

The Psychology of Creativity

Course	PSYC 4001 C
Instructor	Dean Verger
Term	Winter 2021
Email Address	dean.verger@carleton.ca
Office Location	Winter (TBA)
Office Hours	Winter (TBA)

COURSE DESCRIPTION/INSTRUCTOR'S STATEMENT

The Psychology of Creativity is a mixture of academic study and active play. Imagine creating something new. How do we do it? What is the process? As part of the course you will get to develop a new game for children. We will observe the initial idea's growth from blank slate to completed product by being involved in, and reflecting on, the mental processes we experience. But does creativity mean the same thing to everyone? Are problem-solving and creativity the same thing? In today's job market there is a lot of interest in hiring people who can problem-solve, who can come up with new ideas. Creativity is a marketable skill. How can Psychology inform us about creativity? As a seminar course each class will be centred on the preparation, sharing, and exploration of knowledge.

How we meet in the winter term will depend on the current health situation. One option will be to meet online. If we are past the current health emergency, we may be meeting on campus. In both cases, I will be inviting guests, most of whom will be visiting with us via the internet. The course will be a synchronous course (meeting during the scheduled class time whether on campus or online).

EVALUATION

There are four evaluations during the course: an assignment, a term paper, in-class preparation and contributions, and a presentation.

TEXT

No course text book. We shall read selected papers, news articles, and view some videos.