



Department of Psychology
Principles of Psychology
Psychology 205 (L17636) - Winter 2008

COURSE OUTLINE

Lectures: MWF 2 PM to 2:50 PM

Instructor: Dr. M. Boyes

Office Hours: TBA

Lecture room: ENA 201

Phone/office: 220-7724/Admin 230

Email: psyc205@ucalgary.ca

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



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 (L17636)

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

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

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 evaluations of journal articles from a designated list (Option 2: Article Evaluations), or by a combination of the two options. Thus, you will learn more about research in psychology by taking part in research studies and/or by reading and evaluating published research articles.

Option 1: Research Participation. Students can complete this course component by participating in Departmentally approved research studies. Information about current studies is on the website at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com/>. The Announcement at that site provides links and a guide to using the system and assigning earned credits. The last day to participate in research and to ASSIGN YOUR CREDITS TO THIS COURSE is [April 17, 2008]. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each 30 minutes of participation. There are seven research area groups within the department (Behavioural Neuroscience; Clinical Psychology; Cognition and Cognitive Development; Industrial/Organizational Psychology; Perception, Aging, and Cognitive Ergonomics; Social Psychology and Social Development; Theoretical Psychology). Students are encouraged to participate in studies in as many of those areas as possible, according to their interests and contingent on research study availability. Each educational hands-on learning experience will be followed by an educational debriefing experience. Students who attempt to complete this course requirement solely through Option 1 should be able to do so, provided they are persistent and do not wait until the end of term to participate. Students who leave their participation until the end of term may not find enough research opportunities available. Thus, students are encouraged to plan ahead carefully.

Option 2: Article Evaluations. Students can complete this course component by reading and evaluating journal articles to learn more about research in psychology. Students earn 1% (1 credit) for each acceptable evaluation. Students can submit only one evaluation per due date (Due dates: **January 25, February 15, March 7, March 28, 2008**), and only one evaluation per research area group per term. Consult the document “ArticleEvaluationForm.doc” on Blackboard 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. For example, a student could complete 3.0% through research participation and 1.0% through article evaluations, or vice versa. Given that article evaluations count for 1.0%, students who complete, for example, 2.5% through research studies would have to complete two article evaluations

to successfully complete all of the 4.0% 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.

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.

Your course grade will be computed as the average of your best two in-term test marks and your final exam mark (32% each). Thus, you can do badly on one of the three 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%

Other important information

Psyc Help Desk (Admin 267): The Psyc. Help Desk is a resource for students needing assistance with material covered in the textbook. Help Desk staff can only help you with material covered in the textbook. If you have questions about the lecture, ask in class, or see the class instructor. Hours are listed on the Help Desk door.

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.

Withdrawing: The last day to withdraw from this course and still receive a fee refund is January Jan 25, 2008. The last day to withdraw from this course is April 18, 2008.

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

1. 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.
2. 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

DATE	Topics	Readings
Jan. 14, 16, 18	Introduction to Psychology	Ch 1
Jan. 21, 23	The Science of Psychology	Ch 2
Jan 25	Brain and Behaviour	Ch 3
Jan. 25	Last day for Winter registration and change of registration for Winter Session or full courses. No fee refunds for withdrawals after this date.	
Jan 28	Brain and Behaviour	Ch 3
Jan. 30, Feb 2	Sensation and Perception	Ch 4
Feb. 4	Test #1	Ch's 1, 2, 3, 4
Feb. 6, 8	Consciousness	Ch 5
Feb. 11, 13	Learning	Ch 6
FEB. 16 to 24	READING WEEK NO CLASSES	
Feb. 15, 25	Memory	Ch 7
Feb. 27	Cognitive Psychology and Language	Ch 8
Feb. 29	Motivation and Emotion	Ch 10
MAR. 3	Test #2	Ch's 5, 6, 7, 8, 10
Mar. 5, 7, 10	Human Development I: Childhood	Ch 11
Mar. 12	Human Development II: Adolescence	Ch 12
Mar. 14, 17	Intelligence	Ch 9
Mar. 19, 24	Personality	Ch 13
Mar. 21	Good Friday University Closed	
Mar. 26	Test #3	Ch's 11, 12, 9, 13
Mar. 28, 31	Stress and Health Psychology	Ch 15
Apr. 2, 4, 7	Psychological Disorders	Ch 16
Apr. 9, 11	Treatment	Ch 17
Apr. 14, 16	Social Thought and Social Behaviour	Ch 14
Apr. 18	Last day to allocate Bonus Credits to Fall Session half courses.	
APR. 18	Winter Session lectures end Last day to withdraw from Winter Session half courses	
Apr. 21-30	Winter Session Final Examinations	Ch's 15, 16, 17, 14