

APPLIED ARTS DIVISION  
School of Liberal Arts  
Fall, 2017



**COURSE OUTLINE**

**PSYC 100**

**INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY**

**45 HOURS  
3 CREDITS**

PREPARED BY: James McClelland      DATE: April, 2017

APPROVED BY:      DATE:

APPROVED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL: (date)

RENEWED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL: (date)

## INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY

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**INSTRUCTOR:** R. James McClelland, Ph.D.      **OFFICE HOURS:** Monday 10:30 - 12:00  
**OFFICE LOCATION:** A2911A      **CLASSROOM:** A2206  
**E-MAIL:** [jmcclelland@yukoncollege.yk.ca](mailto:jmcclelland@yukoncollege.yk.ca)      **TIME:** 9:00 - 10:30  
**TELEPHONE:** (867) 668-8867      **DATES:** Monday & Wednesday

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### COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

A survey of all the major content areas and current research of psychology: basic research methodology, neuroscience, sensation and perception, learning, memory, thinking and language, and motivation. The APA writing style is also introduced.

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introductory Psychology is a survey course of all of the major content areas of Psychology: basic research methodology and current research in the various subject areas, and the basic knowledge and major theories of the field. Psychology 100 provided an overview of the following areas of psychology: history of psychology, research methods; biological basis of behaviour, sensation and perceptual processes; variations in consciousness, learning, human memory, and language and thought. Psychology 101 continues the survey of the field with explorations of psychological assessment, motivation and emotions, human development, personality theory, stress and health, psychopathology, therapy, and social psychology.

### PREREQUISITES

None.

### EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

ALEX PSCY 101 (3)	AU PSYC 289 (3)	CAMO PSYC 110 (3)
CAPU PSYC 100 (3)	KPU PSYC 1100 (3)	NIC PSY 130 (3)
OC PSYC 111 (3)	TRU PSYC 1110 (3)	TRU-OL PSYC 1111 (3)

TWU PSYC 105 (3)                      UFV PSYC 101 (3)                      UNBC PSYC 101 (3)  
UVIC PSYC 100 A (1.5)                VIU PSYC 111 (3)                      UAF PSYC 101 (3)  
UAS PSYC 101 (3)                      UR PSYC 100 (3)  
SFU PSYC 1xx (3); YUKO PSYC 100 & YUKO PSYC 101 = SFU PSYC 100 (3) - B - Soc & SFU  
PSYC 102 (3) - B Soc  
UBC PSYC 1st (3). YUKO PSYC 100 & YUKO PSYC 101 = UBC PSYC 100 (6).  
UBCO YUKO PSYC 100 & YUKO PSYC 101 = UBCO PSYO 111 (3) & UBCO PSYO 121 (3)

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, which includes timely submission of *all* assignments, students will:

- demonstrate an understanding of basic psychological terminology and explain important features of major psychological concepts and theories
- develop an understanding of basic theories and research methods in psychology
- critically analyze information about human behavior and distinguish between conclusions supported by scientific evidence and conclusions based on nonscientific ways of knowing
- demonstrate applied psychology analysis and evaluative research skills

## COURSE FORMAT

The course will consist of lectures, class discussions, debates, demonstrations, and supplementary audio-visual materials.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to attend regularly, complete all assignments, and to participate actively in class discussions. Since a large portion of the examinable material will be based on classroom information, attendance is critical. If you miss a class, please arrange with another student to take notes and to inform you of in-class experiences. Students are responsible for obtaining handouts and completing assignments for any classes missed. Class discussion is an important element in this course. Students will be responsible for the readings assigned and should be prepared to discuss these readings and share their insights in class.

All written assignment must be handed in by 9:00 a.m. on the due date.

## ASSESSMENTS

### Attendance/Participation

15%

Regular attendance and in class participation, including the use of i>clickers is expected. Missed classes and non-participation will result in a reduction of the mark.

**Midterm Exam**Due: October 25<sup>th</sup>

30%

40% no paper

The mid-term is scheduled for October 25<sup>th</sup> and will be a multiple choice exam.

Alternate arrangements will not be made for students unable to write the midterm examination at the scheduled time/date unless exceptional circumstances prevail and the instructor has given approval in advance.

