



Fall Winter 2012/13

Read Me First

PSYC 100/6.0 PRINCIPLES OF PSYCHOLOGY - DISTANCE COURSE

TERM DATES AND EXAM

Fall Winter Term: September 10, 2011 – April 5, 2012

Final Examination Period: April 11 – 27, 2012

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Welcome to the fascinating world of psychology, the science of behaviour and the mind. The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the broad range of topics that we study in the field of psychology, including perception, cognition, learning and motivation and their biological bases. Also reviewed are child development, individual differences, social psychology and abnormal (clinical) psychology. In the process you will hopefully gain some insight into what makes people think, feel, and behave the way that they do. This course is **not** intended to help you solve behavioural or emotional problems requiring professional attention.

The course is based on a blended model where on-line learning is supplemented with small-group discussion conducted over the web.

METHOD OF DELIVERY

Online through the Moodle e-learning environment. (<http://moodle.queensu.ca>)

Updates concerning your correspondence course will be sent to your Queen's NetID account.

There is no printed course guide for this course. Students will obtain their course notes and assignments from the course Moodle site.

The Moodle course site will have full up-to-date details.

The email address associated with this course is PSYC100D@queensu.ca

Please **only use this email, do not email any of the TAs directly.**

COURSE COMPONENTS

Each module in this course consists of several components. The student is expected to:

- 1) Study the assigned lecture notes and weekly online lessons available through the Moodle e-learning environment (<http://moodle.queensu.ca>). If you have purchased a used textbook, you need to also purchase a Media Card from the Bookstore to gain access to the online lessons (This normally is free, bundled with new textbooks). You will first have to register your access code: See 'Pearson Help' on Moodle for instructions.
- 2) Weekly textbook readings and other required readings. Details will be posted weekly on Moodle, on the Weekly Checklist (under each week).
- 3) Review the posted lectures
- 4) Complete online quizzes
- 5) Attend and participate in one to two online discussions per module
- 6) Write one to two assignments per module that are linked to the online discussions.

Unlike other distance courses you may have taken, this is not a self-paced course. There is an online component to this course, in the form of discussions and quizzes, that must be completed within specific timeframes. We have included these components to help you keep up with the reading, and to promote deeper thinking and better learning through working with your classmates.

The discussions and quizzes require your active participation on particular dates throughout the year. We expect that you will be available via high speed internet on these key dates (listed below) These are the weeks of the 12 Quizzes, and the seven Tutorial/Discussions. You have a two-week period to complete each quiz, and a five-day period to participate in each Tutorial/Discussion. In the schedule below, weeks with quizzes are shaded, and weeks with Tutorials/ Discussions have a YES in the corresponding column. Please see the below sections entitled "Quiz and Exam Information" and "Tutorial and Assignment Information" to learn more about the expectations.

EXPECTED TIME COMMITMENT

| | | |
|------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Reading/reviewing the Text | 3 hours every week |
| | Completing/reviewing online lessons | 3 hours every week |
| week | Discussion participation | 2 hours approximately every third |
| week | Assignment write up | 4 hours approximately every third |
| | Lecture | 1 hour every week |
| | Quiz | 30 minutes every 2 weeks |

Total:

Approximately 9 hours per week

ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

There are 4 assessment components.

- 1) Average of 10 highest marks
out of 12 participation quizzes: 10%
 - 2) 7 Assignments: 35%
 - 3) 7 Weeks of Tutorial/Discussion Participation: 15%
 - 4) Final 3-hour examination (April 2013): 40%
- (Students must write and pass the final exam to pass the course.)

