



Psychology 200 - L01	Principles of Psychology I	Fall 2017
Instructor:	Dr. Peter van der Velde	Lecture Location: MFH 162
Phone:	403-220-8970	Lecture Days/Time: T/R: 09:30 - 10:45
Email:	pvander@ucalgary.ca	
Office:	AD155B	
Office Hours:	By appointment	

Course description

This course provides a general introduction to the study of basic psychological processes. At the end of the course, you will be able to evaluate psychological information related to basic processes according to the scientific method and will have introductory-level knowledge of:

- Areas of psychology as a biological science
- the diverse sub-fields of psychology focusing on basic processes
- current theories for understanding different areas of psychology focusing on basic processes
- methodologies and terminology used in different areas of psychology focusing on basic processes

Lectures are intended to highlight and extend, rather than summarize, assigned text readings. You will benefit most from lectures if you read the assigned material *prior* to the corresponding lecture. Class outlines will be available on the Department of Psychology website:

<http://psychology.ucalgary.ca/courses/f17> and on the course [Desire2Learn](#) site.

These outlines are provided to assist you in organizing and understanding the material and are not a substitute for class attendance.

Course Learning Outcomes

The Department of Psychology is committed to student knowledge and skill development. The table below lists the key learning outcomes for this course, the program-learning outcomes they facilitate (see psyc.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/program-learning-outcomes), and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Methods	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Demonstrate a basic understanding of the diverse sub-fields of Psychology	multiple choice exams	1	I
Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the terminology used in different areas of Psychology	multiple choice exams	1	I
Demonstrate a basic knowledge of psychology as a biological and social science, and a basic understanding of the key theories and research methods in Psychology	multiple choice exams	1	I

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Methods	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Demonstrate critical thinking skills with regards to psychological issues	multiple choice exams	2, 6	I
Demonstrate ability to apply course knowledge to real world information/data	multiple choice exams	5, 7	I, C

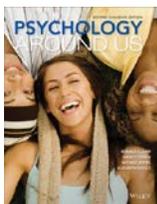
Notes. PLOs = Program-Learning Outcomes: 1 = demonstrate knowledge of psychological sciences, 2 = think critically and solve problems, 3 = conduct research and analyze data, 4 = communicate effectively, 5 = demonstrate information literacy, 6 = understand and implement ethical principles, 7 = apply psychological knowledge and skills. Level of PLO achievement facilitated by this course: I = introductory, C = competency, A = advanced.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Required Text

Comer, Ronald; Ogden, Nancy; Boyes, Michael and Gould, Elizabeth (2015) **Psychology Around Us: 2nd Canadian Edition** Wiley Canada, Toronto. *Text is available in the University Bookstore*



There are online resources available for this textbook:

<http://bcs.wiley.com/he-bcs/Books?action=index&itemId=1118870727&bcsId=9479>

Desire2Learn for PSYC 200

There is an area on the general campus Desire 2Learn site set aside for this course. D2L can be accessed via this link: <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home>

THIS SITE SHOULD BE YOUR FIRST STOP FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT COURSE TOPICS, DATES, ETC.

Assessment Methods

Three mid-term exams (**Oct 3, Oct 26, Nov 21**) and a final exam (date set by the Registrar: **Dec 11-21**) are scheduled. All are non-cumulative, multiple-choice exams based on *both* textbook and lecture material (including films and other demonstrations). Not all exam material will be covered in class, and some exam material covered in class will not be covered in the text, so regular attendance is important for success in this course. Note that you are responsible for *all* assigned readings from the text even if the specific content has not been covered in lectures. Many exam questions will involve critical thinking, a skill you will be given practice developing in class, so again it's to your advantage to come to class. The use of class notes or the text book, cell phones, computers, tablets or calculators is prohibited during the exams in this course.

Your **course grade** will be calculated as **the average of your four exam scores (converted to a score of 96/100) PLUS your Experiential Learning score (4%) (see section below)**. In other words, **each exam is worth 24 % of your final mark**; the “missing” **4 points** can be earned via the **SONA/Experiential learning** program (see below).

“Test-Taking Advice, especially for the Multiple-Choice Challenged”:

http://psyc.ucalgary.ca/sites/psyc.ucalgary.ca/files/Test_Taking_Advice.pdf

Department of Psychology Criteria for Letter Grades

Psychology professors use the following criteria when assigning letter grades:

A+ grade: *Exceptional Performance*. An A+ grade indicates near perfect performance on multiple choice and short answer exams. For research papers/essays/course projects/presentations, an A+ grade is awarded for exceptional work deserving of special recognition and is therefore not a common grade.

A, A- Range: *Excellent Performance*. Superior understanding of course material. Written work is very strong in terms of critical and original thinking, content, organization, and the expression of ideas, and demonstrates student’s thorough knowledge of subject matter.

B Range: *Good Performance*. Above average understanding of course material. Written work shows evidence of critical thinking and attention to organization and editing but could be improved in form and/or content.

C Range: *Satisfactory Performance*. Adequate understanding of course material. Knowledge of basic concepts and terminology is demonstrated. Written work is satisfactory and meets essential requirements but could be improved significantly in form and content. Note: All prerequisites for courses offered by the Faculty of Arts must be met with a minimum grade of C-.

