

We acknowledge and respect that we are gathered on the traditional lands of the Anishnaabe People of Turtle Island and proudly recognize our local host Atikameksheng Anishnawbek. We also recognize the contributions of Wahnapiatae First Nation and the Metis Nation of Ontario.

Course Title	Psychology of Evil				
Course Code:	PSY1001	Credit Value:	3	Credit Hours:	42
Programs:	*ADSP Design And Visual Arts *AFPG Art And Design Fundamentals *ANIM Animation *ANPG Animation *BFND Business - Finance *BFGP Business Fundamentals *BUAP Business - Accounting *CETN Computer Systems Technician *CETY Computer Systems Technology *CHLN Chemical Engineering Technician *CHLP Chemical Eng. Technology *COAN Common Animation *COBU Common Business *COCH Common Chemistry *COCR Common Carpentry *COCT Common Computer Systems *COCV Common Civil Engineering *COEE Common Electrical Engineering *COEM Common Electromechanical *COMCC Common Mechanical Engineering *COMNC Common Mining Engineering *COPWC Common Power Engineering *CPIN Computer Programming - Internet Of Things *CRPG Carpentry And Renovation Techniques *CRTN Building Construction Technician - Carpentry *CSTN Computer Systems Technician - Networking *CSTY Computer Systems Technology - Security *CVTN Civil Engineering Technician *CVTY Civil Engineering Technology *CVTY Civil Engineering Technology Campus *CYCP Child And Youth Care *DHYG Dental Hygiene *DSWP Developmental Services Worker *ECAD Early Childhood Education - Alternate Delivery *ECEP Early Childhood Education *EETN Electrical Engineering Technician - Industrial *EETY Electrical Engineering Technology *EMTN Electromechanical Engineering Technician - Mechatr *EMTY Electromechanical Engineering Technology - Mechatr				

	*ESCP Emergency Services Communications *EVTN Environmental Technician *GAPG General Arts & Science Certificate *GASP General Arts And Science Diploma *GEBU Business *GMDS Game – Design And Simulation *HDTN Heavy Equipment Technician *HRMD Hospitality – Hotel & Restaurant *HVTN Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning Technician *IMTN Mechanical Engineering Technician – Industrial Mai *MASG Massage Therapy *MCOMMedia Communications *MDLA Medical Laboratory Assistant *MDLY Medical Laboratory Technology *METN Mechanical Engineering Technician *METY Mechanical Engineering Technology *MNTN Mining Engineering Technician *MNTY Mining Engineering Technology *MRPG Medical Radiation Technology *OTPA Occupational Therapist Assistant And Physiotherapi *PAGD Graphic Design *PARA Paramedic PEDC Psychology Of Evil – Dual Credit *PFPG Police Foundations *PHPG Pre – Health Sciences *PLTN Powerline Technician *PNDP Practical Nursing *PNKE Practical Nursing *PRET Pre – Trades/Technology *PWTN Power Engineering Technician *PWTY Power Engineering Technology *SSIS Social Service Worker – Indigenous *SSPG Social Service Worker *VMTN Motive Power Technician – Service And Management *WFTN Welding And Fabrication Technician *WSPG Workplace Safety And Prevention * This course is a General Education course for this program and therefore will not have any vocational standards.				
Equivalencies		Prerequisites		Corequisites	

This course may be delivered in a variety of different formats: 100% in-class, 100% online (or a blend of both), videoconferencing, distributed learning or off-campus. Please confirm with your faculty member which format will be used for your section of this course.

General Education Course: ☒
 Degree Breadth Course: ☐
 Research Intensive Course Designation: ☐

Eligible for PLAR: ☒
 Experiential Learning: ☐

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, students will systematically examine how society defines evil and the many different pathways to evil. Students will critically examine the study of evil from psychological, social and biological perspectives. This course will address compelling questions that explore and explain the motives, rationales and environmental influences that cause people to abuse power and to act in destructive and horrific ways.

Topics discussed in this course will include cults, terrorism, genocide, psychopaths, and corporate evil, to name only a few. Through analysis of case studies and historical events, students will reflect on how society and individuals can play an active role in reducing hostility and building more compassionate communities.

