

SYLLABUS

PSYC 458

Neurobiology of Socio-Emotional Development in Adolescence
Winter 2026

The instructor's contact information and office hours, as well as information about class meeting times and locations, can be found in OnQ (on the course home page).

1. Land acknowledgment

Queen's University is situated on traditional Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Territory. To acknowledge this traditional territory is to recognize its longer history, one predating the establishment of the earliest European colonies. It is also to acknowledge this territory's significance for the Indigenous peoples who lived, and continue to live, upon it – people whose practices and spiritualities were tied to the land and continue to develop in relationship to the territory and its other inhabitants today.

2. Course description

Adolescence is a developmental stage characterized by drastic changes in body, brain, and behaviour. Such changes influence how teenagers perceive and interpret their social environments, how they navigate their emotional experiences, and how they behave in social contexts. This course will examine how developmental neuroscience research has informed our knowledge of social and emotional development in adolescence. We will discuss the models and methods that have been used to describe and assess various aspects of teenagers' lived experience. Lastly, we will discuss whether and how findings from research on adolescence can inform policies and interventions geared towards youth.

3. Learning outcomes

In this course, you will learn to:

1. Investigate the interrelated changes in brain structure/function, social behaviour, and emotional processing that occur during adolescence;
2. Appraise strengths and weaknesses of models and methods used to understand social and emotional development in adolescence;
3. Propose strategies for leveraging knowledge about adolescent development to inform policies, programs, and interventions concerning youth;
4. Practice competencies in critical thinking and experimental research design.

These learning outcomes (LOs) will be assessed through evaluation of:

- Your conceptual understanding of the material, via weekly quizzes (20%; LO 1-4);
- Your ability to describe, critique, and expand on the material, via discussion posts (50%; LO 1, 2, and 4);
- Your ability to synthesize and apply the material, via a take-home essay exam (30%; LO 3 and 4).

Acquiring knowledge about developmental neuroscience findings, developing critical thinking skills, and practicing your capacity to apply your knowledge to propose concrete real-world solutions will likely transfer to other aspects of your life. For instance, these are all skills that are highly valued in careers in health services, psychological intervention, academia, education, and social policy, amongst others.

4. Course materials and timeline

Week	Topic	Readings #	Activity (if applicable)	Assessment
WEEK 1 Jan 6 & Jan 8	Introduction: Adolescence	A: 1		W1 Quiz
WEEK 2 Jan 13 & Jan 15	Hormonal and structural brain maturation	A: 2 B: 3		W2 Quiz
WEEK 3 Jan 20 & Jan 22	Functional brain maturation	A: 4 B: 5, 6		W3 Quiz
WEEK 4 Jan 27 & Jan 29	Social re-orientation	A: 7 B: 8		W4 Quiz
WEEK 5 Feb 3 & Feb 5	Risk-taking	A: 9 B: 10	<u>Activity 1:</u> Questionnaire	W5 Quiz Discussion post 1
WEEK 6 Feb 10 & Feb 12	Reward sensitivity	A: 11 B: 12	<u>Activity 2:</u> BART	W6 Quiz Discussion post 2
Reading Week				
WEEK 7 Feb 24 & Feb 26	Emotion sensitivity	A: 13 B: 14	<u>Activity 3:</u> Dot probe	W7 Quiz Discussion post 3
WEEK 8 Mar 3 & Mar 5	Social cognition	A: 15 B: 16	<u>Activity 4:</u> Emotion recognition	W8 Quiz Discussion post 4
WEEK 9 Mar 10 & Mar 12	Peer influences on behaviour	A: 17 B: 18	<u>Activity 5:</u> Cyberball	W9 Quiz Discussion post 5
WEEK 10 Mar 17 & Mar 19	Risk for psychopathology	A: 19 B: 20	<u>Activity 6:</u> Chatroom	W10 Quiz Discussion post 6
WEEK 11 Mar 24 & Mar 26	Identity formation	A: 21 B: 22		W11 Quiz
WEEK 12 Mar 31 & Apr 2	Policies & interventions	A: 23 B: 24, 25		W12 Quiz
EXAM PERIOD				Take-home exam

