

Brief Course Outline

Course Title:	Method and Research in Sensation and Perception	
Course Number and Section	PSYCHOL	2130E 550
Instructor Name(s):	Derek Quinlan	
Instructor Email(s):	dquinla4@uwo.ca	

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL Brightspace is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

This course introduces the major research domains within sensation and perception. Perception is our only means of extracting information from the environment, allowing us to experience the discrete objects and events “out in the real world” that drive our behaviour. As such, understanding sensation and perception is foundational to other subdomains within psychological science. Throughout the course, we will explore how sensation differs from perception; investigate different theoretical traditions that have attempted to account for perceptual phenomena; survey the methods that are used to study sensation and perception; and trace the functional and anatomical organization of the different sensory modalities, from sensory transduction, through stages of information processing, to perception and action. Course content is divided into lecture and laboratory components, with the latter component providing hands-on experience in conducting research within the field of sensation and perception. 2 lecture hours, 1 laboratory hour

Learning Outcomes: one outcome per entry

- Be able to describe the structure and function of our sensory systems.
- Understand the research methodologies and paradigms used to study sensation and perception.
- Demonstrate basic proficiency in the skills relevant to conducting research within sensation and perception, including (but not limited to) conducting a literature reviews, designing an experiment, and collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data
- Refine critical thinking and science communication skills.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Wolfe, JM et al. 2024. Sensation & Perception, 7th Edition. Sinauer Associates. (Required)

Methods of Evaluation: one assignment per entry

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Participation Reflections		6%
Fall Midterm Exam	10/30/26	11%

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
December Midterm Exam		16%
February Midterm Exam	02/26/27	11%
April Exam		16%
Research Project		32%
Creative Assignment #1	11/20/26	4%
Creative Assignment #2	02/09/27	4%

Friday, August 14, 2026

Huron Brief Course Outline 2026/27

In-course Costs \$235.65

For Textbooks and Course Materials (below), you are required to include the cost of each textbook or other learning material.

Note whether there are any restrictions that would prevent a student from using a second-hand copy. Here is some suggested text:

- Required textbook: [author, title, edition, publisher, date]. Cost: [insert amount].
 - Or include the weblink of the textbook’s publisher site that includes the cost information.
- Students need to purchase this edition. Second-hand or older editions will not be sufficient.
- OR Students are welcome to purchase second-hand or earlier editions of this textbook.
- This course has an optional field trip that costs [insert amount].
- This course has a required field component that costs [insert amount].

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.