Date: May 28, 2026

Approved by: _____



CHRISTOPHER SCHUBERT
Chair, Community Services, Planning,
Institutional Research And Quality Assurance

Effective: Fall 2026, Winter 2027, Spring 2027

RELATIONSHIP TO PROGRAM VOCATIONAL LEARNING OUTCOMES

PROGRAM LEVEL
This course contributes to your program by allowing you to demonstrate the following vocational learning outcomes:

COURSE CURRICULUM**Topics/Concepts Covered in This Course**

- Perspectives on Good and Evil
- Causes of Evil (Psychological, Social, Biological)
- Character Transformations from Good to Bad
- Collective Violence: Cults, Terrorism, Genocide, Corporate Evil, Gangs
- Systemic Pressures and Abuse of Power
- Possibilities for Goodness

COURSE LEVEL: Learning Outcomes and Objectives	
To earn credit for this course, you must reliably demonstrate your ability to:	
Learning Outcome	Objectives
1. Identify and explain different pathways to evil and goodness.	1.1 Explore definitions of good and evil. 1.2 Define evil. 1.3 State the differences between a sociopath and a psychopath. 1.4 Link theories in course to real life or fictional criminal/evil individuals. 1.5 Explain factors that lead to the development of resiliency, empathy and heroism.
2. Analyze the causal factors influencing individuals to commit harmful and destructive acts.	2.1 Explain psychological, social and biological causes of evil. 2.2 Explain the influence of nature versus nurture on the development of either antisocial or prosocial behaviours. 2.3 Explain environmental pressures that influence the development of blind obedience, mindless conformity and the abuse of power over others.
3. Explain the environmental pressures and individual choices that result in character transformations from good to evil.	3.1 State methods of resisting the impact of undesirable social influences. 3.2 Explain various theories on the development of prosocial and altruistic behaviours.
4. Summarize the development of systemic pressures that result in	4.1 State techniques utilized to recruit, control and maintain influence over group members from the perspective of cults, gangs and terrorists.

Learning Outcome	Objectives
the abuse of power and collective violence.	4.2 Explain factors that make extreme groups dangerous. 4.3 Discuss the impact that systems of power have to create images, roles and expectations that support collective violence.

Essential Employability Skills

Communication

- not applicable

Numeracy

- not applicable

Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

- apply a systematic approach to solve problems.
- use a variety of thinking skills to anticipate and solve problems.

Information Management

- analyze, evaluate, and apply relevant information from a variety of sources.

Interpersonal

- show respect for the diverse opinions, values, belief systems, and contributions of others.
- interact with others in groups in ways that contribute to effective working relationships.

Personal

- take responsibility for one's own actions, decisions, and consequences.

General Education Themes

- Social and cultural understanding

Delivery Method

- Classroom: Course is delivered through scheduled synchronous teaching that may be face-to-face and/or virtual.
- Online: Course is fully delivered through asynchronous teaching.
- Hybrid: Course combines scheduled synchronous and unscheduled asynchronous teaching.

Learning Activities

- Lectures
- Class Discussions
- Group Work
- Case Studies

Evaluation Plan

Grading Scheme

A	80% - 100%
B	70% - 79%
C	60% - 69%
D	50% - 59%
F	0% - 49%

Evaluation Method	Value (%)
Test/Exam	60%
Three tests at 20% each.	
Assignments	40%
Two assignments at 20% each.	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A course outline is the College's commitment to the students. It supports educators, students, employers, and external partners in determining the depth of knowledge and level of performance that a student will be able to demonstrate upon successful completion of a course. Both instructor and student are obligated to follow the content of the course outline. It is your responsibility to meet these outcomes as assigned.

Note: You should maintain a copy of this course outline for your records. You may require this course outline if you seek transfer credits or further studies at other institutions.

Cambrian Email Addresses

All email correspondence with currently registered students must be via the students' College-issued email, as per the College's [IT Acceptable Use Policy](#). Students must familiarize themselves with the IT Acceptable Use Policy, as it outlines the acceptable use of College information systems and technology, and mitigates risks to the College's IT infrastructure.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) and Apps Anywhere

Cambrian College is a BYOD institution, which means that students bring the device of their choice that meets program-specific minimum technology requirements. Program-specific minimum technology requirements can be viewed on program pages on the Cambrian College website. AppsAnywhere is an easy-to-use app store-like platform providing students with a way to access their College apps and software on demand, anywhere, anytime both on and off campus. These both enrich the student learning experience in and out of the classroom, while providing maximum flexibility.