Weekly schedule

We will meet twice weekly (Tuesdays and Thursdays). On Tuesdays, we will cover foundational content materials and discuss 'A' readings; on Thursdays, we will recap the weekly quiz, discuss 'B' readings, and complete an in-class group activity. Please come prepared to discuss 'A' readings on Tuesdays, and 'B' readings on Thursdays. We will be engaging with the materials during class, and the pedagogical experience is better for all when folks come prepared.

You will be asked to complete weekly quizzes in OnQ (see more info below and in section 5). These are due by Wednesday 5pm every week, to allow me time to compile responses before class on Thursday. When applicable (Weeks 5-10), discussion posts about the in-class activity (see more info below and in section 5) are due by Friday 5pm every week.

Your weekly tasks

Before Tuesday's class:

By Wednesday 5pm (Weeks 1-12):

By Friday 5pm (Weeks 5-10):

Complete the 'A' reading

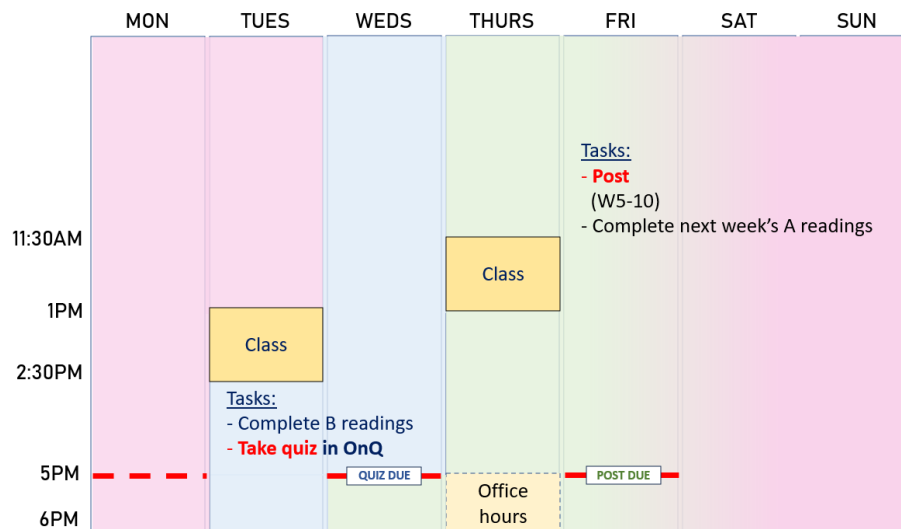
Complete the 'B' reading(s)

Take weekly quiz (in OnQ)

Submit discussion post about in-class activity

There may be a time when you are unable to complete a quiz/discussion post for personal reasons. This course has been designed with flexibility in mind.

- ❖ You may drop 2 of 12 quizzes automatically.
- ❖ You may drop 1 of 6 discussion posts automatically.
- ❖ Should you be experiencing extenuating circumstances, the deadline for discussion posts can be automatically extended by a **72-hour** grace period. This approach is part of Universal Design and is offered in good faith; this means that you do not need to email me or connect with Academic Considerations/Queen’s Student Accommodation Services (QSAS). ***The hard deadline for discussion posts is therefore Monday 5pm (after the Thursday 5pm deadlines).*** Posts submitted after the hard deadline will not be considered (and will receive a grade of 0). If you need a longer extension and have supporting documentation (e.g., academic considerations for >72 hours or accommodations letter), please email Tara (psyc.accom@queensu.ca) to make arrangements *before the hard deadline*.



