



Psychology 1X03 Course Outline

Course Staff

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Media development for the IntroPsych program is provided by the **Science Media Lab** located in the Psychology Building, Room 416 and at <http://www.science.mcmaster.ca/medialab/>

In addition to the staff above, each student has been assigned to a section led by a Tutor, who should be the first point of contact for any questions you might have. Please direct any additional questions to intropsych@mcmaster.ca

Evaluation

Your final grade in Psychology 1X03 will be determined by the following measures:

Written assignments	30%	Written assignments will be completed both individually and in groups. Assignments will be distributed in tutorial.
Tutorial participation	10%	At the end of the term your tutor will assign you a grade out of 10% based on your contributions during tutorial sessions.
Examinations	60%	A midterm examination worth 20% will be written in October, and a cumulative final examination worth 40% will be written in December.
In-Class Quizzes <i>(Optional)</i>	10%	At the end of every class session, a short quiz on the week's material will be completed. If your cumulative grade on this component is higher than your the grade of your final exam, the weight your final exam will be reduced by 10%.
Research participation <i>(Optional)</i>	5%	Students have the option of completing two hours of research credits with the Department of Psychology, Neuroscience, and Behaviour. These students will have the weight of their final examination reduced by 5%.

Course Materials

Course Handbook

Your handbook is a **required** component of the course, containing valuable information regarding course structure, outlines and note-taking space for online lectures, class and discussion supplementary materials, and optional practice questions.

Course Textbook

Your textbook is Psychology: Fifth Edition by Peter Gray. This is an **optional** component of the course, chosen to provide additional background readings and assistance with key concepts in the course. Although no explicit questions will be drawn from material only found in the textbook, recommended readings to supplement course materials are indicated in the course handbook which may benefit many students.

WebCT

Your primary course content will be delivered through the WebCT learning management system, located at <http://webct.mcmaster.ca>. In addition to your weekly lectures, WebCT contains important course announcements, discussion forums, and your grade record. To access WebCT, use your MacID and password.

Web Modules

The most unique feature of IntroPsych at McMaster is the way you receive your primary course content – it's all online! We've chosen to deliver the course this way so that we can reduce nearly 3000 students to class and tutorial sections with less than 50 students each. In this way, you should find psychology at McMaster a much more personalized experience than it would be if you were seated in a traditional lecture hall. Beyond that, you will find that our online content is more than a simple video. Through a number of unique features such as the ability to move around the lecture at your leisure and an integrated search function, we hope each student will interact with the content according to their own personal learning style.

Each week, you will be required to view one or two lectures **before** you arrive to your class and tutorial sessions. These lectures are available through WebCT, and a detailed content schedule can be found in your handbook. It's very important that you view your lectures before attending class and that you stay on schedule, because each lecture will be available for a limited time only. Your lectures will be released at 6:00am on Thursday the week before your class and they will be available for **two weeks** after that time, after which they will be removed **permanently**.

COURSE CONTENT SCHEDULE FOR PSYCHOLOGY 1X03 - FALL 2009

The general schedule for this course content is given below. Any changes to this structure will be announced on WebCT. It is your responsibility to keep up-to-date with any schedule changes.

Week of	Class Session	Notes
September 1 st	N/A	No class or tutorial this week
September 8 th	Introduction to the Course	No tutorial session following introduction class
September 15 th	Introduction to Psychology Levels of Analysis	
September 22 nd	Research Methods I Research Methods II	
September 29 th	Learning I Learning II	
October 6 th	Memory Attention	
October 13 th	N/A	Monday, Oct. 13: Thanksgiving
October 20 th	Language	Midterm: Friday, Oct. 24
October 27 th	Categories & Concepts Problem Solving and Intelligence	
November 3 rd	Forming Impressions	
November 10 th	Influence of Others I Influence of Others II	
November 17 th	Personality I Personality II	
November 24 th	Psychopathology I Psychopathology II	
Final Examination – Date to be Announced by Registrar's Office		

In each weekly class session, you will review the required web modules for the week and have an opportunity to ask your TA any questions you might have. After each weekly class session, you will attend a tutorial session. In the tutorial session, you will discuss some important and interesting topics from the week's material, complete learning activities, and work on assignment material. Participation in tutorials is **mandatory**.