Policies

It is the student's responsibility to be aware of the College's policies. Policies, procedures and forms can be found on the [College website](#).

Academic and Student Services

Cambrian has a variety of student and academic services to support students during their academic journey at the College.

- [Academic Integrity Office](#)

- [Academic Success Centre](#)
- [Bookstore and Campus Store](#)
- [International Student Support Services](#)
- [KPMG Pride Centre](#)
- [Career Centre](#)
- [Registrar's Office \(Enrolment Centre\)](#)
- [First Step Centre](#)
- [Accessibility Services](#)
- [Library](#)
- [Pathways](#)
- [Available Scholarships and Bursaries](#)
- [Cambrian Student Council \(CSC\)](#)
- [Cambrian Indigenous Student Circle \(CISC\)](#)
- [Cambrian Athletic Association \(CAA\)](#)
- [Student Life Centre](#)
- [Test Centre](#)
- [The Learning Centre \[Tutoring Services\]](#)
- [Wabnode Centre for Indigenous Services](#)
- [Women's Resource Centre](#)

Copyright

Copyright is the exclusive legal right given to a creator to reproduce, publish, sell, or distribute his/her work. All members of the Cambrian community are required to comply with Canadian copyright law, which governs the reproduction, use and distribution of copyrighted materials. This means that the copying, use and distribution of copyright-protected materials, regardless of format, are subject to certain limits and restrictions. For example, activities such as photocopying or scanning an entire textbook or uploading class materials to a course sharing site are prohibited.

See the [Cambrian Library website](#) for additional information regarding copyright and for details on allowable limits.

Audio/Visual Capture

Sounds and images from this class, and contributions made by a participant, virtually or in-person, are recorded under the authority of the *Ontario Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology Act, 2002*. The main purpose of these recordings is to allow students enrolled in the course to review content and engage in activities, whether they attend any given class in person, virtually, or at all. Class recordings are for personal use only and shall not be shared or transferred. Faculty may also review these recordings to prepare for future classes, evaluate students, collaborate in program reviews, or provide feedback to faculty and/or students. Any questions about the use of multimedia recordings may be addressed to your respective Dean.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity

Cambrian is committed to building and preserving an equitable, diverse, and inclusive learning community where students, faculty, and staff may achieve their full potential in an environment characterized by equality of respect and opportunity. All students and employees have the right to live and work in an environment that is free from discrimination and harassment. Therefore, Cambrian College will not tolerate any form of discrimination or harassment in its employment, education, accommodation, or business dealings. For more information, please visit: [Equity, Human Rights, and Accessibility](#).

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Students wishing to have work or life experience that meets course learning outcomes considered for credit through Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition should email the Enrolment Centre at records@cambriancollege.ca.

Transfer Credit

Students wishing to have courses from other programs or institutions assessed for equivalency and/or transfer credit should visit the [Transfer Credits page](#) on the Cambrian website. The student should maintain a copy of this course outline for their records. Students may require this course outline if seeking transfer credits or further studies at other institutions.

Test Proctoring at Cambrian

Many courses include major tests and/or final exams. The practice at Cambrian requires that these types of test situations involve proctoring to ensure academic integrity. Online tests/exams may employ a proctoring services to enable you to take your exam from a location of your choosing within a period specified by your instructor. When you are taking an online test/exam, the proctoring service may capture your video, screen, audio, and web surfing data to protect academic integrity. Cambrian College collects, uses, discloses, and retains personal information in compliance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA)*. Your personal information is being collected under the authority of the *Ontario Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology Act S.O. 2002, c.8, Sched. F*. This information will be used for the purpose of administering a test/exam through an online proctoring service acting as an authorized agent of the College. Please refer to Cambrian's [Official Student Records Policy](#) for more details. If you have any questions regarding the collection of your personal information, please contact Vice President Academic, Cambrian College, 1400 Barry Downe Rd., Sudbury ON P3A 3V8, 1-705-566-8101 ext. 6245.