



## Psychology 1X03/1N03 Course Outline - Fall 2013

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Course Staff	Location	Office Hours
<b>Dr. Joe Kim</b> Instructor	PC/106	Posted weekly on AVENUE
<b>Michelle Cadieux</b> Course Coordinator	IntroPsych Office PC/416	Posted weekly on AVENUE
<b>Phil Omorogbe</b> Head TA	PC Lobby	Posted weekly on AVENUE

All correspondence regarding this course should be sent to: [intropsych@mcmaster.ca](mailto:intropsych@mcmaster.ca) using your McMaster e-mail. If you have additional questions regarding course material you have several options:

- See Course Staff during Office hours
- Join discussions in tutorial, AVENUE forums, and online Live Chat (see below)

You may also call the IntroPsych office at X24428 during office hours. Please note that **phone messages will not be returned**. If you have a request, please see in person during office hours or send an email to [intropsych@mcmaster.ca](mailto:intropsych@mcmaster.ca). Please note that during busy periods, it may take up to 48 hours to return your email message. Please be patient!

In addition to the course staff, you have been assigned to a tutorial section with your personal **Teaching Assistant (TA)** who will lead your group through weekly discussions, activities and questions.

### ***Course Description***

This course is an introduction to the scientific investigation of problems in Psychology, Neuroscience, and Behaviour. We will use a framework of psychological research methods to understand processes such as learning, cognition, personality and social psychology. We will focus on developing skills to evaluate information that is useful in psychology and beyond. You will learn to:

- Apply terms used in psychology and evaluate research methods
- Integrate knowledge from several key areas in psychology
- Critically examine research and evaluate scientific information

This course (along with Biology 1P03 or Grade 12 Biology) also serves as a prerequisite to PSYCH 1XX3/1NN3 offered in Term 2, which must be completed if you intend to pursue an honours program in psychology.

## Evaluation

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

<b>Tutorial Participation</b>	10%
<b>AVENUE Quizzes</b>	30%
<b>Final Examination</b>	60%
<b>Research participation (optional)</b>	5%

### Tutorial Participation (10%)

Weekly tutorials are an important part of the course and contribute to 10% of your final grade. Your TA will expect **active** participation to create a dynamic learning environment. If you have specific issues with this process you must speak with your TA as soon as possible. **Every three weeks**, your TA will assign you a tutorial grade out of 10 using the rubric below as a guide.

		EVALUATING CONTRIBUTION				
		Excellent	Satisfactory	Poor		
ATTENDANCE	3 of 3 classes	8-10	6-7	4	Excellent	Regularly makes thoughtful contributions
	2 of 3 classes	6-8	2-4	0-2	Satisfactory	Occasional makes valuable contributions
	1 of 3 classes	4	0	0	Poor	Little to no participation

**Note: students who regularly attend tutorials but make little or no contribution to discussions cannot receive a grade higher than 4 out of 10.** Therefore, it is essential that you **actively participate** if you wish to earn a high participation grade. Your TA can help you with suggestions for demonstrating active participation

In addition to your in-class participation, you will also be marked on an oral presentation. Every week, groups of 2 – 3 students will present a “bottleneck concept” to the class. These “bottleneck concepts” are key terms from lecture that students typically struggle with. It is your job to present a concept in a clear and concise way, helping your peers to gain a better understanding of the topic. To do so, you should try to incorporate an analogy or personal experience with the term. During your first tutorial, a sign up sheet listing all of the available concepts will be provided to you. During the first week, your TA will demonstrate how this project should run and will present a bottleneck concept to you.

Your best 3 of 4 tutorial participation grades plus your grade for the Bottleneck Concept Presentation will comprise 10% of your final grade in the course (7.5% for best 3 of 4 participation grades and 2.5% for Bottleneck Presentation).

