Dear Students in Psych 1XX3/1NN3:

The university has taken many steps to prepare and keep our community informed as the COVID-19 pandemic has unfolded. As you're aware, one of these measures was the decision late last week to suspend in-person classes for the remainder of the academic term.

McMaster in-person classes and tests for undergraduate and graduate students ended as of Friday March 13th and no in-person exams will be held at the end of this term.

This decision was made to ensure that our activities here at McMaster are aligned with the social distancing principle so important to broader public health at this time.

We are also committed to ensuring the successful completion of the current academic term by all of our students. To do so, we have put careful thought into the use of alternative assessment methods and evaluation schemes that are fair to all students. The following describes what you can expect for Psych 1XX3/1NN3 between now and the end of the term:

Between now and April 7, you can expect the following changes with respect to course instruction for this course:

- All in-person lectures and tutorials will be cancelled. Content will be delivered through the online web modules.
- TAs will continue to post on discussion boards the content that would have been covered in the weekly tutorials. We will also continue to host TA office hours online.

In addition, you can expect the following changes to the assessments used for this course:

- The weekly Avenue quizzes will still take place following the regular schedule. Quizzes will now only contain information related to the online web modules and the textbook.
- The weekly tutorials have been cancelled, however, TAs will continue to post discussion topics on their personal TA discussion boards. They will be posting questions and content that would have been covered during the tutorial session. Participation on the TA's discussion board will be used to determine the final tutorial participation grade.
- We will be assigning 4/4 points to all students for all of the remaining lectures (Hunger, Psych Disorders, Psych Treatments, End-of-Year Review). These points will not appear on the iclicker website/app but they will be posted on Avenue.
- Participation on PeerWise will continue along its regular schedule as this is already a completely online activity.
- In-Person Sona studies at McMaster have been cancelled. However, researchers have been encouraged to post online opportunities to earn Sona credit. At this time, there are several studies to choose from.
- The final exam for Psych 1XX3 and Psych 1NN3 will be completed online on Avenue to Learn. The online exam will follow the same format as the in-person exam would have. It will be 60 multiple choice questions and 2 hours long. The rules for completing your final exam will be
the same as the weekly quizzes. We will not consider working in groups to be academic dishonesty. The final exam will take place on Thursday April 23rd at 4pm (as originally scheduled by the registrar’s office).

If you have a need for accommodations, please continue to communicate with Student Accessibility Services and keep me informed.

In the event significant changes to the COVID-19 situation, further changes may need to be made to this course and will be clearly communicated to you. Please also visit https://covid19.mcmaster.ca/ for up-to-date university information.

Sincerely,
Joseph Kim

Michelle Cadieux