

Psychology 2400A
Introduction to Forensic Psychology
Early Summer 2011

Instructor:

Name: Dr. Craig Bennell
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Hours: Monday 4:00pm-5:30pm
By appointment

The best way to get in touch with me is by email.

Teaching Assistants:

TBA

Course Description:

This course will provide a broad overview of the relationship between psychology and the law/legal system. A variety of topics will be discussed and critically evaluated, including police selection, police stress, criminal profiling, police interrogations, deception detection, eyewitness testimony, jury decision-making, criminal responsibility, fitness to stand trial, sentencing, treatment of offenders, psychopathy, and risk assessment. Classes will consist of lectures, activities, video presentations, and discussions. I hope that presenting the material in this way will allow you to better appreciate and understand the topics we explore while making the course exciting and fun.

Time and Location:

All lectures will be held in the Mackenzie Building, Room 4499 on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:05pm to 8:55pm.

Course Web Page:

A web page for Psychology 2400A has been constructed and can be accessed through the WebCT site. In addition to other information about the course, including the syllabus, sample exam questions, a discussion group, and a glossary, this web page will contain the slides presented in lectures. I will post my lecture slides in Adobe (.pdf) format before the relevant class. While these slides are meant to assist students, it is NOT recommended that students skip class in favour of taking notes from these slides.

Students often find the discussion group useful as a way of finding out answers to questions they have (most often, right before the exams). This discussion group will largely be run by you and it is expected that the discussion group will remain focused on topics related to the field of forensic psychology (including issues to do with education and careers). The TA will moderate the discussion group and if any student posts an inappropriate message, appropriate action will be taken.

Textbook:

The required textbook for this class is:

Pozzulo, J., Bennell, C., & Forth, A. (2011). *Forensic Psychology* (3rd Edition). Toronto, Ontario: Pearson Education Canada.

Make sure you pick up a copy of this book as soon as possible and make sure it is the 3rd edition (which is quite different from the 2nd edition). It will be assumed that you have read the assigned chapter(s) from this book before the relevant classes. The assigned chapters are listed in the course outline that is attached.

There is also a study guide that accompanies this book. Purchase of this study guide is not a requirement for this course, but many students find the study guide helpful.

Grades:

Grades will be assigned as percentages and rounded following the standard rules of rounding. Alphabetical final grades will be assigned following the percentage equivalents described in the Undergraduate Calendar. Midterm exam grades will be posted on the course web page and your course grade will be posted to Carleton Central. You are responsible for making sure that your midterm and final grades are recorded. Inform me right away if they are not.

Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated on the basis of a midterm exam and a final exam.

Midterm exam: June 1, 2011 (6:05pm-8:05pm in Mackenzie 4499) Value: 50%

The midterm exam will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions and will cover all the material covered in Lectures 1-5. A short review for the midterm exam will be held in class.

Final exam: June 24-29, 2011(time and location TBA) Value: 50%

The final exam will also consist of multiple choice and short answer questions and will cover all the material covered in Lectures 6-10 (i.e., the final exam is NOT cumulative).

A review for the final exam will be held in class. The exact date, time, and location of the final examination will be available before the last class.

Missing Exams:

If you miss the midterm, you must notify the TA within 24 hours after the date of the exam. A make-up midterm will usually be permitted under two conditions only: illness or bereavement (if, for any other reason, you feel you must miss the midterm please see me as soon as possible). Documentation is required to schedule an alternative time for the midterm. If no documentation is provided, you will receive a grade of zero for the midterm. If you do provide appropriate documentation, the TA will contact you to inform you of the make-up midterm location, time, and date. Given the size of the class, we cannot run multiple make up exams so we will expect you to write the make up midterm on the date that we set.

If you miss the final exam, you must contact the appropriate office at the Registrar's within the time period specified in the Undergraduate Calendar. You will need to fully document your application.

Plagiarism and Cheating:

See the regulations at the end of the course outline.

Requests for Academic Accommodations:

See the regulations at the end of the course outline.