The rubric for your Bottleneck Concept presentation is as follows:

Criteria		Mark
<b>Knowledge:</b>	Students provided a good and accurate definition of the bottleneck concepts in their own words. They were able to answer questions effectively.	/5
<b>Understanding:</b>	Students were able to explain the concepts in an organized, concise and clear manner in their own words. Students identified common errors people make regarding the concept and were able to provide ways to avoid making those errors.	/10
<b>Application:</b>	Students provided a novel real-world example of the bottleneck concept that helped to better explain the concept. This example could be include things such as real-life experiences, a relevant analogies, or everyday scenarios in which the bottleneck concept applies.	/10
<b>Communication:</b>	Presenters spoke clearly, audibly, and were well practiced. They were able to keep the class engaged. They effectively used the presentation time and stayed within the time limit.	/5
	<b>Total</b>	/30

### **AVENUE Quizzes (30%)**

There are 11 weekly online AVENUE Quizzes during the semester which will cover material from the assigned Web Modules AND the Textbook or Journal readings. For example, AVE Quiz 1 will contain material covered from the Introduction Web Module and the Textbook Chapter 1 Reading. Each Quiz is “open book” and you may collaborate with your peers but may NOT post questions. AVE Quizzes are an opportunity to assess and consolidate your knowledge of the week’s content in preparation for the Final Exam where you will be working independently and without access to supporting resources.

Each Quiz will cover the web module and textbook readings from the same week as covered in tutorial. Each AVE Quiz will consist of 10 multiple-choice questions. AVE Quizzes will be made available online every Friday at 6AM and will promptly close on Saturday at 6AM. You will have 20 minutes to complete each quiz once you open it. After closing on Saturday, the AVE Quiz will be reviewed and grades will be released on the following Monday.

Quiz questions are designed to go beyond mere recall and challenge you to apply and demonstrate your comprehension. In other words, simply memorizing terms will not lead to a favourable grade. To help you prepare and assess your study, you will have a **Pre-Quiz** each week that will be graded immediately and will provide you with feedback on why your chosen option was correct/incorrect. The pre-test is drawn from the same question bank as your actual test, but does not officially count for grades. However, it must be completed to gain access to the weekly AVE Quiz.

### **Final Exam (60%)**

A cumulative Final Exam will be written in December as scheduled by the Registrar's Office. If you choose to complete the optional research participation option (see below), the weight of your final examination will be reduced from 60% to 55%. The Final Exam covers material presented in web modules, tutorials, and assigned readings from the entire term.

## IntroPsych Discovery Challenge

Each week, IntroPsych students will be presented with a challenging puzzle to solve that will extend beyond the content covered in class. Using the knowledge they have acquired during the previous week, as well as library and internet resources, tutorials will venture to correctly submit an answer to that week's puzzle. A breakdown of the schedule for each week is as follows:

**Monday through Thursday:** Lectures and tutorials on the week's topic

**Friday:** Online AVENUE quiz for the week's topic

**Sunday 9:00PM:** The Discovery Challenge puzzle is released on topic tested the previous week. The puzzle will be posted on the Course Announcements section of AVENUE to Learn. The puzzle will require students to go into more detail on the topic than was covered in lecture, and will likely need to use online and library resources to learn and apply their knowledge to the puzzle. The puzzle alone should not provide enough information to answer, only enough to provide an educated guess to the answer provided additional information was researched. We expect, and will encourage, students to repost the puzzle on their private tutorial specific discussion boards to discuss possible answers.

**Monday 9:00PM:** Clue #1 will be posted on Course Announcements. This clue should enable students to confidently answer the puzzle, provided additional research was completed.

**Tuesday 9:00PM:** Clue #2 will be posted on Course Announcements. The clues together should make the puzzle much easier to answer.