Red lines represent deadlines (dashed line = hard deadline after 72-hour grace period). *The walk-through of all the tasks you should complete will also be posted each week in OnQ as a reminder.*

Reading list

There is no textbook in this class. Instead, you will be asked to read 1-3 articles each week. One of these articles will be a review paper providing an overview of the week’s topic or introducing a model of adolescent development. The other paper(s) are experimental paper(s) providing an example of a research study examining the topic in question. You do not need to memorize any details in these papers: the goal is for you to read it closely enough to have a good conceptual understanding of the material. We will be discussing these articles more in class. The quizzes will also assess your understanding and prompt you to think critically about the articles. Lastly, these papers will help you craft discussion posts (when applicable) and will inform the material you present in your take-home essay exam. *Links to readings will be provided in OnQ. You can use your Queen’s NetID to access them through the library.*

Week 1:

1. Dahl, R.E., Allen, N.B., Wilbrecht, L., & Suleiman, A.B. (2018). Importance of investing in adolescence from a developmental science perspective. *Nature*, 554, 441-450.

Week 2:

2. Peper, J.S., & Dahl, R.E. (2013). The teenage brain: Surging hormones--brain-behavior interactions during puberty. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 22(2), 134-139.
3. Shaw, P., Noor, J.K., Lerch, J.P., Eckstrand, K., Lenroot, R., Gogtay, N., Greenstein, D., Clasen, L., Evans, A., Rapoport, J.L., Giedd, J.N., & Wise, S.P. (2008). Neurodevelopmental trajectories of the human cerebral cortex. *The Journal of Neuroscience*, 28(14), 3586-3594.

Week 3:

4. Dai, J., & Scherf, S. (2019). Puberty and functional brain development in humans: Convergence in findings? *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience, 39*, 100690.
5. Fair, D.A., Cohen, A.L., Dosenbach, N.U.F., Church, J.A., Miezin, F.M., Barch, D.M., Raichle, M.E., Petersen, S.E., & Schlaggar, B.L. (2008). The maturing architecture of the brain's default network. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, 105*(10), 4028-4032.
6. Klapwijk, E.T., Goddings, A.-L., Burnett Heyes, S., Bird, G., Viner, R.M., & Blakemore, S.-J. (2013). Increased functional connectivity with puberty in the mentalising network involved in social emotion processing. *Hormones and Behavior, 64*(2), 314-322.

Week 4:

7. Nelson, E.E., Leibenluft, E., McClure, E.B., & Pine, D.S. (2005). The social re-orientation of adolescence: a neuroscience perspective on the process and its relation to psychopathology. *Psychological Medicine, 35*, 163-174.
8. Gee, D.G., Gabard-Durnam, L., Telzer, E.H., Humphreys, K.L., Goff, B., Shapiro, M., Flannery, J., Lumian, D.S., Fareri, D.S., Caldera, C., & Tottenham, N. (2014). Maternal buffering of human amygdala-prefrontal circuitry during childhood but not during adolescence. *Psychological Science, 25*(11), 2067-2078.

Week 5:

9. Shulman, E.P., Smith, A.R., Silva, K., Icenogle, G., Duell, N., Chein, J., & Steinberg, L. (2016). The dual systems model: Review, reappraisal, and reaffirmation. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience, 17*, 103-117.
10. Mills, K.L., Goddings, A.-L., Clasen, L.S., Giedd, J.N., & Blakemore, S.-J. (2014). The developmental mismatch in structural brain maturation during adolescence. *Developmental Neuroscience, 36*, 147-160.

Week 6:

11. Galván, A. (2010). Adolescent development of the reward system. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience, 4*, 1-9.
12. Braams, B.R., van Duijvenvoorde, A.C.K., Peper, J.S., & Crone, E.A. (2015). Longitudinal changes in adolescent risk-taking: A comprehensive study of neural responses to rewards, pubertal development, and risk-taking behavior. *Journal of Neuroscience, 35*(18), 7226-7238.