**Academic Paper Option**Due: November 20<sup>th</sup>

20%

You are encouraged to choose to complete a paper if you plan to continue in the social sciences and feel comfortable with your writing ability. Should you choose not to do a paper, your final grade will be the combination of the participation, midterm exam, and final exam marks. Should you decide to do the paper, your mark cannot be less than the combination of the participation, midterm exam, and final exam marks. If the mark on the paper reduces your overall grade point average, it will be excluded. If the mark on the paper increased your overall grade point average, it will be included.

You should choose a topic that is relevant to the course and if uncertain, approved beforehand by the instructor. You are expected to follow the conventions of grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Arguments and content should be logical and coherent, supported by evidence from the literature or primary sources, and should always reference the author of such works. Written assignments should be word-processed and double-spaced. You are expected to follow APA writing standards. Your paper will be due no later than November 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Final Exam**

Due: Exam Week

35%

45% no paper

The final exam will be comprehensive and take place during the regularly scheduled exam period (Dec. 8 - 21). It will be 3 hours in duration and will contain multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. Students must achieve a passing grade of 50% on the final examination in order to pass the course. A failed final exam will result in a failed course.

Alternate arrangements will not be made for students unable to write the final examination at the scheduled time/date unless exceptional circumstances prevail and the instructor has given approval in advance.

All evaluative components for this course are compulsory, and must be completed in order to pass the course.

**EVALUATION**

Attendance and Participation	15%
Midterm Exam	30% (40% w/o paper)
Academic Paper Option	20%
Final Exam	35% (45% w/o paper)
Total	100%

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS

Weiten, W. & McCann, D. (2016). *Psychology: Themes and Variations*, (Fourth ed.). Cengage Learning, Toronto: Nelson Education.  
Purchase ISBN 9780176531713 which provides the textbook, concept charts, and psyktrek 3.0 multimedia resource.

## LORENE ROBERTSON WRITING CENTRE

All students are encouraged to make the Lorene Robertson Writing Centre a regular part of the writing process for coursework. Located in Room C2211 (in the College Library), the Writing Centre offers writing coaching sessions to students of all writing abilities. For further information or to book an appointment, visit the Centre's website: [dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/Writing Centre](http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/Writing%20Centre). At the instructor's discretion, students may be required to attend Writing Centre coaching sessions during the composition process of their paper(s) as a condition of assignment completion. At the instructor's discretion, students may be required to attend Writing Centre.

## ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in the current Academic Regulations that are posted on the Student Services/ Admissions & Registration web page.

## PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when students present the words of someone else as their own. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of another person's writing, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material. Whenever the words, research or ideas of others are directly quoted or paraphrased, they must be documented according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Resubmitting a paper which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the College.

## **YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY**

Yukon College recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination will help to build positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, to graduate from ANY Yukon College program, you will be required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. For details, please see [www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/yfnccr](http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/yfnccr).

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon College Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon College website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student requires an academic accommodation, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) at (867) 668-8785 or [lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca](mailto:lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca).

## TOPIC OUTLINE

**PSYC 100 - Fall 2017 - Syllabus**

**Dr. R. James McClelland**

Note:

- All scheduled readings must be done ahead of time, i.e., before they are discussed in class.
- The following schedule of readings is tentative; specified texts may be dropped and others added depending on the pace of the class.
- For extra help with any writing make an appointment (online or in person) with the Writing Centre.
- For help with any learning problems make an appointment (online or in-person) with the Learning Assistance Centre.

### **September 6**

- WELCOME
  - Introductions
  - Course outline and Syllabus
  - Assignments/participation
  - Use of textbook and supplemental materials
- THE EVOLUTION OF PSYCHOLOGY (CHAPTER 1)
  - How do we find out what is in the box

### **September 11**

- THE EVOLUTION OF PSYCHOLOGY (CHAPTER 1 CONTINUED)
  - From speculation to science: How psychology developed
  - Illustrated overview of psychology's history
  - Psychology today: Vigorous and diversified

### **September 13**

- THE EVOLUTION OF PSYCHOLOGY (CHAPTER 1 CONTINUED)
  - Putting it in perspective: Seven key themes
  - The skills of critical thinking & Chapter review

### **September 18**

- THE RESEARCH ENTERPRISE IN PSYCHOLOGY (CHAPTER 2)
  - The scientific approach to behaviour
  - Looking for causes: Experimental research
  - Looking for links: Descriptive/correlational research

