








Psychology (PSYC) 395

Forensic Psychology (Revision 3)

Status:	Replaced with new revision, see the course listing  for the current revision 
Delivery mode:	Individualized study online  or Grouped study 
Credits:	3
Areas of study:	Arts or Social Science
Prerequisites:	PSYC 290 is recommended
Precluded:	None
Challenge:	PSYC 395 has a challenge for credit option.
Faculty:	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences 



Overview

Forensic Psychology covers a range of topics that are of mutual interest to psychologists and other professions involved in the law. In today's society, psychology affects virtually every aspect of the legal system, and psychologists are increasingly being asked to provide knowledge to this system. *Psychology 395* will comprehensively examine the role of the forensic psychologist in the criminal justice system in Canada. It will focus on the interaction between the psychology and law, with an emphasis on Canadian applications.


Outline


- Unit 1: An Introduction to Forensic Psychology
- Unit 2: Police Psychology
- Unit 3: The Psychology of Police Investigations
- Unit 4: Deception
- Unit 5: Eyewitness Testimony
- Unit 6: Child Victims and Witnesses
- Unit 7: Juries: Fact Finders
- Unit 8: The Role of Mental Illness in Court
- Unit 9: Sentencing and Parole in Canada: Practices and Public Opinions
- Unit 10: Intimate Partner Violence; and Sexual Offenders
- Unit 11: Psychopaths; and Homicidal Offenders
- Unit 12: Risk Assessment
- Unit 13: Assessment and Treatment of Young Offenders

Evaluation

To **receive credit**  for PSYC 395, you must complete the research paper, all of the quizzes, achieve a mark of at least 50 percent on the final examination, and obtain a course composite grade of at least **D (50 percent)** . The weighting of evaluation components is as follows:

Activity	Weight
Six Quizzes	30%
Research Paper	30%
Final Exam	40%
Total	100%

The **final examination** for this course must be requested in advance and written under the supervision of an AU-approved exam invigilator. Invigilators include either ProctorU or an approved in-person invigilation centre that can accommodate online exams. Students are responsible for payment of any invigilation fees. Information on exam request deadlines, invigilators, and other exam-related questions, can be found at the [Exams and grades](#)  section of the Calendar.

To learn more about assignments and examinations, please refer to Athabasca University's [online Calendar](#) .

Materials

Pozzulo, J., Bennell, C., & Forth, A. (2015). Forensic psychology (4th Canadian ed.). Toronto, ON: Pearson Education Canada.  (Print)

Other Resources

The course materials include a study guide, course manual, audio interviews, and many online study tools.

Challenge for credit

Overview

The challenge for credit process allows you to demonstrate that you have acquired a command of the general subject matter, knowledge, intellectual and/or other skills that would normally be found in a university-level course.

Full information about **challenge for credit** [↗](#) can be found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Evaluation

To **receive credit** [↗](#) for the PSYC 395 challenge registration, you must achieve a grade of at least D (50 percent) on the final exam and a composite grade of **D (50 percent)** [↗](#).

Activity	Weight
Research Paper	40%
Exam	60%
Total	100%



[Challenge for credit course registration form](#)

Important links

- › [Academic advising](#) [↗](#)
- › [Program planning](#) [↗](#)
- › [Request assistance](#) [↗](#)
- › [Support services](#) [↗](#)

Athabasca University reserves the right to amend course outlines occasionally and without notice. Courses offered by other delivery methods may vary from their individualized study counterparts.

Updated February 26, 2024

View [previous revision](#) 