Week 7:

13. Somerville, L.H., Jones, R.M., & Casey, B.J. (2010). A time of change: behavioral and neural correlates of adolescent sensitivity to appetitive and aversive environmental cues. *Brain and Cognition, 72*(1), 124-133.
14. Guyer, A.E., Monk, C.S., McClure-Tone, E.B., Nelson, E.E., Roberson-Nay, R., Adler, A.D., Fromm, S.J., Leibenluft, E., Pine, D.S., & Ernst, M. (2008). A developmental examination of amygdala response to facial expressions. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience, 20*(9), 1565-1582.

Week 8:

15. Kilford, E.J., Garrett, E., & Blakemore, S.-J. (2016). The development of social cognition in adolescence: An integrated perspective. *Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews, 70*, 106-120.
16. Sebastian, C.L., Fontaine, N.M.G., Bird, G., Blakemore, S.-J., De Brito, S.A., McCrory, E.J.P., & Viding, E. (2012). Neural processing associated with cognitive and affective Theory of Mind in adolescents and adults. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience, 7*(1), 53-63.

Week 9:

17. Schriber, R.A., & Guyer, A.E. (2016). Adolescent neurobiological susceptibility to social context. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience, 19*, 1-18.
18. Falk, E.B., Cascio, C.N., Brook O'Donnell, M., Carp, J., Tinney, F.J., Bingham, C.R., Shope, J.T., Ouimet, M.C., Pradhan, A.K., & Simons-Morton, B.G. (2014). Neural responses to exclusion predict susceptibility to social influence. *Journal of Adolescent Health, 54*, 22-31.

Week 10:

19. Paus, T., Keshavan, M., & Giedd, J.N. (2008). Why do many psychiatric disorders emerge during adolescence? *Nature Reviews Neuroscience, 9*, 947-957.
20. Silk, J.S., Siegle, G.J., Hwa Lee, K., Nelson, E.E., Stroud, L.R., & Dahl, R.E. (2014). Increased neural response to peer rejection associated with adolescent depression and pubertal development. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience, 9*(11), 1798-1807.

Week 11:

21. Pfeifer, J.H., & Peake, S.J. (2012). Self-development: Integrating cognitive, socioemotional, and neuroimaging perspectives. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience, 2*(1), 55-69.

22. Guassi Moreira, J.F., Van Bavel, J.J., & Telzer, E.H. (2017). The neural development of 'us and them'. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, 12(2), 184-196.

Week 12:

23. Suleiman, A.B., & Dahl, R.E. (2017). Leveraging neuroscience to inform adolescent health: The need for an innovative transdisciplinary developmental science of adolescence. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 60(3), 240-248.
24. Steinberg, L. (2009). Adolescent development and juvenile justice. *Annual Review of Clinical Psychology*, 5, 459-485.
25. Qu, Y., Jorgensen, N.A., & Telzer, E.H. (2021). A call for greater attention to culture in the study of brain and development. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 16(2), 1-11.

5. Grading scheme and grading method

Assessments	% of grade	Due date
Weekly quizzes	20%	Every Wednesday 5pm (drop 2 of 12)
Discussion posts	50%	Friday 5pm in Weeks 5-10 (drop 1 of 6)
Take-home exam	30%	During exam period (see OnQ for due date)

Weekly quizzes (20%):

There will be 12 quizzes (one each week) worth 2% each. Your best 10 quizzes will count towards your grade; you can drop 2 quizzes automatically. Quizzes are open-book and completed in OnQ.

Completing these quizzes (minimum of 10) is considered an *essential component* of this course. The quizzes allow for a formative evaluation of your knowledge and critical understanding of key concepts, methodologies, and theories (consistent with degree-level expectations).

Discussion board posts (50%):

We will complete in-class group activities throughout the semester (see section 4 above). Following this in Weeks 5-10, you will be asked to write a discussion post and share it with your peers in OnQ. Posts will center on the task/measure presented in the activity. To guide the content of your post, you will be asked to play one of following 6 “roles” in your response.