### **September 20**

- THE RESEARCH ENTERPRISE IN PSYCHOLOGY (CHAPTER 2 CONTINUED)
  - Looking for conclusions: Statistics and research
  - An illustrated overview of key research methods in psychology
  - Looking for flaws: Evaluating research

## September 25

- THE RESEARCH ENTERPRISE IN PSYCHOLOGY (CHAPTER 2 CONTINUED)
  - Looking at ethics: Do the ends justify the means?
  - Putting it in perspective: Themes 1 and 7

## September 27

- THE RESEARCH ENTERPRISE IN PSYCHOLOGY (CHAPTER 2 CONTINUED)
  - Chapter review

## October 2

- THE BIOLOGICAL BASES OF BEHAVIOUR (CHAPTER 3)
  - Communication in the nervous system
  - Organization of the nervous system
  - Looking inside the brain: Research methods

## October 4

- THE BIOLOGICAL BASES OF BEHAVIOUR (CHAPTER 3 CONTINUED)
  - The brain and behaviour
  - Right brain/left brain: Cerebral laterality
  - The endocrine system: Another way to communicate

## October 11

- THE BIOLOGICAL BASES OF BEHAVIOUR (CHAPTER 3 CONTINUED)
  - Heredity and behaviour: Is it all in the genes?
  - The evolutionary bases of behaviour
  - Putting it in perspective: Themes 1, 4, and 6
  - Chapter review

## October 16

- SENSATION AND PERCEPTION (CHAPTER 4)
  - Psychophysics: Basic concepts and issues
  - Our sense of sight: The visual system
  - The visual system : Perceptual processes

## October 18

- SENSATION AND PERCEPTION (CHAPTER 4 CONTINUED)
  - Our sense of hearing: The auditory system
  - Our chemical senses: Taste and smell
- SENSATION AND PERCEPTION (CHAPTER 4 CONTINUED)
  - Our sense of touch: Sensory systems in the skin
  - Our other senses
  - Putting it in perspective: Themes 2, 5, and 7
  - Chapter review

## October 23

- COURSE CATCH UP PRIOR TO EXAM



## **October 25**

- MID TERM EXAM

## **October 30**

- VARIATIONS IN CONSCIOUSNESS (CHAPTER 5)
  - The nature of consciousness
  - Biological rhythms and sleep
  - The sleep and waking cycle
  - The world of dreams

## **November 1**

- VARIATIONS IN CONSCIOUSNESS (CHAPTER 5 CONTINUED)
  - Hypnosis: Altered consciousness or role playing?
  - Meditation: Pure consciousness or relaxation?
  - Altering consciousness with drugs

## **November 6**

- VARIATIONS IN CONSCIOUSNESS (CHAPTER 5 CONTINUED)
  - The hard questions of consciousness
  - Putting it in perspective: Themes 2, 3, 5, and 7
  - Chapter review

## **November 8**

- LEARNING (CHAPTER 6)
  - Classical conditioning
  - Operant conditioning

## **November 15**

- LEARNING (CHAPTER 6 CONTINUED)
  - Classical conditioning
  - Operant conditioning

## **November 20**

- LEARNING (CHAPTER 6 CONTINUED)
  - Observational learning
  - An illustrated overview of three types of learning
  - Putting it in perspective: Themes 3 and 6
  - Chapter review

- PAPER DUE

## **November 22**

- HUMAN MEMORY (CHAPTER 7)
  - Encoding: Getting information into memory
  - Storage: Maintaining information in memory

## **November 27**

- HUMAN MEMORY (CHAPTER 7 CONTINUED)

- Retrieval: Getting information out of memory
- Forgetting: When memory lapses
- In search of the memory trace: The physiology of memory

#### **November 29**

- Systems and types of memory
- Putting it in perspective: Themes 2, 4, and 7
- Chapter review

#### **December 4**

- LANGUAGE AND THOUGHT (CHAPTER 8)
  - Language: Turning thoughts into words
  - Problem solving: in search of solutions

#### **December 6**

- LANGUAGE AND THOUGHT (CHAPTER 8 CONTINUED)
  - Decision making: Choices and chances
  - Putting it in perspective: Themes 1, 5, 6, and 7
  - Chapter review

#### **December 7**

- LANGUAGE AND THOUGHT (CHAPTER 8 CONTINUED)
  - Catching up and finishing the course
  - Review and question

#### **December 8-21**

- EXAM PERIOD
  - PSYC 100 Exam Date and Time TBA