

# INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY - PSYC 1107 - Winter 2015

## Weaver Lecture Hall – B200

Mon/Wed: 12:30 pm - 1:50 pm - Sections 7 - 12

Mon/Wed: 6:30 pm - 7:50 pm - Sections 1 - 6

**Instructor:** Dr. Darren Campbell

**E-mail:** [darrenc@nipissingu.ca](mailto:darrenc@nipissingu.ca)

**Office Hours:** Wed: 2-2:30 pm & 5:45-6:15 pm

**Office:** H236

**Phone:** 705-474-3450 Ext 4524

Other meeting times: by Appointment

**Laboratory Instructor:** Stephanie Hevenor

**Email:** [stephanh@nipissingu.ca](mailto:stephanh@nipissingu.ca)

**Office Hours:** Mon. 2:30-4:30 pm

**Room:** A222D

**Voice Mail:** 705-474-3450 Ext 4400

Other meeting times: by Appointment

### Required Text & Polling Software

Passer, Smith, Atkinson, Mitchell, & Muir. (2014). *Psychology: Frontiers and Applications*, 5th Cdn Ed. Toronto, CA: McGraw-Hill Ryerson. It must include the *Poll Everywhere* Software.

### Course Objectives and Content

The purpose of this course is to broaden your understanding of Psychology as a scientific discipline.

**Lectures.** Topics will include: *language and thinking, intelligence, motivation and emotion, developmental change, social theories, personality, stress and coping, and pathological disorders and their treatment.*

By the end of the course, you will be able to:

1. identify the key characteristics of the foundational theories of psychology;
2. distinguish among contrasting psychological explanations of human and animal behaviour;
3. derive concrete implications and real-world applications of psychological theories and findings; and
4. recognise core findings in Psychology with emphasis on cognition, emotion, development, personality, social influences, stress and coping, and psychopathology.

**Labs.** The laboratory offers *small-group instruction* where students develop a concrete understanding of *the scientific method in psychology* through "*hands-on*" experiences. The labs also allow you to refine your *writing skills* on select psychology topics. Early labs focus on *design* and *statistical analysis*. These activities will help you read and understand scientific psychological articles with greater expertise.

By the end of the lab portion of the course, you will be able to:

5. demonstrate simple data analysis skills;
6. write a summary of psychological findings which will reflect your literature search skills, organizational skill (APA style), and comprehension of empirical studies.

<u>Evaluation</u>		
	Lecture Participation	10%
	Mid-Term Exam 1	15% (multiple choice)
	Mid-Term Exam 2	15% (multiple choice)
	Final Exam	30% (multiple choice)
	Lab Assignments	16% (4 assignments @ 4% each)
	Lab References Page	2%
	Lab Term Paper Outline	2%
	Lab Term Paper	10%
	Bonus (optional)	2%

## **Letter Grades**

"A" – (80-100%)      "B" – (70-79%)      "C" – (60-69%)      "D" – (50-59%)      "F" – (0-49%)

To see performance descriptions for each letter grade, see the Nipissing University link below:

<http://www.nipissingu.ca/calendar/regulations/academic/Pages/Evaluation-and-Grading-System.aspx>

*Note:* I will not round up grades. If your final score is 69.7%, your grade will be 69%. You must earn 70.0% (or higher) to get a grade of 70% (or higher).

## **Grade Monitoring**

*Keep track of your marks and save your assignments.* Grades will be posted periodically. If your posted grades do not match your own records, contact us immediately. Show us the supporting documentation (graded feedback) to get your grades corrected. Keep your records and assignments until you have your official final grade.

## **Two Midterms and a Final Exam** (60% in total)

Exam content will reflect all information presented in the textbook, lectures, and lab. The midterms will be non-cumulative, but the final exam will be cumulative.

**Midterm Exams 1 & 2.** (15% each) ~ 60-70 questions (textbook, lecture, & lab content)

*Midterm Exams must be taken in the lecture section in which the student is registered.* Attending the wrong lecture section to write the exam will result in a score of zero.

