



Psychology/Criminology 3350 FDE Forensic Psychology

Department of Psychology – Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences – Fall 2021

Instructor Information	
Instructor:	Dr. Beth Visser
Office Location:	OA 3014
Email:	beth.visser@lakeheadu.ca (DO NOT use D2L email.) Be sure to include the course code or “Forensic Psychology” in the subject line of your email.
Office Hours:	Tuesday 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. or by appointment

Course Identification	
Course Number:	PSYC/CRIM 3350 FDE
Course Name:	Forensic Psychology
Course Location:	Web
Class Times:	n/a
Prerequisites:	Psychology 1100 or permission of the instructor and Chair of the Department.

Course Description
An examination of the relationships between psychology, crime, and the legal system. Topics will include jury selection and decision-making, police investigations and profiling, eyewitness testimony, child victims and witnesses, homicide, and psychopaths.

Course Resources
Pozzulo, J.D., Bennell, C., & Forth, A. (2021). <i>Forensic psychology</i> (6 th Edition). Toronto, ON: Pearson Education Canada.
All lectures, activities, and resources will be posted on Desire2Learn. I strongly recommend that you keep up with the material throughout the course, so that you don't fall behind.

Course Learning Objectives
By the end of this course, students will be able to:
1. Discuss the principles of Forensic Psychology and its role in the judicial system.
2. Apply the principles of Forensic Psychology to case studies and real-world examples.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the research methods used in Forensic Psychology.
4. Think critically about the interconnection between psychology research findings and the legal system (e.g., eye witness testimony, jury decision-making, sentencing and parole, rehabilitation, etc.)

Course Evaluation		
Component	Date	Value
Online Quizzes	Ongoing (see schedule)	14%
Test #1	Oct. 5	20%
Test #2	Nov. 9	20%
Essay	Nov. 23	25%
Final Exam	See final exam schedule (Dec. 9 -20, 2021)	21%
TOTAL		100%

Online Quizzes

Online quizzes are based on assigned chapters and MUST be completed within the allotted time period (see course schedule and D2L for further information). These seven quizzes are designed to assist you in preparing for various topics, and to reward you for keeping up with the readings. You have several days to complete the quiz, **but once it has closed it will not be made available again.** Each quiz will have 10 questions and is worth 2% of the final grade.

Tests

Test 1 (Oct. 5) and 2 (Nov. 9) will include multiple choice items covering all assigned readings and lecture content. Tests are NOT CUMULATIVE.

Essay

Topics and details for the essay assignment (Due Nov. 23) will be posted on D2L. Late penalties of 5% per day will be deducted if you have not been granted an extension. **To receive an extension, you must contact me at least 48 hours prior to the due date, indicating your topic and what you have completed to date.** No late essay will be accepted more than 1 week after the original due date (i.e., the Assignment submission system will close at 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 30).

Final Exam (to be scheduled by registrar's office)

The final exam will include multiple choice items only. The items will cover all course content following Test 2 – that is, the final exam is NOT CUMULATIVE.

Other course information

Nov. 5, 2021 is the final day to withdraw from fall courses without academic penalty.

IMPORTANT: Do not duplicate and/or distribute videos or any other information posted on D2L or in class – to do so is a violation of copyright. Do not take photographs or videos of course material without permission. Disseminating quiz/test/exam content is considered academic misconduct. **Do not request extra work or the re-opening of quizzes to boost your grade. Such requests will not be granted.**

Tentative Course Schedule/Outline		
*Order/content could change throughout the term. Instructor will inform you of any change.		
Date	Tentative Topic	Text Readings
Sep. 7-10	Introduction, Police Psychology	Syllabus, Chapters 1 & 2
Sep. 13-17	Police Investigations	Chapter 3
Sep. 20-24	Deception (Quiz 1 on Chpt. 4 becomes available on Sep. 13 and closes at 11:59 p.m. on Sep. 19)	Chapter 4
Sep. 27-Oct. 1	Eyewitness Testimony (Quiz 2 on Chpt. 5 becomes available on Sep. 20 and closes at 11:59 p.m. on Sep. 26).	Chapter 5
Oct. 5	Test #1 (you can complete the test any time between 7 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. on Oct. 5)	All material covered to date (chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, D2L material)
Oct. 6-8	Child Victims/Witnesses (no quiz)	Chapter 6
Oct. 11-15	READING WEEK!	No class – enjoy!
Oct. 18-22	Juries (Quiz 3 on Chpt. 7 becomes available Oct. 8 and closes at 11:59 p.m. on Oct. 17)	Chapter 7
Oct. 25-29	Role of Mental Illness (Quiz 4 on Chpt. 8 becomes available Oct. 18 and closes at 11:59 p.m. on Oct. 24)	Chapter 8
Nov. 1-5	Risk Assessment (Quiz 5 on Chpt. 10 becomes available Oct. 25 and closes at 11:59 p.m. on Oct. 31)	Chapter 10
Nov. 9	Test #2 (you can complete the test any time between 7 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. on Nov. 9).	All material since Test 1 (chapters 6, 7, 8, 10, and D2L content)
Nov. 10-12	Sentencing & Parole (no quiz)	Chapter 9
Nov. 15-19	Psychopaths (Quiz 6 on Chpt. 11 becomes available on Nov. 5 and closes at 11:59 on Nov. 14)	Chapter 11
Nov. 22-26	Young Offenders (Quiz 7 on Chpt. 12 becomes available on Nov. 15 and closes at 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 21)	Chapter 12
Nov. 29-Dec. 3	Homicidal Offenders (No quiz) and review for final exam	Chapter 15
Dec. 6	This date is reserved for a make-up class if we need it (otherwise, there will be no class on Dec. 6)	
To be scheduled by Registrar's Office	Final Exam (1 hour, non-cumulative).	All material since Test 2 (chapters 9, 11, 12, 15 & class content)