D range: *Marginally meets standards*. Minimal understanding of subject matter. Written work is marginally acceptable and meets basic requirements but requires substantial improvements in form and content. Student has not mastered course material at a level sufficient for advancement into more senior courses in the same or related subjects.

F grade: *Course standards not met*. Inadequate understanding of subject matter. Written work does not meet basic requirements. Student has not demonstrated knowledge of course material at a level sufficient for course credit.

Grading Scale

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades. To determine final letter grades, **final** percentage grades will be rounded up to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.50 % will be rounded up to 90% = A, but 89.49 % will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, exam) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 15 days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodation

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy. Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy. Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the instructor.

For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>

Absence from an Exam

Makeup exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from an exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss an exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled exam.

Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam during exam make-up hours provided by the department <http://psychology.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/exam-and-course-information#mues>. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final. Under no circumstances will this be accommodated by the department.

Travel During Exams

Consistent with University regulations, students are expected to be available to write scheduled exams at any time during the official December and April examination periods. Requests to write a make-up exam because of conflicting travel plans (e.g., flight bookings) will NOT be considered except under exceptional circumstances. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, he/she needs to apply for a deferred exam: http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final. Under no circumstances will this be accommodated by the department.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act

The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during office hours, or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIP-sensitive information.

Acknowledgments and Respect for Diversity

Our classrooms view diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion. The Department of Psychology would also like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

Campus Mental Health Strategy

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Course Credits for Research Participation

Experiential-Learning/Article-Evaluation Course Component (4% of final grade)

This experiential-learning/article-evaluation component provides enriched learning opportunities in this introductory course. You can complete this component by participating in research studies (Option 1: Research Participation), by completing 1-page article evaluations from a designated list (Option 2: Article Evaluations), or by a combination of the two options. Thus, you will learn more about psychology by taking part in research studies and/or by reading and evaluating articles from a psychological perspective.

Option 1: Research Participation. Students can complete this course component by creating an account and participating in Departmentally approved research studies at <https://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation. Each study will be followed by an educational debriefing experience. The demand for timeslots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. **The last day to participate in research and allocate credits is Dec 8, 2017.**

Option 2: Article Evaluations. Students can complete this course component by reading and evaluating articles. Students earn 1% (1 credit) for each acceptable evaluation. Students can submit only one evaluation per due date (**September 22, October 13, November 3, November 24, 2017**), late submissions will not be accepted. Please consult the D2L website for this course for more information about this option.

Option 3: Combinations of Options 1 and 2. Students can complete this course component through any combination of Options 1 and 2 (e.g., 3% through Option 1 and 1% through Option 2, or vice versa). Given that each article evaluation counts for 1%, students who complete, for example, 2.5% through Option 1 would need to complete two evaluations to successfully complete all 4% of this course component. As mentioned under Option 2, students can only submit one article evaluation per due date, late submissions will not be accepted. Thus, students who opt to combine Options 1 and 2 must plan ahead carefully.

Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS).

They are located in Administration 170 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 403-220-3911 [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)

Student Union Faculty Rep.: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca

Student Ombudsman's Office

The Office of the Student Ombudsmen provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. The office can be reached at 403-220-6420 or ombuds@ucalgary.ca

(<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>).

Safewalk

The Safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call: **403-220-5333**.

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **September 22, 2017**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **September 25, 2017**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **December 8, 2017**.

Tentative Lecture Schedule

NOTE: While Exam Dates are FIXED, topic dates may shift a bit.

DATE	Topics	Readings
M Sep 11	University Lectures begin.	
Sep 12,14,19	Psychology: Yesterday and Today	Ch 1
Sep 21	Psychology as a Science	Ch 2
F Sep 22	Last day to drop full courses (Multi-term) and Fall Term half courses. No refunds for full courses (Multi-term) or Fall Term half courses after this date.	
M Sep 25	Last day to add or swap full courses (Multi-term) and Fall Term half courses. Last day for change of registration from audit to credit or credit to audit.	
Sep 26,28	Psychology as a Science	Ch 2
F Sep 29	Fee payment deadline for Fall Term full and half courses.	
Oct 3	Exam #1	Ch 1, 2
Oct 5	Neuroscience	Ch 3
M Oct 9	Thanksgiving Day, University closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.	
Oct 10,12	Neuroscience	Ch 3
Oct 17,19,24	Sensation and Perception	Ch 5
Oct 26	Exam #2	Ch 3, 5
Oct 31, Nov 2	Consciousness	Ch 6
Nov 7	Consciousness , Learning	Ch 6, 7
Nov 9-12	Reading Days - No Lectures	
M Nov 13	Remembrance Day (Observed). University Closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.	
Nov 14,16	Learning	Ch 7
Nov 21	Exam #3	Ch 6, 7
Nov 23,28	Memory	Ch 8
Nov 30	Memory, Language and Thought	Ch 8, 9
Dec 5, 7	Language and Thought	Ch 9
F Dec 8	Fall Term Lectures End.	
F Dec 8	Last day to allocate Research Participation credits on RPS (SONA)	
F Dec 8	Last day to withdraw with permission from Fall Session half courses	
Dec 11 to 21	Fall Term Exam Period (And our final [4th] exam)	Ch 8, 9