**Final Exam.** (30%) ~ 150 questions on content covered throughout the whole course (comprehensive)

Make-up exams will be permitted ONLY for medical or compassionate reasons with appropriate documentation. Make-up exam format may differ from the original. If you cannot write the make-up exam in a timely manner, you will receive a score of zero.

## **Lecture Participation** (10%)

During the lectures, you will complete lecture-related assignments and answer in-class questions. Some of these will be multiple-choice questions via *Poll Everywhere* surveys. The questions 1) demonstrate how course material can be converted into multiple-choice questions; 2) help you review of the material covered; and 3) give me feedback on how well you understand the material. Your participation mark will be based on the total number of correctly completed assignments and questions answered over the course of the term. Assignments and Polling participation must be completed during your lecture section and unregistered Polling responses will not be counted towards your mark.

## **Lab** (30%)

Your lab instructor, Stephanie, will give you detailed instructions, rules, and deadlines regarding the lab components of the course. This information also will be posted on the course website on Blackboard.

## **Class Information**

This syllabus, handouts, and the Blackboard website are important resources for course information. Check the website frequently for lecture notes, class scheduling, due-dates, etc.

## **Communications**

For quick face-to-face meetings:

Dr. Campbell: Before or after lectures (any section)

Stephanie: Before or after labs (any section)

If you wish a personal, confidential meeting, contact either myself or Stephanie to arrange a mutually convenient meeting time.

**Email and Voicemail.** We are conscientious about replying promptly. Email is preferred. If you use voice mail, make sure to enunciate your name and state your complete phone number clearly.

*Note:* There are hundreds of students in my Introduction to Psychology sections! For commonly raised questions, I will post answers on Blackboard rather than provide each person with a detailed response.

*Good Emails:* are those asking about the course content or raving about how you love the course...

*Bad Emails:* are those asking questions such as...

“What did we do in class?” → Check Blackboard lecture postings (powerpoint)

“Did I miss anything important in class?” → Yes. Of course you did!

“When is my next lab?” → Check your lab syllabus or Blackboard.

“Can I have an extension on my presentation because my goldfish died?” → No.

I need to spend my time responding to *good* questions, so I may not respond to *bad* emails.

**Ask Questions.** If you are confused about something, many other students also likely are confused.

## **Treating your Classmates and Professor with Respect: University culture**

We all prefer a positive classroom environment that supports learning. Disruptive and selfish activities, such as talking during lectures, watching videos, and engaging in social media activities are all unacceptable behaviours. These activities are distracting and unfair to your classmates who have come to class to learn.

Practice university-level learning by participating in lecture activities. Ask questions. Answer questions. Relate concepts to your own life experiences, and share your ideas in class. Class will be more interesting, you will learn more, and you will enjoy the experience!

Your Lab Syllabus provides explicit *Rules of Decorum*. I support them fully.

## **Lectures**

*Powerpoint slides of the lectures will be posted on the course website before class.* Lectures will include select textbook material, important content not in your textbook, and interactive participation activities. The slides will not include copyright materials. It is important and useful for you to attend the lectures. They will help guide your reading and understanding of the course materials.

## **My Goal**

I hope that you will finish this course with a greater understanding, better insight, and a more thorough appreciation of people. I also hope that you will enjoy this course.

## Tentative Lecture Schedule and Important Dates

<u>Date</u>	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Lecture</u>
Jan 12	Syllabus	Administration/ Introduction	1
Jan 14	Chapter 9	Language & Thinking	2
Jan 19		Language & Thinking	3
Jan 21	Chapter 10	Intelligence	4
Jan 25	<i>Last Day to Register for WI courses</i>		
Jan 26		Intelligence	5
Jan 28	Chapter 11	Motivation & Emotion	6
Feb 2		Motivation & Emotion	7
Feb 4		Finish & Review	8
Feb 9	<b>Midterm 1</b>	<b>Worth 15%</b>	9
Feb 11	Chapter 12	Developmental	10
Feb 16-20	<i>Family Day &amp; Study Week</i>		
Feb 23		Developmental	11
Feb 25	Chapter 13	Social Psychology	12
Mar 2		Social Psychology	13
Mar 4	Chapter 14	Personality	14
Mar 9		Personality	15
Mar 11		Finish & Review	16
Mar 12	<i>Last Day to withdraw from WI courses</i>		
Mar 16	<b>Midterm 2</b>	<b>Worth 15%</b>	17
Mar 18	Chapter 15	Stress / Health / Coping	18
Mar 23		Stress / Health / Coping	19
Mar 25	Chapter 16	Psychological Disorders	20
Mar 30		Psychological Disorders	21
Apr 1	Chapter 17	Psychological Treatments	22
Apr 6	<i>Easter Monday – University Closed</i>		
Apr 8		Psychological Treatments	23
Apr 13		Finish & Summarize	24
Apr 16--	<i>Final Examination Period</i>	<b>Final Exam 30%</b>	

