



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

Department of Psychology
Psychology 375 (L02) – Brain and Behaviour
Fall 2011 – Course Outline

Instructor:	Dr. Trevor Gilbert	Office:	Admin 257D
Phone:	403-374-1607	Office hours:	by appointment
E-mail:	thgilber@ucalgary.ca		
Lecture Day/Time:	M 4:00-6:30 p.m.	Location:	EEEL 210

Course Description

The task of biological psychology is to explain behaviour in terms of the activities of the brain. This course explores the neural basis of learning, memory, language, and thinking, as well as behavioural and neurodegenerative disorders that arise from nervous system malfunctioning.

Required Text

An Introduction to Brain and Behavior (3rd ed.), B. Kolb and I.Q. Whishaw (2011), Worth Publishers.

Course Evaluation

There will be 3 exams. The format will be multiple choice and will include content from the text and lecture material.

Exam 1	30%	October 3, 2011	Chapters 1-6
Exam 2	30%	November 7, 2011	Chapters 7-11
Exam 3	40%	Final Exam Scheduled By Registrar	Chapters 12-16

Grading Scheme

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 or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90%; 89.4% will be rounded down to 89%).

Lecture Outline

INTRODUCTION

Chapter 1

- brain and behavior
- evolution

NEUROANATOMY & NEUROPHYSIOLOGY

Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8

- organization of the nervous system
- neurons and neurotransmission
- psychopharmacology

DEVELOPMENT & SENSORY SYSTEMS

Chapters 7, 9, 10

- brain development
- vision
- hearing
- language

MOVEMENT & SLEEP

Chapters 11, 12, 13

- motor systems
- emotional behaviour
- motivated behaviour
- sleep and dreaming

LEARNING, MEMORY & COGNITION

Chapters 5, 14, 15

- conditioning
- memory circuits
- plasticity
- cognition

DISORDERS OF BRAIN & BEHAVIOR

Chapter 16

- identification and classification
- treatment
- neurological disorders
- psychiatric disorders

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) 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

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than 14 days after the start of this course.

Absence From A Test/Exam

Makeup tests/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 a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/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.

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 via the Department Office (Admin 275), 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.

Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. **A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to the student's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation.** 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. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is **Dec 9th, 2011.**

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.: Phone: 403-220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Sep 23rd, 2011.** Last day for registration/change of registration is **Sep 26th, 2011.** The last day to withdraw from this course is **Dec 9th, 2011.**