Accommodations

Lakehead University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services and register as early as possible. For more information, please visit:

<http://studentaccessibility.lakeheadu.ca>.



Course Policies in the Department of Psychology

The following policies apply to all courses offered by the Department of Psychology. Students are expected to be familiar with these policies and abide by them.

Code of Student Behaviour

Lakehead University is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Lakehead University has strict policies regarding academic dishonesty, such as plagiarism and cheating. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Please refer to the Code of Student Behaviour and Disciplinary Procedures

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/policies/student-related/code-of-student-behaviour-and-disciplinary-procedures>.

Classroom Behaviour

Arrive on time, stay for the duration, and do not become a source of distraction. Personal computer use is welcome if it relates to the course. Sound on computers and cell phones must remain muted. Unless otherwise stated by the Instructor, students are prohibited from making audio or video recordings of lectures or taking pictures of lecture material.

Email Communication

All email communication from the Department of Psychology and from course Instructors will be sent to students' email addresses provided by Lakehead University (i.e., your "userid@lakeheadu.ca" email address). Students are expected to regularly check their email to make sure that they stay up to date with course news, Department information, and events. All Instructors and administrative personnel may be contacted by email at "firstname.lastname@lakeheadu.ca." Emails need to be prepared in a clear and courteous manner.

Instructor Offices Hours

All Psychology faculty provide regular office hours whereby students can expect to meet individually with their Instructor. Do take advantage of this opportunity, especially in circumstances where email communication cannot substitute for face-to-face contact with your Instructor.

Examinations

All tests/examinations must be written on the scheduled day and time as noted on the course outline or on the final exam schedule. Students who miss exams without a valid reason will receive a mark of "0" for that exam. When a student knows in advance that they will miss an exam, or in the case of a missed exam due to unexpected reasons, the Instructor must be notified immediately. Following a review of the circumstances (note that vacations and employment will not be accommodated), alternative

arrangements may be considered by the Instructor if the reason is determined to be valid. All electronic communication devices (e.g., laptop computers, cell phones, etc.) are strictly prohibited during tests/examinations unless previously approved by the Instructor.

Final examination for all courses are scheduled by the Registrar's Office. Students are strongly urged NOT to make any commitments (i.e., vacation, job related, or other travel plans) during either the term as a whole or the final examination period. Students are required to be available for all examinations during the periods for which they are scheduled (as published in course syllabus). It is your responsibility to check the final exam schedule and arrive at the scheduled date/time/location to avoid a grade of zero. There will be no rescheduling of examinations to accommodate holiday travel or extracurricular activities. No one will be allowed to write examinations prior to the scheduled date. If you miss a final exam, you must contact Enrolment Services with your documentation (see exam regulations).

Lakehead Resources

If you find yourself having difficulty with the course material or any other difficulties in your student life, don't hesitate to ask for help! Come to me, or if it is about an issue beyond this class, please contact your academic advisors, or get help from any number of other support services on campus, including:

The Student Success Centre has many programs and support services in place to help you achieve your academic and personal goals while studying at Lakehead University. They provide academic support through tutoring services, career exploration, co-operative opportunities and leadership development. More information is available here <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/current-students/student-success-centre>.

The Lakehead Library provides access to resources, study rooms, and research support both online via chat and in person with more details available here <https://library.lakeheadu.ca/>.

Public Computer Labs are available on campus where you may write and/or print out your work. For more details go to <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/helpdesk/computer-labs>.

Student Life and Services offers health and wellness resources both on and off campus, as well as opportunities for involvement in health and wellness activities. More information is available here <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/current-students/student-services/or>.

Office of Human Rights and Equity. You have the right to an education that is free from any form of discrimination. A wide variety of resources are available here <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/human-rights-and-equity/resources>.