**Wednesday 9:00PM:** All answers must be submitted by 9:00 PM. To submit your answers, each tutorial will be given a unique ID and password used to login to IntroPsych.net. Students within a tutorial are expected to discuss possible answers to the puzzle and once they are confident, **elect somebody to represent their tutorial** in submitting their answer on IntroPsych.net. The student will have to login using their tutorial ID and password, and submit their student number alongside their answer to the puzzle. **Only the first answer submitted will be marked.** All tutorials submitting an answer by 9:00 PM will receive points, with greater points earned if correct and submitted before clues have been released.

Answers will be scored according to this breakdown:

Correct answer before Clue 1	500,000 points
Correct answer before Clue 2	400,000 points
Correct answer after before Wed deadline	300,000 points
Any answer submitted before deadline	100,000 points

The first 5 tutorials to correctly submit an answer will score bonus points.

1st to answer correctly	200,000 bonus points
2nd to 5th to answer correctly	100,000 bonus points

For example: If you are the first tutorial to correctly answer before clue 1, your tutorial gets 500,000+200,000 points. If you are the 6th or later, your tutorial will get 500,000 points. If no tutorial has answered it before clue one and you are the first tutorial to answer it after clue one is released, you will 400,000+200,000. However, tutorials in 6th or later will receive 400,000 points.

**Thursday 9:00PM:** The answer to the week's puzzle will be posted, along with an explanation of the answer and clues. At this time, the tutorials scoring in the top 5 for the week will be announced on AVENUE to Learn. A leaderboard of all tutorials' total points will also be visible online.

At the end of the semester, each student in the tutorial with the most points will earn a letter grade-bump for their final mark in the course. For example, all A's will become A+'s and all C+'s will become B-'s. **However, this conversion will not convert any failing grades to passing grades.**

At the end of the term, all students in any tutorial holding more than 1,000,000 points will have their lowest AVENUE Quiz dropped from their grade. All students in any tutorial holding more than 2,500,000 points will have their lowest two AVENUE Quizzes dropped from their grade. (Note: This means that students will be able to drop one AVENUE Quiz simply by participating each week—even if they do not get any of them correct.)

Discovery Challenge is an extracurricular activity and not meant to be discussed during tutorial, and should only involve IntroPsych students. **TA's are not allowed to contribute to any in-person or online discussion of the puzzles.** If students have questions or concerns about the format or answer submission system, they can post on the Discovery Challenge discussion board.

## Research Participation Option

You have the option to reduce the weight of your Final Exam from 60% to 55% by completing and attaining **two credits** of research participation with the Department of Psychology, Neuroscience, and Behaviour. In addition to providing you with extra credit, the research participation option allows you to take part in some exciting research taking place right here at McMaster and observe how psychologists conduct their studies.

The system that the department uses to track research participation is called Sona, which can be accessed at **intropsych.net** or through **mcmaster.sona-systems.com**. To access Sona for the first time, select the "New Participant?" option at the bottom left of the screen and enter your name, student number, and McMaster email address (for security reasons, *only* your McMaster email address may be used). After a short delay, you will receive an email from Sona with a username and temporary password that you can use to access the website. **Note: You must activate you McMaster ID before you can create an Sona account. To activate your ID, please go to [www.mcmaster.ca/uts/macid](http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/macid)**

## Completing Your Research Participation Credit

When you log into Sona for the first time, you will be prompted to chose a course. Please selected Psych 1X03 from the list. You should change your temporary password to something more memorable by selecting "My Profile".

To register for an experiment, select "Study Sign-Up" from the main Sona page. You will be presented with a list of currently available experiments, with a short description given about each. Before selecting an experiment, be sure to read the description carefully, making special note of any specific criteria for participation (for example, some experiments only allow females to participate, while others may require subjects who speak a second language). When you have found an experiment that you would like to participate in, select "View Time Slots for this Study" to view available timeslots, then select "Sign-Up" to register for a time that fits your schedule. You will receive a confirmation email with the details of your selection. Be sure to write down the experiment number, experimenter name, location, and telephone extension from this email.

