

PSYC 4001 A: EVOLUTIONARY PSYCHOLOGY

Instructor	Kristopher Brazil
Term	Fall 2026
Course Delivery	In-Person
Email Address	kristopher.brazil@carleton.ca
Office Location	Loeb B545
Office Hours	TBA

COURSE DESCRIPTION/INSTRUCTOR'S STATEMENT

This course will explore theory and research on how evolutionary theory has been applied to understand psychology and behaviour, with a particular emphasis on humans, but occasional reference to other species as well. First, we will cover the core tenets and claims of evolution, which will include us critically evaluating and examining the claim that “nothing makes sense in biology [and by extension, psychology] except in the light of evolution” (Dobzhansky, 1973). The second aspect of the course involves applying evolutionary principles to understand specific aspects of psychology, including attraction and love, conflict and aggression, and family and community, among others. Get ready to be challenged, intrigued, and perhaps amazed as we explore the evolutionary psychology landscape together.

EVALUATION (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Attendance and participation (15%)

In-class quizzes (20%)

Midterm (20%)

Presentation (15%)

Final project or exam (30%)

TEXT

TBD.