

# PSYC 100: INTRODUCTORY PSYCHOLOGY

2007-08

---

## WHO, WHEN, AND WHERE

**Course Instructor:** Steven Barnes  
Room 3535, Kenny Psychology  
sjb@nervouscreation.com  
*Office Hours:* Mondays 11 – 12, or by appointment

**Course TA:** Anna Levin  
Room 1910, Kenny Psychology  
anna@psych.ubc.ca  
*Office Hours:* To be announced (check course website)

*Note: If no students show up in the first half of an office hour, Anna may leave.*

**Schedule:** MWF, 9:00 – 9:50, Buchanan A203 (Term 1)  
MWF, 9:00 – 9:50, Buchanan A205 (Term 2)

**Course Website:** <http://psyc100.nervouscreation.com>  
On this website you will find the following: Lecture slides (posted weekly), exam grades, course syllabus, project outlines, and general resources for 1<sup>st</sup> year students. There is also a forum available for use by all students in the class. Check the course website frequently for updated information about required readings, changes in the course structure/dates, etc.

Notes: (1) Office hours might change through the year. Please check the course website for updated office hours; (2) Emails will be answered on weekdays during normal working hours. Please limit emailed questions to ones that can be answered briefly. For more complex questions, please come to our office hours or contact us to schedule an appointment to meet with you.

---

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce you to all the major areas of the field of Psychology: the scientific study of behaviour. A broad range of psychological theories and research will be introduced that explain behaviour from many different levels of analysis--from the biological to the social.

*Term 1* of the course covers fundamental aspects of behaviour, examining the biological and social roots of behaviour, and the processes of sensation, perception, consciousness, learning and memory.

In *Term 2*, we investigate more complex and applied psychological processes such as the nature of language and thought, the constituents of intelligence, motivation and emotion, human development, personality, the effects of stress, and the origins and treatment of psychological disorders.

The course materials will be presented as lectures, text materials, videos and demonstrations.

---

## COORDINATED ARTS PROGRAMME (CAP)

This section of Psychology 100 is part of the *Individual & Society* theme of the Coordinated Arts Program (CAP), designed to allow first-year students to study as a cohort as they take first-year Psychology, Economics and Arts Studies courses. This learning unit of 100 students will study Psychology 100, Economics 101/102 and Arts Studies 100 as a group. The basic goal of the CAP is to enhance the sense of integration both academically and socially for first-year students.

While providing the foundation course for each of their major programs, your *Individual & Society* instructors are also developing academic links, or points of contact, between their courses. We encourage students to do the same: To look for commonalities and contrasts between disciplines in their approaches to the individual and society; to allow ideas from each discipline to inform your understanding of the other disciplines.

Further, this CAP section of Psychology 100 has increased research and writing content relative to most other sections of Psychology 100. The objective is to enhance the learning experience for students by requiring them to put psychological ideas into practice and develop the ability to articulate those ideas in a clear and cogent manner.

---

## EVALUATION

The following types of student evaluation will be used. The percentage weight that each item carries is given in parentheses.

### ***Term 1 (50% of Final Grade):***

- |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| (a) Midterm--Exam #1 (30%)     | <b>10 October 2007</b> (in regular class time) |
| (b) Research Assignment (20%)  | <b>14 November 2007</b>                        |
| (c) End of Term--Exam #2 (50%) | <b>5-19 December 2007</b>                      |

### ***Term 2 (50% of Final Grade):***

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| (a) Midterm--Exam #3 (40%)     | <b>15 February 2008</b> (in regular class time) |
| (b) Project (20%)              | <b>26 March 2008</b>                            |
| (c) End of Term--Exam #4 (40%) | <b>15-29 April 2008</b>                         |

### ***Examinations:***

The exams are not cumulative; that is, they cover only previously untested reading and lecture material. For example, Exam # 2 covers everything since the material covered in Exam # 1, etc. That being said, you should be aware that the content presented later in the course does build on the content presented earlier on in the course.

The examinations noted above will employ the multiple-choice format, and will be closed-book. Short-answer-, fill-in-the-blank-, or short-essay-type questions might also be included on Exams #2 and #4.

There will be topics covered in the classes that are not in the text and topics in the text that are not covered in class. You will be responsible for both in the examinations. That is, all readings and all lecture material will be tested.

The registrar's office schedules the end of term exams any time during the exam periods noted above. **Students are responsible for ensuring they are available throughout that period.**

You should bring picture I.D. (student card) to all examinations.

It is a university regulation (see the UBC Calendar) that students may not view their final examinations (in this course: the exam you will write during the April examination period) without special written permission from the Dean's Office. During such a viewing students and professors are prohibited from discussing the grading. If you are unhappy with your grade on the final examination, you may officially request from the Registrar's Office (within 4 weeks of the announcement of the final grades) that your examination be remarked (see the UBC Calendar).

### ***Late assignments:***

Students may submit assignments late only with good reasons and should provide a note explaining those reasons to the instructor in advance of the due date if possible. Students submitting work late without good reasons will be penalized 5% per day, including weekends.