Discussion post “roles”	
Leader	Your post should 1) provide a description of the task demands (and its different conditions, if appropriate), and 2) discuss the task’s use and what it is purported to measure.
Historian	Your post should 1) briefly describe how the task was developed and initially used, drawing upon relevant literature, and 2) speculate about whether (and how) it should be adapted to be relevant to the lives of teenagers today.
Researcher	Your post should 1) present an article that uses this task or a similar task, and 2) briefly describe that article’s research question, hypotheses, methods used, and results. The article should not be part of the course readings.
Theorist	Your post should 1) identify the construct measured by the task, and 2) determine whether (and how) this construct has been found to change across adolescence, drawing upon relevant literature.
Technician	Your post should 1) present evidence for the reliability and validity of the task (or similar tasks), drawing upon relevant literature, and 2) discuss how limitations on the reliability and validity of the task, if applicable, affect interpretation of results of studies that use this task.

Developer	Your post should 1) identify a weakness in the task, and 2) propose a way to improve the task, so that it better measures the construct it is assessing, drawing upon relevant literature.
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Posts should be 350 words max. You should play each “role” once in the semester. You will be able to schedule when you want to play each role, via OnQ. Rubrics for the evaluation of these posts will be posted to OnQ. Each post is worth 10%. Your 5 best posts will count towards your grade; you can drop 1 post automatically.

Completing these discussion posts (minimum of 5) is considered an *essential component* of this course. They are designed to evaluate your ability to describe current research, review, present, and critically evaluate information about the field, and communicate these in writing (consistent with degree-level expectations).

Take-home exam (30%):

The take-home exam will be in essay format. You will have one week to complete the open-book exam. Instructions and deadlines will be provided in Week 12.

Completing the final exam is deemed an *essential component* of this course, as it allows for a summative evaluation of your knowledge and critical understanding of key concepts, methodologies, and theories (consistent with degree-level expectations).

Note on GenAI: The assignments in this course and the feedback you will receive are designed to help enhance the clarity of your writing and your capacity to craft compelling written arguments. The use of generative AI does not allow you to obtain the required practice to hone these skills. Therefore, the use of generative AI tools is **NOT** permitted for any part of student work in this course. Submitting AI-generated content constitutes a departure from academic integrity as defined by university Academic Integrity procedures (see Academic Integrity section).

Attendance

You may notice that there are no marks for participation. You are expected to attend class every week and engage in the discussion. Due to the nature of this class, I cannot facilitate a hybrid course. Students cannot attend class meetings online.

If you are ill or have been instructed to isolate/quarantine, **do not come to class**. The quiz and post assessments have been designed such that they can be completed despite occasional absences. Moreover, you have the option to drop 2 quizzes and/or 1 post throughout the semester. However, due to the nature of the course, classes will not be recorded. When applicable, slides will be made available in OnQ; you may also identify a classmate who can share their notes with you, in the event you need to miss class.

Grading policy

Quiz scores will be posted by Thursday’s class each week. Discussion posts will be graded within 7 business days. If you feel the grade you have received does not reflect the work you turned in, you may ask for your assignment to be graded again **by providing written justification within 3 days of receiving your mark**. You must explain, in detail, why you think your grade should be adjusted, based on the rubric guidelines posted in onQ. If your assignment is regraded, understand that your grade may be higher or lower than your first mark, or stay the same. The second grade is final.

Grading method

In this course, some components will be graded using numerical percentage marks. Other components will receive letter grades, which for purposes of calculating your course average will be translated into

numerical equivalents using the Faculty of Arts and Science approved scale. Your course average will then be converted to a final letter grade according to Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale (see next page). Final numeric grades will be rounded to the nearest integer before being converted to a letter grade. This policy will be applied equally to all students.