After you have completed an experiment, you will be given a purple slip verifying your participation. This slip is for your records only – in the event that an experiment is not credited to your Sona account, this slip is your proof of participation. Shortly after completing an experiment, you should notice that your Sona account has been credited by the experimenter.

### **Additional Notes**

- You must complete two full hours of experiments, and no less, if you wish to earn the 5% credit.
- If you do not wish to participate as a research subject for any reason, you may still earn your research participation credit by *observing* two hours of experiments. If you would like to choose this option, please see the course coordinator, Michelle Cadieux, in PC 416.
- If you fail to show up for two experiments, you will lose your option to complete the research participation credit. If you know in advance that you will be unable to attend a scheduled experiment, please contact the experimenter.

### **Privacy and Conduct**

In this course we will be using AVENUE for the online portions of your course. Students should be aware that when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed as consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure, please discuss this with the Course Coordinator.

All posts on discussion forums should be polite and refrain from derogatory and unacceptable language.

### **A Note about Academic Honesty**

Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. It is the student's responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3 at: <http://www.mcmaster.ca/univsec/policy/AcademicIntegrity.pdf>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

- Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been sought or obtained;
- Improper collaboration; or,
- Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests or examinations.

### **Changes during the term**

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

### **A Note About Note Taking**

Students often wonder (and worry) about how extensive their notes should be. This handbook provides outlines with key points and slides reproduced from the web modules to guide your own note taking. There really is no substitute for doing this yourself to learn the material. If, however, you can refer to your notes and answer the practice questions that follow the handbook outlines, you should find yourself in good shape for the weekly tests and the exam to come.

# Welcome to Psychology 1X03

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Welcome to PSYCH 1X03: Introduction to Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour, one of two IntroPsych courses offered at McMaster University (PSYCH 1XX3 is offered in Term 2). Your IntroPsych course follows in the tradition of McMaster University's long-standing reputation of excellence in innovative teaching and learning. In this course, you will experience a unique blended learning model that combines online learning technology with traditional face-to-face instruction. On your way to the weekly quizzes and final exam, there are several resources available to help you master the curriculum:

**Course Handbook:** Your course handbook contains valuable information regarding course structure, outlines, and guides for web modules and tutorials.

**Course Textbook:** Your course textbook can be purchased at the McMaster Bookstore and it contains essential readings with testable material for the course.

**IntroPsych.net:** There are many supplementary resources that have been specially developed to compliment the handbook at IntroPsych.net including practice tests, study aids, interactive glossary, information about course events, university's services, tips for academic success, and student life information. A portion of the proceeds from this courseware go toward the development and maintenance of IntroPsych.net

**AVENUE:** Your primary course content will be delivered through the AVENUE learning management system located at <http://avenue.mcmaster.ca>. AVENUE allows you access to weekly web modules, course announcements, discussion forums, and grade records. To access AVENUE, use your MacID and password. Below are some of the features of AVENUE.

**Web Modules:** The most unique feature of IntroPsych at McMaster is the way you receive your primary course content—it's all online! You can access the web modules from the library, your room, or anywhere you have an internet connection. The interactive web modules feature audio, video animations, and vivid graphics. Check out the many advanced features that allow you to interact with the content according to your personal learning style. Use the navigation tools and integrated search function to move about the module. You can test your knowledge with checkpoints, learn more about faculty related research through *Beyond IntroPsych*, leave your comments with the *Shout Wall*, take a poll, and interact with fellow students and course staff on *Live Chat*.

New web modules are released every Monday at 6PM for the *following* week's tutorials. Once a web module is released, it stays up all year for you to reference. However, be sure to view the assigned web modules **before** you arrive at your weekly tutorial session to stay on schedule and actively participate.

**Live Chat:** TAs will host online office hours on AVENUE to Learn. You can join a live discussion with fellow students Monday to Thursday from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. TAs will answer student's typed questions on webcam. This is the perfect place to get answers to your questions while you study.

