



PSYC39H3F L01 & L60 – Psychology and the Law

Thursdays, 1 – 3 p.m., Location: HL B101

Contact Information

Instructor:

Dr. Jared C. Allen

Office: SW132G

Office Hours: Thurs. 3 – 4:40 p.m. on lecture days

Teaching Assistants:

Ivana Dewi

Shauna Solomon-Krakus

Course email: psyc39h3f2019@gmail.com

Course Description

This course focuses on the application of psychology to the law, particularly criminal law including cognitive, neuropsychological and personality applications to fitness to stand trial, criminal responsibility, risk for violent and sexual recidivism and civil forensic psychology.

Course Goals

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Understand the role that forensic psychology plays in forensic investigations.
2. Understand the role of psychology in interrogations, false confessions, and jury bias.
3. Think through the challenges associated with different types of forensic information (e.g. polygraphs, eyewitness testimony).
4. Develop their own insight into the minds of: criminals with abnormal psychologies, criminals with addictions, domestic violence, and those with homicidal tendencies.

Course Prerequisites

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have met **all** prerequisites listed in the Psychology section of the UTSC Calendar for this course. If you lack any prerequisites you **WILL BE REMOVED**. No waivers will be granted.

Course Readings

Required textbook: Pozzulo, J., Bennell, C., & Forth, A. (2018). *Forensic Psychology, fifth edition*. Don Mills, ON: Pearson.

Most test content (roughly 75%) will come from the textbook.

Course Evaluation/Marking Scheme

Assessment	Weight	Date
Test 1 (multiple-choice [30/35%], short answer [5/35%])	35%	TBD – Sometime at the end of September/start of October
Test 2 (multiple-choice)	25%	TBD – Some time at the end of October/start of November
Test 3 (multiple-choice [30/40%], short essay [10/40%])	40%	In Exam Period

Summary: Grades will be determined 85% by multiple choice and 15% by written work.

Course Schedule

Week #	Lect.#	Date	Topic	Reading(s)
1	1	Sept. 5	Introduction	This syllabus, Ch.1
2	2	Sept. 12	Police Psychology	Ch.2; Ch.3
3	3	Sept. 19	Deception and Eyewitnesses	Ch.4; Ch.5
4	-	Sept. 26	No Class*	-
5	4	Oct. 3	Juries	Ch.7
6	5	Oct. 10	Mental Illness	Ch.8
7	-	Oct. 17	No Classes — Reading Week	-
8	6	Oct. 24	Addictions and the Law	posted online
9	-	Oct. 31	No Class*	-
10	7	Nov. 7	Risk Assessment	Ch.10
11	8	Nov. 14	Psychopathy; Young Offenders	Ch.11; Ch.12
12	9	Nov. 21	Intimate Partner Violence	Ch.13
13	10	Nov. 28	Homicidal Offenders	Ch. 15
TBA	-	(Exam Period)	Test 3 (120 minutes, worth 40%). On lectures 7-10 and their readings.	-

*Note that the dates and locations for Test1 and Test2 will be determined by the university.
 Test 1: 90 minutes, worth 35%, on lectures 1-3 and their readings. Date and location: TBD.
 Test2: 90 minutes, worth 25%, on lectures 4-6 and their readings. Date and location: TBD.

University Policy Regarding Missed Term Work: Department of Psychology REQUESTS FOR MISSED TERM WORK ACCOMMODATIONS

Missed Term Work due to Medical Illness or Other Emergency:

All students citing a documented reason for missed term work must bring their documentation to the Departmental Assistant, Keely Hicks, in SW420B **within three (3) business days** of the assignment due date. You must bring the following:

- (1.) A completed Request for Missed Term Work form (<http://uoft.me/PSY-MTW>), and
- (2.) Appropriate documentation to verify your illness or emergency, as described below.

Appropriate Documentation:

In the case of missed term work due to **illness**, only an **original copy** of the official UTSC Verification of Illness Form will be accepted (<http://uoft.me/UTSC-Verification-Of-Illness-Form>). Forms are to be **completed in full**, clearly indicating the start date, anticipated end date, and severity of illness. The physician's registration number and business stamp are required.

In the case of **medical emergency**, an original copy of the record of visitation to a hospital emergency room should be provided.

In the case of a **death of a family member**, a copy of a death certificate should be provided.

In the case of a **disability-related** concern, an email communication should be sent directly to the Course Coordinator (psychology-undergraduate@utsc.utoronto.ca) from your Disability Consultant at AccessAbility Services, detailing the accommodations required. The Course Instructor should also be copied on this email.

For U of T **Varsity athletic commitments**, an email communication should be sent directly to the Department Assistant (keely.hicks@utoronto.ca) from a coach or varsity administrator, detailing the dates and nature of the commitment. The email should be sent **well in advance** of the missed work.

Documents covering the following situations are **NOT acceptable**: medical prescriptions, anything related to personal travel, weddings/personal/work commitments.

Procedure:

Submit your (1.) request form and (2.) medical/other documents in person **within 3 business days** of the missed test or assignment. Forms should be submitted to **SW420B between 9 AM - 4 PM**, Monday through Friday. If you are unable to meet this deadline for some reason, you must contact Keely Hicks via email (keely.hicks@utoronto.ca) within the three business day window. Exceptions to the documentation deadline will only be made under exceptional circumstances.

Within approximately five business days, you will receive an email response from the Course Instructor / Course Coordinator detailing the accommodations to be made (if any). You are responsible for checking your official U of T email and Blackboard course announcements daily, as accommodations may be time-critical. The Course Instructor reserves the right to decide what accommodations (if any) will be made for the missed work.

Failure to adhere to any aspect of this policy may result in a denial of your request for accommodation.

Note that this policy applies only to missed term work (assignments and midterms). Missed final exams are handled by the Registrar's Office (<http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/registrar/missing-examination>)

AccessAbility:

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services as soon as possible.

AccessAbility Services staff (located in Rm SW302, Science Wing) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations 416-287-7560 or email ability@utsc.utoronto.ca. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters

(<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/ppjun011995.pdf>) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments:

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement;
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor;
- Making up sources or facts;
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.

On tests and exams:

- Using or possessing unauthorized aids;
- Looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test;
- Misrepresenting your identity; and
- When you knew or ought to have known you were doing it.

In academic work:

- Falsifying institutional documents or grades;
- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes; and
- When you knew or ought to have known you were doing so.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If students have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, they are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from their instructors or from other institutional resources.