder of the semester.**

After you sign up for a study, you will receive an email confirmation with the date, time, and location of the study. A good idea is to **write down the date, time, location of the study** and the researcher's name and email address.

<u>Option 2: TED talk Summary and Evaluation:</u>

Select a TED talk which includes psychological content compatible with the questions below. You cannot select a TED talk already included in your course materials. The TED talk must be 15 + minutes and the summary will be worth up to 1%.

For the summary, create a Title page with the **Title of the talk**, the **Presenter's name**, an **Online link** to the talk, **Your Name**, your student **ID**, the Course name (**PSYC 1107**), your **Section** (e.g., FA843), and your **submission Date**. On the second page, write a summary of the TED talk which includes:

1) a description of the main points of the talk (i.e., the take-home messages),
2) the identification of one (or more) key psychological concept(s) mentioned in the talk,
3) the identification and explanation of which concepts in the TED talk could represent predictor / independent variable(s) and outcome / dependent variable(s), and
4) a discussion linking the TED-talk ideas to a broader psychological issue/application <u>not</u> mentioned in the TED talk.

Write your summary in **sentences and paragraphs** in your own words (do not plagiarize/copy other people's summaries). This written summary must be **single-spaced** in 12-pt Times New Roman font with 2.54 cm margins and **one full-page** in **length**. If written summary is not long enough, add more detail about the TED talk (point 1) and/or expand upon your answers to point 4.

<u>Submit digital versions</u> to me on or before the due date (see above) through Blackboard. I <u>can</u> read MS Word and text-based formats, but I <u>cannot</u> read *.pages documents.