**Discussion Boards:** More extended topic discussions are available on the AVENUE Discussion Board. Join an existing discussion or start a new thread. Our discussion boards are consistently the most active compared to any other course on campus, so jump right in with your opinion!

**Discover Psychology: Science You Can Use:** If you are interested in pursuing a program in psychology or are just interested in learning more about psychology, neuroscience, and behaviour, plan to attend this special live lecture series. Although many colloquiums can seem intimidating and out of reach, these talks are made especially for you, the IntroPsych student. Each month a different faculty member will present a fascinating talk focusing on the most interesting and accessible research. If you can't make it in person, you can always watch the lecture later as it is posted on iTunes University. Please visit [www.discoverpsychology.ca](http://www.discoverpsychology.ca) for details.

**Tutorials:** You will join a small tutorial section (capped at 26 students) led by a Teaching Assistant (TA) who is enrolled in or has completed PSYCH 3TT3: Applied Educational Psychology, a course designed specifically to help TAs lead effective tutorials and guide you through IntroPsych. Each year, our TAs receive top ratings from students across campus so don't be shy to ask questions. If you think your TA is especially amazing, consider nominating them for the Kathy Steele Award which honours the top TA of the year. Your TA will guide discussions, lead activities and demonstrations, and answer any questions you might have. Tutorials are updated each year by feedback from students and TAs.

**Lobby Hours:** Have a question or still confused about a specific concept? Need some one-on-one time? Want to meet TAs and students from outside your tutorial? Drop by the lobby of the psychology building, on Thursdays from 11 AM to 2 PM to speak with TAs and students. If you have administrative questions please see Michelle Cadieux, the course coordinator in PC 416. Her office hours are updated on AVENUE weekly.



## Course Content Schedule for Psychology 1X03/1N03 – Fall 2013

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

Week of	Web Module	Chapter Reading	Notes
Sep 2			<b>No Tutorial</b>
Sept 9	Introduction	1	AVE Quiz 1
Sept 16	Research Methods 1 and 2	2	AVE Quiz 2
Sep 23	Classical Conditioning	3 (i)	AVE Quiz 3
Sept 30	Instrumental Conditioning	3 (ii)	AVE Quiz 4
Oct 7	Problem Solving	Journal article	AVE Quiz 5
Oct 14	Language Library Research	4	AVE Quiz 6 <b>Thanksgiving</b> <b>No tutorials this week</b>
Oct 21	Categories & Concepts	Journal article	AVE Quiz 7
Oct 28	---	---	<b>No Quiz this week</b> <b>Midterm Recess</b> <b>No Tutorials this week</b>
Nov 4	Attention	5 (i)	AVE Quiz 8
Nov 11	Memory	5 (ii)	AVE Quiz 9
Nov 18	Forming Impressions	7(i)	AVE Quiz 10
Nov 25	Influence of Others 1 and 2	7 (ii)	AVE Quiz 11
Dec 2	---	---	<b>No Tutorial</b>