---

## **EXTRA CREDIT SCHEME**

You can gain extra credit for this course (up to a maximum of 4% for the whole course) by participating in accredited psychological experiments or by completing library projects.

***Experimental Participation.*** You can earn **one** credit point (1%) for each hour of participation in experiments. Students are required initially to request a Human Subject Pool (HSP) user account using the self-creation tool, at <http://hsp.psych.ubc.ca>. You can then browse advertised experiments for credit, view available time slots, sign up for experiments, and register or check on the course credits you have earned. At the end of each term a credit summary will also be

posted on the Psychology department website. The Research Participation System opens the first week of September for the Fall Term session.

**Library Option.** As an alternative to experimental participation, students may obtain extra credit by completing a library project. Such projects consist of reading and summarizing (in written form) a recent **peer-reviewed research article** in a journal published by the Association for Psychological Science (APS), the American Psychological Association (APA), the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA), or the Psychonomic Society. The article must have been published **within the last 12 months**, and the summary should be about **500 words** in length. The student will receive **one credit point (1%)** for each article summary. Article summaries, together with hard copies of summarized articles, must be submitted to Dr. Elizabeth Dunn, in **Kenny 2013, at least 10 days before the end of classes in each term.**

---

## COURSE TEXT

**Required:** Weiten, W. & McCann, D. (2007). *Psychology: Themes & Variations. First Canadian Edition.* Thomson Nelson.

UBC Bookstore Price: \$84.25 (Book Only)  
\$22.60 (Study Guide Only)  
\$115.75 (Book with Concept Charts)  
\$134.25 (Book with Study Guide and Concept Charts)

*From time to time, this text may be supplemented by other readings to facilitate your understanding. Please attend class and check the course website to obtain more information about these readings.*

**Optional:** Additional learning aids (e.g., Study Guide, Concept Chart, Online Study: 'Thompson Now') are optional but recommended; they can be useful in directing your attention to material you should know and may also enhance your understanding and retention of the materials. However, you will never be examined on any materials in these optional reading materials.

---

## OUTLINE OF TOPICS (TERM 1):

The course topics for term 1 will be covered according to the following schedule (chapter numbers in parentheses refer to assigned readings from the Weiten & McCann text):

<i>WEEK 1 (Sept. 5-7):</i>	<b>Course outline and organization. Psychology of 1<sup>st</sup> Year (Chapter 1, pages 31-37; The Internet Preface of the textbook; Appendix D).</b>
<i>WEEK 2 (Sept. 10-14):</i>	<b>The Evolution of Psychology (Chapter 1, remainders).</b>
<i>WEEK 3 (Sept. 17-21):</i>	<b>Psychological Research (Chapter 2). Basic Statistical Methods (Appendix B).</b>

- WEEK 4 (Sept. 24-28): Biopsychology (Chapter 3).**
- WEEK 5 (Oct. 1-5): Evolutionary Bases of Behaviour (Chapter 3 cont'd).  
Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>: Review session for Exam #1.**
- WEEK 6 (Oct. 8-12): Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>: Thanksgiving Day. University closed.  
Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>: Exam # 1.  
Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>: Term 1 Research Assignment Discussion.**
- WEEK 7 (Oct. 15-19): Social Psychology (Chapter 16).**
- WEEK 8 (Oct. 22-27): Social Psychology cont'd (Chapter 16 cont'd).  
Sensation & Perception (Chapter 4).**
- WEEK 9 (Oct. 29 – Nov. 2): Sensation & Perception cont'd (Chapter 4 cont'd).**
- WEEK 10 (Nov. 5 – Nov. 9): Consciousness (Chapter 5).**
- WEEK 11 (Nov. 12-16): Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>: Holiday in lieu of Remembrance Day. University closed.  
Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>: Research assignment due.  
Learning Processes (Chapter 6).**
- WEEK 12 (Nov. 19-23): Learning Processes cont'd (Chapter 6 cont'd).  
Human Memory (Chapter 7).**
- WEEK 13 (Nov. 26-30): Human Memory cont'd (Chapter 7 cont'd).  
Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>: Review session for Exam #2.**
- DECEMBER EXAM PERIOD (Dec. 5-19): Exam #2.**

### **OUTLINE OF TOPICS (TERM 2):**

The course topics for term 2 will be covered according to the following schedule (chapter numbers in parentheses refer to assigned readings from the Weiten & McCann text):

- WEEK 1 (Jan. 7-11): Language & Thought (Chapter 8).**
- WEEK 2 (Jan. 14-18): Intelligence & Testing (Chapter 9).**
- WEEK 3 (Jan. 21-25): Intelligence & Testing cont'd (Chapter 9 cont'd).**
- WEEK 4 (Jan. 28 – Feb. 1): Motivation & Emotion (Chapter 10).**
- WEEK 5 (Feb. 4-8): Human Development (Chapter 11).**