Arts & Science Letter Grade Input Scheme

Assignment mark	Numerical value for calculation of final mark
A+	93
A	87
A-	82
B+	78
B	75
B-	72
C+	68
C	65
C-	62
D+	58
D	55
D-	52
F48 (F+)	48
F24 (F)	24
F0 (O)	0

Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale

Grade	Numerical Course Average (Range)
A+	90-100
A	85-89
A-	80-84
B+	77-79
B	73-76
B-	70-72
C+	67-69
C	63-66
C-	60-62
D+	57-59
D	53-56
D-	50-52
F	49 and below

6. Accommodations for disabilities

Queen's University is committed to working with students with disabilities to remove barriers to their academic goals. Queen's Student Accessibility Services (QSAS), students with disabilities, instructors, and faculty staff work together to provide and implement academic accommodations designed to allow students with disabilities equitable access to all course material (including in-class as well as exams). If you are a student currently experiencing barriers to your academics due to disability related reasons, and you would like to understand whether academic accommodations could support the removal of those barriers, please visit the [QSAS website](#) to learn more about academic accommodations or start the registration process with QSAS by clicking **Access Ventus** button at [Ventus | Accessibility Services | Queen's \(queensu.ca\)](#). VENTUS is an online portal that connects students, instructors, Queen's Student Accessibility Services, the Exam's Office and other support services in the process to request, assess, and implement academic accommodations. To learn more, go to: <https://www.queensu.ca/ventus-support/students/visual-guide-ventus-students>.

If you have any questions regarding the implementation of your accommodations in this course, please contact Tara Karasewich (Accommodations Assistant) at the following e-mail: psy.accom@queensu.ca.

If you have supporting documentation for accommodations (e.g., letter from QSAS), please ensure you are registered in Ventus as soon as possible. If you have accessibility needs that it would be helpful for me to know about, please let Tara and I know in advance/as relevant so that we can best support your success in the course.

7. Academic considerations for students in extenuating circumstances

Academic Consideration is a process for the University community to provide a compassionate response to assist students experiencing unforeseen, short-term extenuating circumstances that may impact or

impede a student's ability to complete their academics. This may include but is not limited to any extenuating circumstance (illness, bereavement, traumatic event, injury, family emergency, etc.) which is short-lived, begins within the term, and will not last longer than 12 weeks - see [Academic Consideration](https://www.queensu.ca/artsci/undergraduate/student-services/academic-consideration) webpage for details (<https://www.queensu.ca/artsci/undergraduate/student-services/academic-consideration>).

Each Faculty has developed a protocol to provide a consistent and equitable approach in dealing with requests for academic consideration for students facing extenuating circumstances. For more information, undergraduate students in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences should consult the Faculty's webpage on [Academic Consideration in Extenuating Circumstances](#) and submit a request via the [Academic Consideration Request Portal](#). Students in other Faculties and Schools who are enrolled in this course should refer to the protocol for their home Faculty.

Students are encouraged to submit requests as soon as the need becomes apparent and to contact their instructor and/or course coordinator as soon as possible once academic consideration has been granted. Any delay in contact may limit the options available for academic consideration. While we encourage instructors to accommodate, each instructor has discretion in deciding whether or how to apply the Academic Consideration. For more information on the Academic Consideration process, what is and is not an extenuating circumstance, and to submit an Academic Consideration request, please see the Faculty of Arts and Science's [Academic Consideration website](#).

If you need to request academic consideration for this course, you will be required to provide the name and email address of the instructor/coordinator. Please use the following contact information:

Instructor/Course Coordinator Name: Tara Karasewich

Instructor/Course Coordinator email address: psyc.accom@queensu.ca

8. Statement for students travelling abroad

If you plan to travel, it is strongly recommended that you confirm Internet availability in your host country prior to departure. In the past, students in other countries have been blocked from accessing certain websites relevant to their courses, as well as onQ. It is the responsibility of all students to book travel around course work, as the format or timing on assessments cannot be changed for travel plans.