## Section Schedule – Fall 2013

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
8:30		<b>QQ</b> E C28 – PC/237 E C29 – BSB/B205 E C30 – BSB/B206	<b>RR</b> E C31 – PC/237 E C32 – BSB/B205 E C33 – BSB/B206	<b>Y</b> C73 – PC/237 C74 – BSB/B205 C75 – BSB/B206
9:30	<b>A</b> C01 – PC/237 C02 – BSB/B205 C03 – BSB/B206	<b>I</b> C25 – PC/237 C26 – BSB/B205 C27 – BSB/B206	<b>Q</b> C49 – PC/237 C50 – BSB/B205 C51 – BSB/B206	<b>Z</b> C76 – PC/237 C77 – BSB/B205 C78 – BSB/B206
10:30	<b>B</b> C04 – PC/237 C05 – BSB/B205 C06 – BSB/B206	<b>J</b> C28 – PC/237 C29 – BSB/B205 C30 – BSB/B206	<b>R</b> C52 – PC/237 C53 – BSB/B205 C54 – BSB/B206	<b>AA</b> C79 – PC/237 C80 – BSB/B205 C81 – BSB/B206
11:30	<b>C</b> C07 – PC/237 C08 – BSB/B205 C09 – BSB/B206	<b>K</b> C31 – PC/237 C32 – BSB/B205 C33 – BSB/B206	<b>S</b> C55 – PC/237 C56 – BSB/B205 C57 – BSB/B206	<b>BB</b> C82 – PC/237 C83 – BSB/B205 C84 – BSB/B206
12:30	<b>D</b> C10 – PC/237 C11 – BSB/B205 C12 – BSB/B206	<b>L</b> C34 – PC/237 C35 – BSB/B205 C36 – BSB/B206	<b>T</b> C58 – PC/237 C59 – BSB/B205 C60 – BSB/B206	<b>CC</b> C85 – PC/237 C86 – BSB/B205 C87 – BSB/B206
1:30	<b>E</b> C13 – PC/237 C14 – BSB/B205 C15 – BSB/B206	<b>M</b> C37 – PC/237 C38 – BSB/B205 C39 – BSB/B206	<b>U</b> C61 – PC/237 C62 – BSB/B205 C63 – BSB/B206	<b>DD</b> C88 – PC/237 C89 – BSB/B205 C90 – BSB/B206
2:30	<b>F</b> C16 – PC/237 C17 – BSB/B205 C18 – BSB/B206	<b>N</b> C40 – PC/237 C41 – BSB/B205 C42 – BSB/B206	<b>V</b> C64 – PC/237 C65 – BSB/B205 C66 – BSB/B206	<b>EE</b> C91 – PC/237 C92 – BSB/B205 C93 – BSB/B206
3:30	<b>G</b> C19 – PC/237 C20 – BSB/B205 C21 – BSB/B206	<b>O</b> C43 – PC/237 C44 – BSB/B205 C45 – BSB/B206	<b>W</b> C67 – PC/237 C68 – BSB/B205 C69 – BSB/B206	<b>FF</b> C94 – PC/237 C95 – BSB/B205 C96 – BSB/B206
4:30	<b>H</b> C22 – PC/237 C23 – BSB/B205 C24 – BSB/B206	<b>P</b> C46 – PC/237 C47 – BSB/B205 C48 – BSB/B206	<b>X</b> C70 – PC/237 C71 – BSB/B205 C72 – BSB/B206	<b>GG</b> C97 – PC/237 C98 – BSB/B205 C99 – BSB/B206
5:30	<b>HH</b> E C01 – PC/237 E C02 – BSB/B205 E C03 – BSB/B206	<b>JJ</b> E C07 – PC/237 E C08 – BSB/B205 E C09 – BSB/B206	<b>LL</b> E C13 – PC/237 E C14 – BSB/B205 E C15 – BSB/B206	<b>NN</b> E C19 – PC/237 E C20 – BSB/B205 E C21 – BSB/B206
7:00	<b>II</b> E C04 – PC/237 E C05 – BSB/B205 E C06 – BSB/B206	<b>KK</b> E C10 – PC/237 E C11 – BSB/B205 E C12 – BSB/B206	<b>MM</b> E C16 – PC/237 E C17 – BSB/B205 E C18 – BSB/B206	<b>OO</b> E C22 – PC/237 E C23 – BSB/B205 E C24 – BSB/B206

**Please Note:** If you are enrolled in Psych 1X03E, you must attend the tutorial section that has an 'E' in front of it. For example, if you are enrolled in 1X03E and your tutorial is C28, then your scheduled tutorial is Tuesday at 8:30am (not to be confused with Tuesday at 10:30am, which is the scheduled tutorial if you are enrolled in Psych 1X03).