Note. The late penalty for assignments is 0.5 marks (out of 5) for each day late. Assignments that are more than 1 week late will not be accepted and/or marked unless documentation is provided. (see Special Arrangements – Illness/Personal Problems, below)

GRADING METHOD

All components of this course will receive numerical percentage marks. The final grade you receive for the course will be derived by converting your numerical course average to a letter grade according to Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale:

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 |

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

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| TEXTBOOK (REQUIRED) | <u>Psychology: The Science of Behaviour</u> , 4th Can. Ed. by Neil R. Carlson et al. This is available at the Campus Bookstore. |
| PEARSON MEDIA CARD ACCESS CODE (REQUIRED) | Required to access the weekly on-line lessons through Moodle. This is also available at the bookstore; Bundled with new textbooks; if you bought a used textbook, you will need to buy this separately. |
| WEB MATERIALS | PSYC 100 uses a web-based learning management system called Moodle. Moodle is located at: http://moodle.queensu.ca . This site includes downloadable course notes (through Pearson) for each week, a list of the readings you should accomplish each week, message boards for students, the Question & Answer forum, etc. In sum: everything you want to know about PSYC 100. |

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Summarize the major areas and themes of psychology.
2. Demonstrate how topics in psychology can be fruitfully addressed at different levels of analysis and with different perspectives (e.g., developmental, clinical, comparative).
3. Describe the major psychological theories and the empirical evidence upon which they are based.
4. Apply the scientific method to the formulation and answering of questions related to psychology.
5. Assess the validity of, and provide accurate interpretations of, psychological findings.
6. Communicate the relevant and potential contributions of psychology to everyday life and society as a whole.

COURSE TOPICS AND INSTRUCTORS

MODULE 1 **Professor Jill Atkinson, PhD** jill.atkinson@queensu.ca

- Scientific research in the field of psychology
- Research methods, Experimental Design and Ethics

Erica Refling, MSc 7er6@queensu.ca

- Health Psychology and Health Management

- The Biological, Psychological and Social Causes of Mental Disorders (2 weeks)
- Treatment of Mental Disorders

MODULE 2 Professor Ingrid Johnsrude, PhD ingrid.johnsrude@queensu.ca

- Brain and Behaviour
- Functional Anatomy of Sensation
- Perception
- Cognitive Neuroscience, consciousness and attention
- Learning
- Attention, memory, reasoning and decision-making

MODULE 3 Professor Stanka Fitneva, PhD fitneva@queensu.ca

- Language
- Genetics and Intelligence
- Lifespan Development
- Major Theories of Developmental Psychology
- Self and Others: A comparative perspective
- Social Development

MODULE 4 Professor Ada Mullett, M.A. mulletta@queensu.ca

- Evolution, Heredity and Behaviour
- Motivation
- Emotion
- Personality Theories
- Social psychology

OVERVIEW AND KEY DATES

(The schedule of readings and learning labs to accompany each week is posted on Moodle, in the Weekly Checklist for each week)

| Week | Content | Tutorial/Discussion |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| Week 1 (SEPTEMBER 10 - 16) | Scientific research in the field of psychology | |
| Week 2 (SEPTEMBER 17 - 23) | Research Methods, Experimental Design and Ethics | YES |
| SEPTEMBER 21 | LAST DATE TO DROP FALL TERM COURSES WITHOUT FINANCIAL PENALTY | |

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| Week 3 (SEPTEMBER 24 – SEP 30) | Health Psychology and Health Management | |
| OCTOBER 1 st at 9am | Assignment 1 Due - "Design an experiment" | |
| Week 4 (OCTOBER 1 - 7) | The Biological, Psychological and Social Causes of Mental Disorders – Part I | |
| Week 5 (OCTOBER 8 – 14) | The Biological, Psychological and Social Causes of Mental Disorders – Part II | YES |
| Week 6 (OCTOBER 15 - 21) | Treatment of Mental Disorders | |
| OCTOBER 22 nd at 9am | Assignment 2 Due - "Case study analysis" | |
| Week 7 (OCTOBER 22- 28) | Brain and Behaviour | |
| Week 8 (OCTOBER 29 – NOV 5) | Functional Anatomy of Sensation | |
| Week 9 (NOVEMBER 5 - 11) | Perception | YES |
| Week 10 (NOVEMBER 12 - 18) | Cognitive Neuroscience, Consciousness and Attention | |
| NOVEMBER 19 th 9am | Assignment 3 Due - "Visual effects" | |
| Week 11 (NOVEMBER 19 - 25) | Learning | |