9. Academic support

All undergraduate students face new learning and writing challenges as they progress through university. Students can contact Student Academic Success Services (SASS) for support in the following areas:

- Free online or in-person [appointments](#) to get personalized support on writing and academic skills from expert staff and trained peers.
- [Workshops](#) and [drop-in programs](#).
- [Online resources](#) that provide strategies for academic skills and writing development.
- If English is not your first language, SASS has specific resources for [English as Additional Language students](#), including weekly programs and EAL academic skills appointments. You can meet on an ongoing basis with an EAL consultant to work on your academic writing, speaking, listening, and reading skills.

10. Academic integrity

Queen's students, faculty, administrators and staff all have responsibilities for upholding the fundamental values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage (see www.academicintegrity.org). These values are central to the building, nurturing, and sustaining of an

academic community in which all members of the community will thrive. Adherence to the values expressed through academic integrity forms a foundation for the "freedom of inquiry and exchange of ideas" essential to the intellectual life of the University.

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with and adhering to the Senate [regulations concerning academic integrity](#), along with [Faculty or School specific information](#). Departures from academic integrity include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, use of unauthorized materials, facilitation, forgery and falsification. Actions which contravene the regulation on academic integrity carry sanctions that can range from a warning or the loss of grades on an assignment to the failure of a course to a requirement to withdraw from the university. Here are some examples of departures from academic integrity:

<p>Plagiarism Presenting another's ideas or phrasings as one's own without proper acknowledgement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Copying and pasting from the internet, a printed source, or other resource without proper acknowledgement - Copying from another student - Using direct quotations or large sections of paraphrased material in an assignment without appropriate acknowledgement - Submitting the same piece of work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s)
<p>Use of unauthorized materials</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Possessing or using unauthorized study materials or aids during a test - Copying from another's paper - Unauthorized removal of materials from the library, or deliberate concealment of library materials
<p>Facilitation Enabling another's breach of academic integrity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Making information available to another student - Knowingly allowing one's essay or assignment to be copied by someone else - Buying or selling of term papers or assignments and submitting them as one's own for the purpose of plagiarism
<p>Forgery Submitting counterfeit documents or statements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creating a transcript or other official document
<p>Falsification Misrepresentation of one's self, one's work or one's relation to the University</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Altering transcripts or other official documents relating to student records - Impersonating someone in an examination or test - Submitting a take-home examination written, in whole or in part, by someone else or by generative AI - Fabricating or falsifying laboratory or research data

Queen's [Student Academic Success Services](#) (SASS) offers a **self-directed, online academic integrity module** which we encourage all students to take which will help with:

- Understanding the nature of the academic integrity departure
- Understanding the expectations of and role of sources in scholarly writing
- Integrating sources into your writing (paraphrasing, quoting, summarizing)
- Understanding when and how to cite your sources
- Managing your time effectively to avoid the need for shortcuts
- Taking effective notes to ensure accuracy of source material and correct attribution

Acknowledging sources: Make sure you are citing sources adequately. APA style is preferred (for a helpful primer on APA style, see: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_style_introduction.html)

These websites can help you make sure that you are able to write things in your own words:

- <https://www.queensu.ca/academicintegrity/students/avoiding-plagiarismcheating>
- <https://integrity.mit.edu/handbook/academic-writing/avoiding-plagiarism-paraphrasing>
- http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/QPA_paraphrase.html

Group work: You are permitted to work with a partner or in groups to encourage collaboration, cooperation, and collective learning on in-class activities and discussion posts. You are not permitted to share quiz answers among peers or as a tutorial group. You must work independently on quizzes and the take-home exam. You must not share or post quiz questions or answers with anyone, in or out of the course.

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools: The use of generative AI tools is not permitted for any part of student work in this course. Submitting AI-generated content constitutes a departure from academic integrity as defined by university Academic Integrity procedures.

Turnitin: This course makes use of Turnitin, a third-party application that helps maintain standards of excellence in academic integrity. Normally, students will be required to submit their course assignments through onQ to Turnitin. In doing so, students' work will be included as source documents in the Turnitin reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarized text in this course. Data from submissions is also collected and analyzed by Turnitin for detecting Artificial Intelligence (AI)-generated text. These results are not reported to your instructor at this time but could be in the future.

