

PSYC 1001 L : INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY I

Instructor	Peter Aubin
Term	Winter 2027
Course Delivery	Online Unscheduled with Online Assessments
Email Address	Peter.aubin@carleton.ca
Office Hours	Will be provided in course syllabus

COURSE DESCRIPTION/INSTRUCTOR'S STATEMENT

The overall purpose of this course is to introduce students to the field of psychology as a social science. The immediate goal is to provide students with an opportunity to survey psychological research related to the biology of behaviour, learning and behaviour, and the broad research topics of sensation, perception, memory and consciousness. This course is designed for those students considering careers in the discipline of psychology, as well as those students generally interested in the course content. The overall guiding philosophy of the course, however, is that students who will someday conduct psychological research need a practical introduction to some of the primary areas of psychological research, and this course aims to provide you with the opportunity to obtain that practical introduction. The course is also geared to provide you with the opportunity to prepare yourselves for material covered in PSYC 1002.

This course is being delivered online and will be asynchronous – meaning that there are no “set” class timeslots. The lectures for this course will be pre-recorded and made available as streaming video through our Brightspace course account. Regular opportunities will be provided to interact directly with the instructor and teaching assistants, during for example office hours.

This course will:

- provide you with an introduction to the study of Psychology;
- provide you with an understanding of the basic principles, theories and methods used in the study of people;
- facilitate the development of your social-scientific reasoning ability; and
- prepare you for more advanced branching courses (including a thesis in the area of your major is psychology).

EVALUATION (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Your final grade will be based on two mid-term examinations (30% each), a final exam (36%) (all multiple-choice questions), and research participation. The midterms and the final make up 96% of the final grade. Up to 5% in research participation will be counted towards your final grade to get you closer to 100% but your maximum grade cannot exceed 100%. Exams take place online through Brightspace and will be monitoring using an e-Proctoring solution to ensure academic integrity.

TEXT

This same book is used for both PSYC 1001 and 1002.

McCann, D., Weiten, W., Hunt-Matheson, D., & Wright, S. (2026). *Psychology: Themes and Variations* (7th Canadian Edition). Cengage Canada. There are textbooks published by Cengage with very similar titles so check carefully that you have this textbook. Note that the Psychology Department negotiated special, discounted prices so students are advised to purchase access to the text via the Carleton Bookstore or the special Cengage purchasing link. Students can select one of 3 format options:

1. Book only (\$65.95). Duration: 360 days. ISBN: 9781778414107.
2. Multi-term MindTap (\$79.95): MindTap is Cengage's digital learning platform that includes the full eBook, plus a variety of supplemental activities including practice quizzes, real-world application exercises, flashcards, and test preparation tools. Duration: This is a multi-term code, and can be used for both PSYC1001 and PSYC1002. ISBN: 9781778414138.
3. Print + Digital Bundle (\$89.95): Hard copy print book + multi-term MindTap Access Code. ISBN: 9781779540188. **Update:** For the print bundle, Cengage has permanently switched from loose-leaf to hard copy.

The biggest difference between the new 7th edition and the 6th edition is that the 7th combines chapters 8 and 9 from the 6th edition into the 7th edition's chapter 8. PSYC 1001 covers up to the 7th edition's chapter 8. Used 6th editions are available through Carleton and others online. So you may want to shop around but MindTap is only available for new editions, An older edition of the textbook (i.e. Weitan and McCann, the 5th Canadian edition) will have much of the same content. But there will be some material that is new in the sixth edition that does not appear in the fifth edition. Thus, if you do use an earlier edition, then understand that you may encounter some questions on the exams for which you won't have the answers.