Class Schedule and Readings

Lecture	Date	Topic	Readings
Lecture 1	May 9	Administrative issues Overview of forensic psychology	Chapter 1
Lecture 2	May 11	Police selection Police stress	Chapter 2
Lecture 3	May 16	Police interrogations Detecting deception	Chapter 3 Chapter 4
Lecture 4	May 18	Criminal profiling Geographic profiling	Chapter 3
	May 23	No class (Victoria Day)	
Lecture 5	May 25	Eyewitness testimony Police interviewing Midterm exam review	Chapter 5
Lecture 6	May 30	Jury decision-making	Chapter 7
	June 1	Midterm exam Mackenzie 4499 (6:05pm-8:05pm)	Lectures 1-5
Lecture 7	June 6	Criminal responsibility Fitness to stand trial	Chapter 8
Lecture 8	June 8	Sentencing Offender treatment	Chapter 9
Lecture 9	June 13	Psychopathy	Chapter 11
Lecture 10	June 15	Risk assessment	Chapter 12
	June 20	Discussion Final exam review	
	June 24-29	Final Exam Location TBA	Lectures 6-10

Note: This schedule is meant to be a guide only and may be subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class.

Regulations and Information Common to all Psychology Courses

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

1. Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations are required to contact a co-ordinator at the Paul Menton Centre (ext. 6608) to complete the necessary *letters of accommodation*. The student must then make an appointment to discuss their needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first in-class or CUOL test. This is to ensure sufficient time is available to make the necessary accommodation arrangements. Deadlines for submitting forms for formally scheduled exam accommodation: June 10, 2011 for June examinations and July 29, 2011 for August examinations.

2. Religious Observance

Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious observance should make a formal, written request to their instructors for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student.

Students or instructors who have questions or want to confirm accommodation eligibility of a religious event or practice may refer to the Equity Services website for a list of holy days and Carleton's Academic Accommodation policies, or may contact an Equity Services Advisor in the Equity Services Department for assistance (ext. 5622).

3. Pregnancy

Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services (ext. 5622) to complete a *letter of accommodation*. The student must then make an appointment to discuss her needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

PETITIONS TO DEFER

Students unable to complete a final term paper or write a final examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control or whose performance on an examination has been impaired by such circumstances may apply within five working days to the Registrar's Office for permission to extend a term paper deadline or to write a deferred examination. The request must be fully and specifically supported by a medical certificate or other relevant documentation. Only deferral petitions submitted to the Registrar's Office will be considered.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from Early Summer courses is June 21, 2011. The last date to withdraw from Full Summer and Late Summer term courses is August 16, 2011.

OFFICIAL FINAL EXAMINATION PERIOD

Early Summer Term Courses: June 24-29 (May Include evenings & Saturdays) 2011.

Late Summer & Full Summer Term Courses: August 18-23 (may include evenings & Saturdays) 2011.

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as "*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own.*" This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*"

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They range from a mark of zero for the plagiarized work to a final grade of "F" for the course, and even suspension from all studies or expulsion from the University.

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B = 73-76	C - = 60-62
A = 85-89	B - = 70-72	D+ = 57-59
A - = 80-84	C+ = 67-69	D = 53-56
B+ = 77-79	C = 63-66	D - = 50-52

F Failure. No academic credit

ABS Absent from the final examination

DEF Official deferral (see "Petitions to Defer")

FND "Failed, no Deferral" – assigned when the student is absent from the final exam and has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

ADDRESSES (613-520-2600, phone ext.)

Department of Psychology (2644)	B550 Loeb
Registrar's Office (3500)	300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre (7850)	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre (6608)	500 Unicentre
Writing Tutorial Service (1125)	4 th fl Library
Learning Support Services (1125)	4 th fl Library

DEPARTMENTAL DROP BOX POLICY – Located outside B550 Loeb

Mail received prior to 4:30pm will be date stamped with the current date. Mail received after 4:30pm will be date stamped with the next business day's date.

Please ensure to include your name, student number, course code and instructor's name. We are unable to distribute without this information.