**Your Final Exam will be given in the final examination period, and you must be available for it.**

### Extra Credit Options

You have an opportunity to earn extra course credits (maximum of 2%). The extra credits will be added to your final grade. There are two ways to earn extra credits (see below). *Option 1* research credits must be completed on or before **Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015**. *Option 2* assignment credits must be completed on or before **Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015**. You can use a combination of both options, but you can earn **no more than 2% extra credit**.

**Option 1: Participation in research.** You may volunteer to participate in research experiments carried out by members of the Faculty at Nipissing University. Each experiment will have details about what it entails along with how many credits you will receive for participating. You can earn up to a maximum of 2% extra credit which will be added to your final grade. **Please note: 1 credit = 1 hour of research participation = 1%, and 0.5 credits = 0.5 hours of research credit = 0.5%.** If you participate in two hours of research as a participant, you can earn 2% in bonus marks.

Research experiments can be accessed via an online system called SONA. To use this system, you must enroll yourself as a user.

Go to: <https://nipissingu.sona-systems.com/Default.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f>

**Instructions.** 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 also will be asked to submit your "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 list of experiments for which you are eligible, simply click an experiment, 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 into your schedule. *You cannot simply show up at a time without having registered for that timeslot.* If you need to cancel your appointment, you must login to the system and cancel. This cancellation has to be completed as many hours in advance as required by the particular experiment (often it is 24 hours, but this time can differ by experiment, so make sure to note this information when you sign 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 experiments for the remainder of the semester.**

When you sign up for an experiment, you will receive an email confirmation with the date, time, and location of the experiment. *Write down the date, time, location of the experiment and the experimenter's name and email address.*

**Option 2: View and summarize TED talks.** You may select one or more of the TED talks below to view. Then you must write, in sentences and paragraph format, a single-spaced, full-page summary (single-spaced, 12-point font, 1" margins).

In your summary, you must:

- 1) describe the main points of the talk (i.e., the take-home messages),
- 2) identify the theoretical perspective(s) that underlie the talk (e.g., cognitive, behavioural, evolutionary),
- 3) identify which section of the textbook reviews the topic covered in the talk, and
- 4a) If the TED talk take-home message is the same as that of the textbook information, describe how the TED talk exemplifies (illustrates) the textbook message.
- 4b) If the TED talk take-home message differs from that of the textbook, describe how it differs. Are the findings and interpretation complementary or contradictory to that described in the textbook and how so?

Each summary will be worth 0.5 or 1% (depending on the length of the video). You can earn up to 2% in bonus marks using this option. The marks will be added to your final grade.

1% [http://www.ted.com/talks/amy\\_cuddy\\_your\\_body\\_language\\_shapes\\_who\\_you\\_are.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/amy_cuddy_your_body_language_shapes_who_you_are.html)

1% [http://www.ted.com/talks/brene\\_brown\\_on\\_vulnerability](http://www.ted.com/talks/brene_brown_on_vulnerability)

1% [http://www.ted.com/talks/alison\\_gopnik\\_what\\_do\\_babies\\_think.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/alison_gopnik_what_do_babies_think.html)

1% [http://www.ted.com/talks/frans\\_de\\_waal\\_do\\_animals\\_have\\_morals.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/frans_de_waal_do_animals_have_morals.html)

1% [http://www.ted.com/talks/tali\\_sharot\\_the\\_optimism\\_bias.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/tali_sharot_the_optimism_bias.html)

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