

Introduction to Psychology I - Online



Video Lectures, Readings, etc. available via Blackboard (BB) immediately
Online **Q&A meetings** via **BB Collaborate** on **Tues @ 2:30 - 3:30 pm** +
others by appointment, extra sessions if needed, & In-Person visits are Welcome!
Instructor: **Dr. Darren Campbell** (He/Him), Psychology, Email: darrenc@nipissingu.ca

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 how we think, feel, and act. PSYC 1106 examines *biological, cognitive,* and *environmental psychological* 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, child 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 / 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** 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 assignments will 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 lectures, readings, etc. are available via Blackboard (BB).
Access: Login to BB → select PSYC 1106 → Content → Lecture Topic (choose a 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 activities)

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

Scavenger Hunt and Open-Book Assignments

Once you have Blackboard (BB) course access, the scavenger hunt and 3 course assignments are available to you. I recommend a 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 finish***. After the due date, the questions and answers will be available for study purposes. **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** the **questions are complete** because undoing premature submissions is problematic. With appropriate effort and attention to detail, you should score well, be better prepared for each exam, and gain additional insights into the course content.

Syllabus/BB content scavenger hunt (5%)
Systematically examine the syllabus, course BB links, and posted files 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 Secure Testing Verifications (2%, 1% each)
Install the lockdown browser (LDB) software. Review the LDB + Webcam monitoring testing procedures. Before each midterm, complete (as many times as you like) the "system test" demonstrating that your system works for the upcoming midterm. Key steps include a proper environmental scan, recording the test-session, and submitting your answers successfully. Answer correctness does not matter.

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. **Midterms** can be started within a ~23-hour time-window. Once started, you will have 60 minutes for Midterm 1 and 80 minutes for Midterm 2. [For SAS registered students, your test time will be assigned appropriately.] **Read** and **think about** the **questions carefully**. Most people finish under the time limit.

3. **Midterm I** is worth 15% and **Midterm II** is worth 20%.
The Midterm questions will focus on **all** 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.

4. Given the large class size (+ the flexibility in when you take the Midterms), 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.

5. 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 a make-up exam. If too much time has passed, no make-up exam will be possible. But, 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%).

6. 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 and informs you of the **specific 3-hour time-window** and **Date** for the **Final Exam**. *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 post your grades in Gradebook. If you see a mistake, please contact me. Under Discussions, I post class-level scoring results to show overall student-performance patterns for each assignment and exam.

Questions & Communications

For **basic course information**, see the course BB website (Syllabus, Readings, Lectures, Assignments, etc).
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, attend one of my synchronous Q&A sessions in Blackboard (BB).

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 the *Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities*.

Student Support Resources

If you find yourself **struggling academically** or with **mental health problems**, Nipissing U.'s Student Development and Services (SDS) 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 course materials, including, but not limited to, lectures (in-person or video versions), lecture notes and slides, assignments, examinations and syllabi, 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
1-2	Syllabus + Psychological Perspectives	Sep 10
2-4	Research Design	Sep 19
3-5	Neuroscience	Oct 3
	S**ecure **T**esting **V**erification **1 - 1% -> complete before Midterm 1	
6	**Midterm I** opens **Oct 8 @11am,** 60 mins once started -> LDB + Webcam	
	Thanksgiving + Study Week *Oct 14 to 18*	
6-8	Development	Oct 29
8-9	Sensation & Perception	Nov 5
9	Learning Part I	Nov 7
	S**ecure **T**esting **V**erification **2 - 1% -> complete before Midterm 2	
10	**Midterm II** opens **Nov 12 @11am**, 80 mins once started -> LDB + Webcam	
10-11	Learning Part II	Nov 19
11	Personality	Nov 21
11-12	Anxiety Disorders	Nov 29



Tasks & Assignments	Start no later than	Due **@ 6pm**	Answers Revealed **@ 8pm**
Scavenger Hunt - 5%	ASAP	Sep 13	Sep 13
Assignment 1 - 6%	Sep 5	Oct 4	Oct 4
Assignment 2 - 6%	Oct 10	Nov 8	Nov 8
Assignment 3 - 6%	Nov 14	Nov 29	Nov 29

As soon as possible, carefully examine the assignments, preferably in the first week of classes.

Final Exam worth 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, I give you the opportunity to earn up to **3%** in bonus points. The points will be added to your final grade at the end of the term. The completion **deadline** is **November 29th**.

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. More participation time earns 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: After classes end, I am sent a table of student names listing their SONA-credits earned.

Option 2: Class-only research-like participation:

Online links will be available in a course Blackboard folder. These online activities **highlight** psychological methods or content relevant to the course. Credits earned are listed for each activity.