Turnitin is a suite of tools that provide instructors with information about the authenticity of submitted work and facilitates the process of grading. The similarity report generated after an assignment file is submitted produces a similarity score for each assignment. A similarity score is the percentage of writing that is similar to content found on the internet or the Turnitin extensive database of content. Turnitin does not determine if an instance of plagiarism has occurred. Instead, it gives instructors the information they need to determine the authenticity of work as a part of a larger process.

Please read Turnitin's [Privacy Policy](#), [Acceptable Use Policy](#) and [End-User License Agreement](#), which govern users' relationship with Turnitin. Also, please note that Turnitin uses cookies and other tracking technologies; however, in its service contract with Queen's Turnitin has agreed that neither Turnitin nor its third-party partners will use data collected through cookies or other tracking technologies for marketing or advertising purposes. For further information about how you can exercise control over cookies, see [Turnitin's Privacy Policy](#).

Turnitin may provide other services that are not connected to the purpose for which Queen's University has engaged Turnitin. Your independent use of Turnitin's other services is subject solely to Turnitin's Terms of Service and Privacy Policy, and Queen's University has no liability for any independent interaction you choose to have with Turnitin. (*Portions of this section have been adapted, with permission, from the University of Toronto Centre for Teaching Support and Innovation tip sheet "[Turnitin: An Electronic Resource to Deter Plagiarism](#)".*)

11. Privacy statement regarding external website

This course makes use of external websites, such as lab.js.org, for the delivery of course activities. Your independent use of these sites, *beyond what is required for the course* (for example, purchasing the company's products), is subject to each website's terms of use and privacy policy. You are encouraged to review these documents before using the sites.

12. Discussion etiquette

In addition to discussion posts that are assessed as part of your grade, you may want to start new discussion threads to ask questions, reflect on the material, and exchange ideas with your fellow students. **Please use meaningful titles for your discussion board posts** (e.g., “question about X” rather than “question”), so that others in the class may navigate the forums easily. In addition, please be courteous in your exchanges with others online and in person. Each student brings a different lived experience from which to draw upon. To help one another learn the most we can from this experience, please consider the following guidelines:

1. Make a personal commitment to learn about, understand, and support your peers.
2. Assume the best of others and expect the best of them.
3. Acknowledge the impact of oppression on the lives of other people and make sure your writing is respectful and inclusive.
4. Recognize and value the experiences, abilities, and knowledge each person brings.
5. Pay close attention to what your peers write before you respond. Think through and re-read your writings before you post or send them to others.
6. It’s OK to disagree with ideas, but do not make personal attacks.
7. Be open to being challenged or confronted on your ideas and to challenging others with the intent of facilitating growth. Do not demean or embarrass others.
8. Encourage others to develop and share their ideas.

13. General course technology requirements

For technology support ranging from setting up your device, issues with onQ to installing software, contact ITS Support Centre: <https://www.queensu.ca/its/itsc>

Web browsers: onQ performs best when using the most recent version of the web browsers Chrome or Firefox. Safari and Edge are strongly discouraged as these web browsers cause issues with onQ.

14. Copyright of course materials

Course materials created by the course instructor, including all slides, presentations, handouts, tests, exams, and other similar course materials, are the intellectual property of the instructor. It is a departure from academic integrity to distribute, publicly post, sell or otherwise disseminate an instructor’s course materials or to provide an instructor’s course materials to anyone else for distribution, posting, sale or other means of dissemination, without the instructor’s *express consent*. A student who engages in such conduct may be subject to penalty for a departure from academic integrity and may also face adverse legal consequences for infringement of intellectual property rights. Third party copyrighted materials (such as book chapters and articles) have either been licensed for use in this course or fall under an exception or limitation in Canadian Copyright law. Copying this material for distribution (e.g. uploading material to a commercial third-party website) can lead to a violation of Copyright law. Find out more about copyright here: <http://library.queensu.ca/copyright>