

# **Introduction to Psychology I** Online

Course Materials -> Blackboard (BB) available from Day 1
Online meetings via BB Collaborate Ultra



**Instructor:** Dr. Darren Campbell (He/Him), Dept. of Psychology **Email:** darrenc@nipissingu.ca
**Online Q&As**: Lecture Highlights / Clarifications -> Tues @1:30-2:30pm; other by appointment

**Land Acknowledgement**: Nipissing University sits on the territory of Nipissing First Nation, the territory of the Anishnabek, within lands protected by the Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850. We are grateful to be able to live and learn on these lands with all our relations.

**Course Objectives and Content** + *Course Calendar Description Link*

In this survey course, you can develop a broad understanding of Psychology. PSYC 1106 examines *biological, people,* and *environmental* explanations of people / creatures.

In this course and PSYC 1107, you explore theories and findings which provide an academic foundation for various university programs in addition to Psychology-specific specializations.

**PSYC 1106 lectures** focus on *psychological theories, research methods, neuroscience, development, the senses, classical and operant conditioning, personality, and psychological disorders.*

By the end of the course, you will be able to:

1. identify and differentiate among the foundational theories of psychology,
2. recognise core psychological findings,
3. contrast psychological explanations of human and animal behaviour, and
4. derive real-world implications of the psychological theories and findings.

**Basic Workload Expectations for Success**: **Watch** every lecture with *focus* and *attention*, make and **review** your lecture notes, complete the readings, and **regularly self-test** your recall and understanding of the material. A general estimate is that these learning activities will require **3 hours** per week **in addition** to **watching the lectures**. In addition to these basic learning activities, completing the course assignments will further enhance your learning and success. Success requires sustained effort and focused work. Being brilliant may make success easier, but brilliance is neither sufficient nor necessary! *for real*

**Course Readings and Resources**: The readings/lecture materials are available via Blackboard (BB). So, the lectures are available anytime.
**Access:** Login to BB → select PSYC 1106 → Content → Lecture Topic (specific folder)
Optional BB-item content will not be on the exams.

**Evaluation**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 Syllabus + BB-content scavenger hunt | 5% (knowledge demo) |
| 3 Open-book assignments | 18% (select content topics, 6% each) |
| 2 Secure-testing verifications | 2% (ensure your system is exam ready, 1% each) |
| Midterm I | 15% (see below for details) |
| Midterm II | 20% (see below for details) |
| Final exam | 40% (all course content) |
| | **/100**% |
| **+Bonus** (Optional) | 3% (SONA research or class-only research-like) |

For letter-grade equivalents and grading standards, see *Nipissing Uni. link here*.

**Scavenger Hunt and Open-Book Assignments**

As soon as you have Blackboard (BB) course access, the scavenger hunt and 3 course assignments are available to you. I recommend a quick review of each. The reviews will highlight the types of content covered in the lectures and the types of exam questions asked. I also recommend that you complete each assignment section-by-section as you encounter/review the relevant course materials.

The **due dates** *do not represent when you start*; they represent ***when you need to be finished***. After the due date, you will no longer have access to the assignment. **Work** on the open-book assignments **gradually** over time. **Enter** and **Save** your answers as you work on the questions for specific topics. But **do not Submit** your answers **until all** of the **questions are complete** because undoing premature submissions is problematic. With appropriate effort and attention to detail, you should score well and be better prepared for the course and each exam.

**Syllabus/BB content scavenger hunt** (5%)
Systematically examine the syllabus and course BB links to better understand: what to expect in the course, the grading system, and how to find what you need to be successful.

**3 Open-Book Assignments** (18% = 3 x 6% each)
The assignments encourage you to review the lecture materials in a timely manner. Each assignment includes questions which demonstrate the type of understanding and content assessed in each exam.

**2 Testing System Verifications** (2%, 1% each)
Follow the lockdown browser (LDB) software installation instructions. Review the LDB + Webcam monitoring testing procedures. Before each midterm, complete the appropriate "system test" demonstrating that your system works. You only need to submit your answers successfully. The correctness of your answers is irrelevant to these system verifications.

**Exams** (require detailed content knowledge and a clear understanding of content implications)
1. You are expected to **be available for** each of the **scheduled exams**.

2. Given the large class size and the timing of the exams, there are **no opportunities** for **questions during** the **exams**. A space is available to type in test-item comments. When I review the test results and your comments, if needed, I will adjust the scoring and/or eliminate problematic items.

3. **Midterm I** is worth 15% and **Midterm II** is worth 20%.
   3.1 The Midterm questions will focus on **all prior** course content (readings, lectures, videos, etc.) covered **up to the date** of the test. The **date** of each Midterm is identified **in the schedule** below.
   3.2 **Once you start**, you will **have 60/80 minutes** for Midterm 1/2, respectively. [For SAS registered students, your test time will be extended appropriately.] Please **read** and **think about** the **questions carefully**. Most people finish well under the time limit.

4. If **uncontrolled circumstances** cause you to miss a Midterm, please contact me as soon as possible. If you have provided me with a legitimate reason for missing and not too much time has passed, we will arrange an alternative examination. If too much time has passed, with sufficient justification, I will

transfer the value of your missed Midterm (15% or 20%) to the value of your Final exam (↑ by 15% or 20%).