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| Week 12 (NOVEMBER 26 – DECEMBER 2) | Attention, memory, reasoning and decision-making | YES |
| DECEMBER 10th | Assignment 4 Due - "Discovery Memory" | |
| Week 1 (JANUARY 7 - 13) | Language | |
| Week 2 (JANUARY 14 – 20) | Genetics and Intelligence | YES |
| JANUARY 18 | LAST DATE TO DROP FALL- WINTER COURSES WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY | |
| Week 3 (JANUARY 21- 27) | Lifespan Development | |
| JANUARY 28 th 9am | Assignment 5 Due | |
| Week 4 JANUARY 28 – FEB 3 | Major Theories of Developmental Psychology | |
| Week 5 (FEBRUARY 4 - 10) | Self and Others: A comparative perspective | |
| Week 6 (FEBRUARY 11 – 17) | Social Development | YES |
| (FEBRUARY 18 - 24) READING WEEK | | |
| FEBRUARY 25 th 9am | Assignment 6 Due - "Dear Dr." | |

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| Week 7 (FEBRUARY 25 – MARCH 3) | Evolution, Heredity and Behaviour | |
| Week 8 (MARCH 4 - 10) | Motivation | |
| Week 9 (MARCH 11 - 17) | Emotion | YES |
| Week 10 (MARCH 18 - 24) | Personality Theories | |
| MARCH 25 th 9am | Assignment 7 Due - "Bad habits" | |
| Week 11 (MARCH 25 – 31) | Social psychology – Part I | |
| WEEK 12 (APRIL 1 - 7) | Social Psychology – Part II | |

The shading indicates the two-week periods tested in each quiz. The quiz will open on the first day of that two-week period (i.e., Monday). The last time you can take the quiz and have it count towards your mark is always 4 pm on the Monday FOLLOWING the shaded week. For example, for the last two-week period, the 12th quiz will open by noon on March 25th, and the deadline to have it count towards your mark will be April 8th at 4pm.

WHERE TO GO FOR HELP

Email: PSYC100D@queensu.ca

- **Course Content Discussion Board:** TAs will answer questions on the Course Content Discussion Board on Moodle – although they will not answer right away, in order to give your peers an opportunity to answer.
- **Course Administration Discussion Board:** TAs will answer questions on the Course Administration Discussion Board on Moodle.
- **PSYC 100 E-mail:** If you have questions or concerns that you don't want to post on a discussion board, you are welcome to write to PSYC100D@queensu.ca and the coordinating TA will either respond or will

forward your message to the appropriate person. When writing an e-mail, please include your full name and student number to help us find your record. Please do not write to your TAs or Instructors using the Moodle "Send Message" option, because your e-mail address is not available and the respondent has to login to Moodle to reply, which wastes time.

- **Office Hours:** May be arranged by appointment, by writing to PSYC100D@queensu.ca. We can hold in person or online (e.g., Skype) office hours by appointment.

If you have specific enquiries for your instructor that cannot be address by the administrative TA, they can be reached at the addresses given below. We are here to help and have set up a number of ways that questions can be asked and answered.

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| Instructor: Ingrid Johnsrude Email: ingrid.johnsrude@queensu.ca Phone: (613) 533-6009 | Instructor: Jill Atkinson Email: jill.atkinson@queensu.ca Phone: (613) 533-6018 |
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ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is constituted by the five core fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility (see <http://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 (see the [Senate Report on Principles and Priorities](#))

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the regulations concerning academic integrity and for ensuring that their assignments conform to the principles of academic integrity. See [Academic Regulation 1 Academic Integrity](#) on the [Arts and Science website](#).

Departures from academic integrity include plagiarism, use of unauthorized materials, facilitation, forgery and falsification, and are antithetical to the development of an academic community at Queen's. Given the seriousness of these matters, actions that contravene the regulation on academic integrity carry a range of sanctions. The penalty for a departure from academic integrity could be a warning, or loss of grades on an assignment, or failure of the course, or a requirement to withdraw from the university.

