



Department of Psychology
Psychology 205 (L02 #83001) – Principles of Psychology
Fall 2009

Instructor:	Dr. M. Boyes	Lecture Location:	ICT 102
Phone:	403-220-7724	Lecture Days/Time:	Wed 5-7:50 PM
Email:	psyc205@ucalgary.ca	Tutorials	A051/A053
Office:	Admin 230		
Office Hours:	TBA		

Course description

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

- psychology as a biological and social science
- the diverse sub-fields of psychology
- current theories for understanding different areas of psychology
- methodologies and terminology used in different areas of psychology

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://www.psych.ucalgary.ca/students/courses/> and on the course Blackboard site.

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

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites required to take this course.

Required Text: Lefton, L.A., Brannon, L., Boyes, M. C., and Ogden, N.A. (2008) **Psychology**, (Third Canadian Edition) Allyn and Bacon Canada, Toronto.



There is a study guide available for this textbook. It is up to the student to decide if they wish to purchase one. (If such books have been of use to you in that past or if you feel you could use some help structuring your studying for the course than it is a good idea. If, on the other hand, you have a study system that works for you then you may not need it).

Blackboard for PSYC 205 (02)

There is an area on the general campus Blackboard site set aside for this course. Blackboard can be accessed via this link; <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login>

Evaluation

Three term tests and a final exam are scheduled. All are non-cumulative, multiple-choice tests based on both textbook and lecture material (including films and other demonstrations). Not all test material will be covered in class, and some test 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 test 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.

Tutorial Assignments. As you know from registration, the department has added tutorials to this course. The tutorial topics are as follows:

Tutorial Assignment Topics

1. (Week of Sept 14) Searching the Psychological Literature
2. (Week of Sept 21) Brain and Behaviour – Parkinson’s Disease
3. (Week of Sept 28) Sensation and Perception – Foveal Acuity
4. (Week of Oct 5) Learning – Context Dependent Learning
5. (Week of Oct 12, except Monday Tutorials) Memory – The Fragility of Memory
6. (Week of Oct 19) Development – Pre- and Post-Natal Risks
7. (Week of Oct 26) Personality – The IPIP Inventory
8. (Week of Nov 2) Stress, Health and Coping – Anorexia Nervosa
(Week of Nov 9 Monday Tutorials Only – catch up week)
9. (Week of Nov 16) Psychological Disorders – Phobias
10. (Week of Nov 23) Social Psychology – Obedience and Conformity
11. (Week of Nov 30) Careers in Psychology - *Information Only*

You will submit a total of 5 assignments for grading to the TA running your tutorial. Tutorial papers are due one week after they are assigned (late penalty = 10% per calendar day). Your tutorial score will contribute 24% of your overall score in this course. Your tutorial score will be determined as follows:

Assignment From Lab #1	22.5%
Assignment from <i>Either</i> Lab #2 OR #3	22.5%
Assignment from <i>Either</i> Lab #4, #5 OR #6	22.5%
Assignment from <i>Either</i> Lab #8 OR #9	22.5%
Assignment from <i>Either</i> Lab #7 OR #10	10%
Total	100%

Converted to a score out of **24** as contribution to overall score.

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all tutorials.

Your **course grade** will be computed as **the average of your best two in-term test marks plus your final exam mark plus your tutorial mark (24% for each test and for the tutorial mark) and plus your Experiential Learning score (4%) (see section below Tentative class schedule)**. Thus, you can do badly on one of the three in term tests (or miss one due to illness/emergency) but you must write two of the three tests as well as the final exam. Never miss a test unless it is absolutely necessary, since a subsequent illness/emergency could cause you to miss a second test. If you miss a second term test, you must supply me with Physician/Counsellor Statement(s) indicating the basis for BOTH missed tests as soon as possible after the second missed test. Make things easy on everyone: do not miss more than one term test.

“Test-Taking Advice: Especially for the Multiple-Choice Challenged”:
<http://www.psych.ucalgary.ca/CourseNotes/mcadvice.html>

Grade scale

Percentages below indicate the standard required for each letter grade. These cutoffs may be lowered but will not be raised.

