*Science of Mind Reading – PSYC 3**007** WI001*

Winter 2025, Seminars: Tues & Thurs @ 12:00 – 1:30 pm in **A117**

Instructor: **Dr. Darren Campbell** (He/Him) in H236 (My Office)
Email: darrenc@nipissingu.ca, **Q&As**: Thurs. 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm; + Appointments

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 course you evaluate the psychological factors that support accurately inferring people's thoughts and feelings, general tendencies, and truthful or deceptive intent.

During class you will discuss, present, and write about verbal, non-verbal, and environmental signals that people use to infer others' personality traits, thoughts, emotional states, and truthfulness or deception.

Learning Outcomes: With the successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. describe and evaluate modern models of the science of mind reading,
2. evaluate verbal, non-verbal, and text-based measures of people's mental states,
3. create a written review with a mind-reading research focus, and
4. enhance your written and oral communication skills.

Course Resources: Assigned readings, videos, instructions, etc. are freely available through the university's learning management system Blackboard (BB). Other resources are available through Nipissing Library.

Course Approach
Workload for Success: **Complete** the **readings** so you can **participate meaningfully** in seminar discussions, **review** your notes/thoughts to enhance understanding and retention, **collaborate with classmates** on a group presentation, **systematically work on** draft and final **term-papers**. On average, these activities will require **3 - 5 hours per week outside** of **participating in the seminars**. Success requires sustained effort and focused work. 😊

Evaluation

Engage in Activities & Discussions	10% (DC-led & Group-led)
Group Presentation & Demo	15% (6% Written, 5% Class Lead, 4% Grp. Demo)
Exam	25% (multiple-choice)
Term-Paper Oral Report	2% (brief description / discussion)
Draft term paper	18% (Intro + 3 article evaluations)
Final term Paper	30% (Full Literature review: Intro + 6 articles + Summary)

Engage in Activities & Discussions (10%) During Instructor-led seminars, you participate meaningfully based on an informed understanding of the readings and other relevant materials. During Group-led article discussions, you participate in the study demonstration activity and join in discussions.

Group Presentation & Methods Demo (15%) Each group will discuss a research article and develop a demonstration activity of the research method used in the article. **Before class**, each member will **submit**

a written summary of their **discussion plan** (6%). **During class**, each member will summarize, comment on, and raise meaningful questions based on their section(s) of the article (5%). Additionally, group members will lead the class in a **demonstration** activity which highlights the key **mind-reading assessment** process used in the article (4%).

Exam (25%) You will complete a multiple-choice exam based on the course readings and in-class discussions.

Term-Paper Oral Report (2%) You will describe key aspects of your term paper and respond to follow-up questions.

Draft term paper (18%) You will describe your topic, research question, and summarize and evaluate 3 research articles. See the Draft instructions for more details.

Final term paper (30%) You will revise the Draft, complete 3 new research article evaluations, and generate a review summary. See the Final term paper instructions for more details.

Schedule and Important Dates

Week / Date	Reading and Discussion Topic		Due Date **@ 5pm**
1. Jan 7/9	Admin + Topics	Trait Highlights	
2. Jan 14/16	Trait 1 (*Wallace*- Good Ts)	Review + Empathic Accuracy (EA) Highlights	
3. Jan 21/23	EA 1 (*Ickes*- DIP conflict)	EA 2 (*Petit*- Brain Connect)	
4. Jan 28/30	Review + Lie Highlights	Lie 1 (*Eskritt*- F-to-F vs CMC)	
5. Feb 4/6	Lie 2 (*Deng*- LPC vs P300)	**Grp 1** Trait (#Insta)	Grp1 Plans Feb 5
6. Feb 11/13	Trait 2 (*Kerr*- Romance)	**Grp 2** EA (Age Cue Info)	Grp2 Plans Feb 12
Feb 17 – 21	***Family Day & Study Week***		
7. Feb 25/27	EA 3 (*Mayukha*- Empathy)	**Grp 3** Lie (VA Details-Source)	Grp3 Plans Feb 26
	Draft term paper		**Feb 28**
8. Mar 4/6	Review	**Exam**	
9. Mar 11/13	Exam Grading Review	**Grp 4** Trait (1st Dates)	Grp4 Plans Mar 12
10. Mr 18/20	Term-Paper Discussions	**Grp 5** Lie fMRI or T-P Qs	Grp5 Plans Mar 19
11. Mr 25/27	**Grp 6** or Oral Reports	Oral Reports	Grp6 Plans Mar 24
12. Apr 1/3	Themes & Issues . . .	continued	
	Final term paper		**Apr 12**

Note. If any class is cancelled during the term, an April make-up date will be announced.



Grading

I post class-level results to provide a broader view of student performance patterns. Your personal grades are in BB Gradebook. I also will provide individual assignment feedback as needed and a general exam review.

Course Policies and other Important Notices

1. Policy for Recording of Lectures/Materials link for details

Students with disabilities have permission to audio record and, based on the terms defined in fair dealing use the material "for purposes of private study, research, criticism [or] review" (CIPO, 2011). However, the information contained in the audio-recorded lecture is still protected under federal and international copyright legislation and, therefore, may not be published or quoted without the lecturer's explicit consent and without properly identifying and crediting the lecturer.

Note, **all materials** developed for this course, including, but not limited to, seminar 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, and the Canadian Copyright Act. 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.

2. Evaluation and Grading System link for details

3. Academic Integrity link for details

The **more effort you put into** your education and experiences at Nipissing University, the **more you will get out** of them. Unethical behaviours undermine your ability to develop life-long time-management strategies, coping skills, and specific course knowledge and insights.

Moreover, the **University takes a most serious view of offences against academic honesty** such as plagiarism, cheating, impersonation and the presentation of altered or falsified documents. Penalties for dealing with such offences will be strictly enforced.

4. Student Appeals and Petitions link for details

5. Student Rights and Responsibilities link for details

Nipissing University is dedicated to cultivating a campus community where students thrive academically, socially, and personally.

6. Student Development & Services (SDS) link for details

Supports for every learner are available to help ensure your success at Nipissing University.

7. Harris Learning Library link for details

The library offers excellent resources and services. I encourage you to use them.