

PSYC 1001 M : INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY I

Instructor	Olivier Brown
Term	Fall 2026
Course Delivery	In-Person
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Office Location	Virtual
Office Hours	By appointment; refer to the course outline

COURSE DESCRIPTION/INSTRUCTOR'S STATEMENT

Welcome to your introduction to the field of psychology. Psychology is the scientific study of thoughts, feelings, and behaviour, and this course introduces it as a natural science focused on understanding human experience. In PSYC 1001, students examine core areas such as biological bases of behaviour, learning, perception, memory, and consciousness, with emphasis on how psychological processes shape everyday experience. The course also connects research to real-world applications and develops critical thinking about how psychological questions are studied and empirically tested.

Introductory psychology is split into PSYC 1001 and 1002, which together provide the foundation required for more specialized psychology courses. The course is designed as a practical introduction to key areas of psychological science for students planning further study or interested in understanding human behaviour.

EVALUATION (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Evaluation format	Weight
Midterm exam 1	25%
Midterm exam 2	25%
Final exam	45%
Research participation	5%

TEXT

McCann, D., Weiten, W., Hunt-Matheson, D., & Wright, S. (2026). *Psychology: Themes and Variations* (7th Canadian edition). Cengage Canada.

Students have options in terms of format: 1) an e-book, 2) an e-book bundled with MindTap, a platform developed by the publisher that includes various activities, study tools, and more, or 3) a bundle that includes the e-book, MindTap, and a printed copy of the text.

We negotiated discounted prices for our students. To obtain these discounts, purchase the text via the Carleton Bookstore or a special publisher's link that will be made available on the course Brightspace website shortly before the start of term. Make sure to compare prices and features if you are purchasing via other vendors.