QUIZ AND EXAM INFORMATION

There are 12 quizzes, each open for two weeks. The quizzes will be made up of 20 multiple-choice questions based on the text and online lessons covered in that two-week period. Quizzes will test **ONLY** the relevant two weeks of material; they are not cumulative. The quizzes can be written from any computer with high-speed internet access. Each quiz will be open for a **full two weeks** from Monday at noon until the Monday 14 days later at 4 pm, during which time **you can take the quiz as often as you like**. The highest mark you achieve in that two-week period will be recorded as your mark on the quiz. Although each quiz will remain accessible after the two-week window, your participation will no longer be counted towards your mark.

Although you can use study aids like the text, notes and the internet for quizzes, it is in your own best interest to do it **after** you have read the text and completed the relevant online lessons. The April exam will have very similar questions, so it is essential that you understand, for each quiz question, why the right answer is right, and why the other answers are wrong. If you do the quiz on your own and without aids, this will give you valuable feedback about your own learning.

Of the 12 quizzes, your best 10 will count towards your final grade. You may choose to miss or forego the results of two quizzes, without documentation. After that, you will receive '0' for a missed quiz and quiz grades are final. The only exception to this rule is if there are documented serious extenuating circumstances (see Special Arrangements – Illness/Personal Problems, below).

The **Final** exam is three hours in length and includes multiple-choice questions as well as short and long-answer questions about the course material. It is held in April during the official exam period. The specific dates will be announced later in the term by the Registrar's office. When you register for the course, you will indicate the exam centre location you will use for the final exam. Students living in the Kingston area will write the final exam on Queen's campus.

If you declared an off-campus exam centre location when you registered, Continuing & Distance Studies (CDS) will notify you via your Queen's email account about proctor details, once the details have been finalized. If you declared #4251 Kingston as your exam centre location, you can access the details on the main exams website: www.queensu.ca/registrar/currentstudents/exams.html.

Please note that the exam date on the Registrar's website apply to on-campus and off-campus students. The exam start time for off-campus exams may vary slightly from the on-campus exam. The location applies to on-campus students only. Exam location details for students writing at an off-campus exam centre will be e-mailed to the student's Queen's e-mail account once they have been finalized.

If you need to declare/change the location or can't remember which location you declared, you can email CDS (cds@queensu.ca) for assistance. The deadline to declare/change exam centre location is **March 1st** for the **FW Term** (late requests are subject to a non-refundable administrative fee of \$100.00 per exam).

All special needs students should contact CDS (cds@queensu.ca), immediately following registration to inform them of any special accommodations which may be required for proctored exams.

For further information regarding exams, check out:
<http://www.queensu.ca/cds/orientation/exams.html>

Requests to write a make-up exam because of conflicting travel plans (e.g. flight bookings) will NOT be considered except under extraordinary circumstances. Students are advised to wait until the final exam schedules are posted before making any travel arrangements.

DISCUSSION AND ASSIGNMENT INFORMATION

For the Tutorial/Discussions, you will need to: (1) access to the online Discussion board on the first day of each Tutorial/Discussion to submit your preparatory work, and (2) participate in the Discussion periodically over the next four days (although you can miss days if you are organized). Within the Tutorial/ Discussion week, the Tutorial/Discussion board will open at noon on the Wednesday and close at midnight on Sunday. During this 5 day period, you will be expected to actively participate in that week's discussion topic by contributing at least 4 quality posts. Information on the discussion topics will be posted on Moodle under the corresponding week and will relate to the assignment.

Assignments have submission deadlines (see key dates, above). You will need internet access to submit your assignments electronically on or before the due date. The seven assignments are coupled with the Discussion/Tutorials such that participation in the latter should help you with the former.