- WEEK 6 (Feb. 11-15):** **Human Development cont'd (Chapter 11 cont'd).**  
**Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>:** Review session for Exam #3.  
**Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>:** Exam # 3.
- WEEK 7 (Feb. 18 - 22):** *Midterm break. No Lectures.*
- WEEK 8 (Feb. 25-29):** **Personality (Chapter 12).**
- WEEK 9 (Mar. 3-7):** **Personality cont'd (Chapter 12 cont'd).**
- WEEK 10 (Mar. 10-14):** **Stress, Coping & Health (Chapter 13).**
- WEEK 11 (Mar. 17-21):** **Psychological Disorders (Chapter 14).**  
**Mar. 21<sup>st</sup>:** Good Friday. University closed.
- WEEK 12 (Mar. 24-28):** **Mar. 24<sup>th</sup>:** Easter Monday. University closed.  
**Mar. 26<sup>th</sup>:** Term project due.  
**Psychological Disorders cont'd (Chapter 14 cont'd).**
- WEEK 13 (Mar. 31 – Apr. 4):** **Treatment of Psychological Disorders (Chapter 15).**
- WEEK 14 (Apr. 7-11):** **Treatment of Psychological Disorders cont'd (Chapter 15 cont'd).**  
**Apr. 11<sup>th</sup>:** Review session for Exam #4.
- APRIL EXAM PERIOD (Apr. 15-29):** Exam #4.

Note: On occasion it will be necessary for a topic to be extended into a prior or subsequent week.

---

## **WITHDRAWAL DATES**

If you wish to withdraw from this course without any record of the course on your transcript, you must do so on or before **21 September 2007**. If you wish to withdraw with a "W" on your transcript, you must do so before **23 November 2007**.

---

## **GRADING AND ATTENDANCE**

**Grading.** The marks for each exam will be posted on the course web site (see the "Grades" tab) with the student numbers, but not the names, of the students. Students have the right to request that their own grade is not posted (an e-mail to the instructor will suffice). Such students can come to the office hours to see their own grades. Students who wish to inspect their exams may do so by visiting the teaching assistant during office hours.

All faculties, departments and schools at UBC reserve the right to scale grades in order to maintain equity among sections and conformity to university, faculty, departmental or school norms. Students should therefore note that the faculty or department might change an unofficial grade given by the instructor. Grades are not official until they appear on a student's academic record. With regard to this grading practice, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year courses in Psychology are obliged to achieve a grade average at the end of the course of between 63 – 67 %. Therefore, although this seldom occurs, grades may be scaled to meet this requirement.

**Attendance.** In this course, material that is taught in class may be different from or supplement the text material. It is, therefore, essential that you attend classes and it is a good idea to read ahead in the text. If, however, you do have to miss a class you are responsible for getting class notes from another student. If an exam or paper deadline is missed, a medical note from a physician is required in order to avoid receiving a zero for that exam or assignment. Make-up exams will only be provided for students with documented medical problems. Please hand the Doctor's note in to the instructor as soon as you return to school. Refer to the UBC Calender for details of 'academic concession.'

The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with the Disability Resource Centre. The University also accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance or scheduled tests or exams. Please let the instructor know in advance, preferably in the first few weeks of class, if you will require any accommodation on these grounds. Other absences for varsity athletics, family obligations or other similar commitments are not part of University policy and students should not assume they will be accommodated. Please discuss this with the instructor before the withdrawal dates—see above.

---

## **PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT'S POSITION ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct are very serious concerns of the University, and the Department of Psychology has taken steps to alleviate them. In the first place, the Department has implemented software that can reliably detect cheating on multiple-choice exams by analyzing the patterns of students' responses. In addition, the Department subscribes to *TurnItIn*—a service designed to detect and deter plagiarism. All materials (term papers, lab reports, etc.) that students submit for grading will be scanned and compared to over 4.5 billion pages of content located on the Internet or in *TurnItIn*'s own proprietary databases. The results of these comparisons are compiled into customized "Originality Reports" containing several, sensitive measures of plagiarism; instructors receive copies of these reports for every student in their class.

In all cases of suspected academic misconduct, the parties involved will be pursued to the fullest extent dictated by the guidelines of the University. Strong evidence of cheating or plagiarism may result in a zero credit for the work in question. According to the University Act (section 61), the President of UBC has the right to impose harsher penalties including (but not limited to) a failing grade for the course, suspension from the University, cancellation of scholarships, or a notation added to the student's transcript.

All graded work in this course, unless otherwise specified, is to be original work done independently by individuals. If you have any questions as to whether or not what you are doing is even a borderline case of academic misconduct, please consult your instructor. For details on pertinent University policies and procedures, please see Chapter 5 in the UBC Calendar (<http://students.ubc.ca/calendar>) and read the University's Policy 69 (available at <http://www.universitycounsel.ubc.ca/policies/policy69.html>).

Last Modified: September 4, 2007.

Credits: Portions of the present course outline were borrowed or modified from the 2006-07 version of the outline by Dr. Gillian Watson.