5. The **Final Exam** is worth 40% of your final grade. The questions will focus on **all** content covered throughout the course. *The University **Registrar's Office** determines **the Date** and **Time** for the **Final Exam**. They provide you with this date-time information directly. *You are expected to be available*.

Strict university rules apply to writing exams (see academic-senate/policies/exams ).

**Grading and Grade Postings**

For each assignment and exam, I review the item results for potential problems. If needed, I will re-score or adjust the scoring. I post your grades in BB Grade Centre. If you believe that there is a mistake in one of your grades, please contact me. In the relevant discussion-board thread, I post class-level scoring results to give you a broader view of student performance patterns for each assignment / exam.

**Questions & Communications**

For **basic course information**, the course BB website includes the Syllabus, Readings, Lecture materials, Assignments, and other resources.
For a **non-personal course question**, please post it on the course *Q&A forum*. This allows other students to see your question, participate in the discussion, and see my response. If you are confused about something, other students also are very likely confused. So, I definitely want and need to know!
I regularly post **important information** on the **Q&A forum**. So, please **check the forum** regularly.
For a **personal question**, please email me directly via darrenc@nipissingu.ca . I tend to respond quickly.
For "live" interactions with me, come to one of my online Q&A sessions.

**Fair Behaviour and Respect for Others**

We all prefer a positive environment that supports learning and fair evaluations. Disruptive or negative behaviour is not helpful. Please review this *Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities*.

**Student Support Resources**

If you find yourself **struggling academically** or with **mental health problems**, Student Development Services (SDS) at Nipissing University has many supports available to you (go *here* or email sds@nipissingu.ca).

**Nipissing Library Resources**

The library offers excellent resources and services which make completing assignments and writing papers easier, more efficient, and better in quality. I encourage you to use them (follow this *link*).

**Academic Integrity**

The more effort you put into your education and experiences at Nipissing University, the more you will get out of them. Cheating and Plagiarism are not just unethical with serious consequences (see *link*), they undermine your ability to develop life-long time-management strategies, coping skills, and, of course, specific course knowledge and insights.

**Intellectual Property**

All materials developed for this course, including, but not limited to, lectures (in-person or video versions), lecture notes and slides, assignments, examinations and syllabi, that are provided in class or online, are the intellectual property of the course instructor. Posting, providing, sharing or selling unauthorized audio, video, or textual material violates an instructor's intellectual property rights, the Canadian Copyright Act, and may violate the rights and privacy of others in the classroom. Failure to follow these instructions is in contravention of the university's *Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities*. Participation in this course constitutes an agreement by all parties to respect the intellectual property and privacy of others during and after their association with Nipissing University.

**Lecture Schedule & Important Dates**

| #Week & Lecture Topic | Review Topic Content by | Task Dates Start | Task Dates End @ 11am |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***Scavenger Hunt*** - 5% | | Sep 6 | Sep 16 |
| [1-2] Syllabus + Psychological Perspectives | Sep 13 | | |
| ***Assignment 1*** - 6% | | Sep 17 | Oct 2 |
| [2-4] Research Design | Sep 23 | | |
| [3-5] Neuroscience | Oct 2 | | |
| **1%** *Secure Testing System (STS) Verification 1* Due: **Oct 3** @ 11am | | | |
| [5] **Midterm I** - **15%** available **Tues Oct 4 @ 11am** (~24-hours) 60-minute duration once started (use Lockdown Browser + Webcam Monitoring) | | | |
| ***Assignment 2*** - 6% | | Oct 6 | Oct 31 |
| **Thanksgiving + Study Week Oct 10 to 14** | | | |
| [5-7] Development | Oct 24 | | |
| [7-8] Sensation & Perception | Oct 31 | | |
| [8-9] Learning | Nov 11 | | |
| **1%** *STS Verification 2* Due: **Nov 14** @ 11 am | | | |
| [10] **Midterm II** - **20%** available **Tues Nov 15 @ 11am** (~24-hours) 80-minute duration once started (use Lockdown Browser + Webcam) | | | |
| ***Assignment 3*** - 6% | | Nov 16 | Dec 5 |
| [10-11] Personality | Nov 21 | | |
| [11] Personality / Developmental Disorders | Nov 25 | | |
| [11-12] Anxiety Disorders | Dec 5 | | |



**Final Exam - 40%** The **Date and Time** is set by the University within the **Final examination period** (Dec. 7th to Dec. 22nd). *You are expected to be available for the specified date and time*.

Bonus-Mark Options

**In this class**, the maximum numbers of bonus credits you can earn is **3%**. The credit will be added to your final grade at the end of the term. The completion **deadline** is the **December 9th**.

**Option 1: Participate in research**

You may volunteer to participate in Nipissing University research projects listed in the SONA system. Each SONA study will describe what you will be doing and how many credits you will earn. Generally, longer research participation time gives you more SONA credits and more course bonus points. For

example, **1 hour** of research = **1 credit** which represents a 1% bonus in this course. Research studies are accessed via an online system called SONA. To use this system, you first must enroll. Follow this *link* for details and instructions.
**FYI**: During the term, I am given no information about your SONA credits. After classes end, the SONA administrator sends me a table of student names with their SONA credit number.

**Option 2: Class-only research-like participation:**
For this option, online links will be posted in various lecture topic folders. These activities will **highlight** psychological methods or content relevant to the research covered in the given lecture topic. If enough students participate, the class results will be shared with the class.