GRADE RECORDS

The Coordinating TA (teaching assistant), Talia Troister, will track all grades (PSYC100D@queensu.ca). Grade changes can **only** be performed by this TA or by the Course Coordinators, Jill Atkinson (jill.atkinson@queensu.ca) and Ingrid Johnsrude (ingrid.johnsrude@queensu.ca). Grades are posted on Moodle.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS

DISABILITIES

If you are **registered with Disability Services** (Lasalle Bldg, 533-6467; <http://www.queensu.ca/hcds/ds/>) **special accommodations** are allowed under the following conditions:

- 1) The student notifies the Coordinating TA Talia Troister (PSYC100D@queensu.ca) at least **one week prior to each quiz or exam**. If such contact has not been made, it may not be possible to provide the accommodations in a timely fashion. ***Please note that it is important to contact Disability Services as early as possible in Fall Term to allow time for you to be registered for special needs consideration.***

FAITH OBSERVANCE

If you are unable to write any quiz or exam due to faith observance, please contact the Coordinating TA Talia Troister PSYC100D@queensu.ca **early in the term**, to make alternate arrangements for all relevant dates. Last minute requests will not be accommodated.

ILLNESS/PERSONAL PROBLEMS

If you are too ill to write an exam, or if you are not able to perform well due to a **serious extenuating** circumstance for which you can provide documentation (e.g., death in the family), you must email PSYC100D@queensu.ca **prior** to the exam or by phone (533-2493) and then **do not write the exam**. Instead, please seek medical treatment or counselling as needed and provide the UG office (Humphrey 225: ugpsyc@queensu.ca) with the documentation, and with a completed *Request for an Exam Deferral* form.

Once an exam is written, **your grade stands**. You will have the opportunity to drop the course in January once you have your mid-year grade. If you are unsure about how to proceed, please e-mail PSYC100D@queensu.ca and ask to consult with Dr. Jill Atkinson. Otherwise, if you choose to continue in the course, you are considered to have made a valid attempt and your final grade stands. If something happens **after** the drop date, please email PSYC100D@queensu.ca and ask to consult with Dr. Jill Atkinson.

Students who cannot write an exam during the April exam period due to a serious, extenuating circumstance (with the supporting documentation required as outlined above) must be available to write a deferred exam during the Psychology Department's *Make up Exam period*, April 29th, or September 13/14th, 2013.

See

<http://www.queensu.ca/psychology/Undergraduate/psycdepartmentalpolicies.html>
for more information.

OTHER SERVICES AND HELP

Student affairs supports a diverse array of programs and services to help students: please see <http://www.queensu.ca/studentaffairs/index.html>

This website will direct you to resources for students in distress, for the walk home service, and many others.

DIFFICULTIES?

- If you are having personal difficulties that make it hard to learn, or to keep up with the material, contact the Coordinating TA, Talia Troister, at email PSYC100D@queensu.ca.
- You are encouraged to contact the Queen's counselling service, at <http://www.queensu.ca/hcnds/>
They provide a range of helpful services for students.
- There are several options when you run into difficulty, but you need **to tell us as soon as possible**. Do not just keep falling behind!

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- Check Moodle frequently for course announcements and weekly updates regarding readings, tutorial/discussions and assignment requirements.
- Read the appropriate sections of your text and review the online course notes *before* you participate in the tutorial/discussions.
- Seek clarification as soon as possible about any confusing concepts.
- Contribute questions (and answers!) to the Question & Answer Discussion Board on Moodle.
- Complete your tutorial/discussion preparatory work on time, and participate actively in discussions. Submit your assignments on time.
- Contact Learning Strategies Development for help in preparing for and writing essays and multiple-choice exams. They are located in the Learning Commons at Stauffer Library. Visit www.queensu.ca/glc/ for learning strategies workshops and study tips.
- Note that there are *no* copies of previous final exams available. However, the bi-weekly quizzes are excellent preparation for the multiple-choice portions. If you stay on top of the material, do the quizzes as described above, and practice short-answer questions, you will be well prepared. *We do not support the 'exam preparation' companies that come onto campus in the final few weeks before exams. These companies do not have sanctioned access to the PSYC100 course material and may not be working from a current, updated syllabus. Your Psyc100 team - Instructors and TAs – are in the best position to help you prepare for exams!*

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