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 (i.e., 89.50% will be rounded up to 90% but 89.49 will not).

Other important information

Absence from a test. There are no make-up term tests (see “Evaluation” above). You must write the final exam during the exam period. Should you miss it, a make-up exam is not an option without an official University medical excuse. You must contact the instructor before the scheduled examination or you will have forfeited any right to make up the exam. A completed Physician/Counsellor Statement may be required to confirm absence from a test for health reasons. The student will be required to pay any cost associated with the Physician/Counsellor Statement.

Grade reappraisals: Students seeking reappraisal of graded tests must consult the instructor within 15 days of the posting of the test answers. No reappraisal is permitted after the 15-day period. The instructor must approve any tape recordings of lectures.

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the developmental and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any test/exam is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a statement of intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with plagiarism, cheating, and other academic misconduct.

Academic accommodation: It is a student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. If you are seeking academic accommodation, please notify your instructor no later than 14 days after the commencement of the course.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP): The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieving tests from a public place, e.g., outside instructor's office, the department office, etc. Tests will be available for viewing at the departmental computer lab during time to be announced in class and posted on the class discussion forum.

University of Calgary Curriculum Objectives

University of Calgary Core Competencies. Through this course, in addition to the course content detailed in this outline, you will be provided opportunities to observe and apply **critical and creative thinking skills**, to conduct **analyses of problems** within and beyond course material and be shown some of the skills needed to **gather and organize information** effectively. You will experience a small amount of the logical **calculation and mathematical ability** that underpins some of the sub-fields of Psychology. Further, as far as is possible in an introductory course, you will have an opportunity to see and **apply the abstract reasoning** that supports Psychological theories as well as the **interpretive and assessment skills**, and the **insight and intuition** that goes into **generating knowledge** in Psychology and in general.

Curriculum Redesign Features. The **interdisciplinary location and aspects** of Psychology will be regularly featured parts of the course. As well, **international aspects** of Psychological theory and discipline issues will be presented. While limited by the size and introductory nature of the course you will, through class examples and suggested reflective exercises, see how psychology can be seen and studied **experientially** and how **research fits** directly into the material discussed and practiced in class.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

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

DATE	Topics	Readings
Sep. 9, 16	Introduction to Psychology	Ch 1
Sep. 16	The Science of Psychology	Ch 2
Sep 23, 30	Brain and Behaviour	Ch 3
Sep. 30	Sensation and Perception	Ch 4
Oct 7	Test #1	Ch 1, 2, 3, 4
Oct. 7	Consciousness	Ch 5
Oct. 14	Learning/Memory	Ch 6
Oct. 21	Cognitive Psychology and Language/Motivation and Emotion	Ch 7
Oct. 28	Test #2	Ch 5, 6, 7, 8, 10
Oct. 28, Nov. 4	Human Development I: Childhood	Ch 11
Nov. 4	Human Development II: Adolescence	Ch 12
Nov. 4	Intelligence	Ch 9
Nov. 11	Reading Break No Classes (Nov 11 through 15)	
Nov. 18	Personality	Ch 13
Nov. 25	Test #3	Ch 11, 12, 9, 13
Nov. 25	Stress and Health Psychology	Ch 15
Dec 2	Psychological Disorders	Ch 16
Dec 8	Treatment	Ch 17
Dec. 8	Social Thought and Social Behaviour	Ch 14
Dec 5	Last day to allocate Bonus Credits to Fall Session half courses.	
DEC. 8	Winter Session lectures end Last day to withdraw from Winter Session half courses	
Dec. 11-21	Winter Session Final Examinations (And our final quiz)	Ch 15, 16, 17, 14

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 <http://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 7th, 2009.**

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 26, October 17, November 7, November 28, 2009**). Please consult the Blackboard 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. Thus, students who opt to combine Options 1 and 2 must plan ahead carefully.

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
Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: (403) 220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a fee refund** is **Sep 18th, 2009**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Dec 8th, 2009**.