

**THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**  
**Psychology 100, Section 901, 2007 – 2008**

**Course Outline**

**Instructor:** Dr. Boris Gorzalka  
Room 3511, Kenny Psychology Building, 2136 West Mall  
Telephone: 604-822-3095

My office hours are between 2:00 and 4:00 pm, Wednesdays. No appointment is necessary at that time. However, feel free to drop by at any other time or make an appointment. Students are welcome to discuss issues, whether they are related to the course or not. Because I am also the coordinator of the B.Sc. Psychology Programme, I am eager to discuss the programme, your academic future, or related issues with you. If you would rather talk to somebody with a different approach or attitude than mine, perhaps I could suggest some faculty member whose interests are more aligned with yours.

**Teaching Assistant:** Carolin Klein, Room 1614, Kenny Psychology Building,  
Email: [carolinklein@psych.ubc.ca](mailto:carolinklein@psych.ubc.ca)

**Texts:**

1. E.E. Smith, S. Nolen-Hoeksma, B. Fredrickson and G.R. Loftus, Atkinson and Hilgard's Introduction to Psychology, Fourteenth Edition. Thomson Wadsworth, 2003.
2. Mind and Behaviour: Reading from Scientific American. These will be distributed in class free of charge.

**General Objectives:**

It should be emphasized that Psychology 100 is not a general survey course in psychology (see calendar). Rather, it is a presentation of selected topics. The idea is to allow the student to sample some of the areas of psychology in depth rather than to skim over a mind-boggling variety of topics. By leaving the selection of these topics to the discretion of the instructor, the student has the advantage of listening to an instructor who is both interested in and informed about the material that is being taught.

This particular section of Psychology 100 can most clearly be summarized in terms of three main objectives. First, I want you to develop an interest in some areas of psychology. Second, I want to demonstrate that objective scientific procedures are the best way of studying behaviour. Third, I want to point out how the experimental type of analysis can be used to uncover some of the interesting relationships between the brain and behaviour. A variety of topics will be discussed but usually one of these objectives will be part of the underlying theme.

**General Procedure:**

Classes will meet Monday from 5:00 to 7:30 pm. The first two hours of each class session will consist exclusively of lectures. The remaining half hour is tutorial in nature and will be available for students to meet with the instructor and to clarify issues based on lecture material or assigned readings.

Below is the lecture sequence and assigned readings from Atkinson and Hilgard's Introduction to Psychology.

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Assigned Reading</u>
I. <u>Psychology as a Science</u>	
1. Areas of Psychology	pages 3–17
2. Methods of Psychology	pages 16–26
3. Descriptive and Inferential Statistics	pages A1–A12
II. <u>Motivation, Emotion and the Brain</u>	
1. Neurobiology	pages 32–59
2. Hunger	pages 361–372
3. Thirst	pages 359–360
4. Aggression	pages 60–61, 414–423
5. Sexuality	pages 373–383
6. Stress	Chapter 14
III. <u>Consciousness</u>	
1. Internal Control (Sleeping and Dreaming)	pages 199–212
2. External Control (Drug Effects)	pages 212–223, 591–595
IV. <u>Learning and Conditioning</u>	Chapter 7
V. <u>Memory</u>	Chapter 8
VI. <u>Personality</u>	Chapter 13, pages 428–435
VII. <u>Psychopathology</u>	Chapter 15
VIII. <u>Psychotherapy and other Treatment Methods</u>	Chapter 16
IX. <u>Social and Developmental Psychology</u>	TBA
X. <u>Sensation and Perception</u>	TBA

**Holidays:**

The University will be closed on Monday October 8<sup>th</sup>, November 12<sup>th</sup>, and March 24<sup>th</sup>. In addition, the University has announced that there are to be no scheduled classes during the mid-term break which begins on February 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Grade Evaluation:**

There will be a total of five multiple-choice examinations: one in October, one in December, one in February, one in March and one in April. As far as the four monthly exams from November to March are concerned, these will account for 2/3 of your total grade. The final exam will account for 1/3 of your total grade. All exams will be based on lecture material and readings from the textbook and Scientific American handouts. The October-March exams will consist of approximately 50 questions while the final examination will consist of 100 questions. Students who feel that multiple-choice examinations do not adequately measure their knowledge and abilities, or students who for any reason find multiple-choice examinations to be more difficult than other types of tests are strongly advised not to take this course.

**Examination Schedule:**

*Note:* IP = Atkinson and Hilgard's Introduction to Psychology  
MB = Mind and Behaviour: Readings from Scientific American

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Topic</u></b>
October 15	Lecture material and IP readings from September 10 to October 1; MB Chapters 2, 3, 4,
December __	Lecture material and IP readings from October 15 to November 26; MB Chapters 21, 24.
February 4	Lecture material and IP readings from January 7 to January 28; MB Chapter 13.
March 10	Lecture material and IP readings from February 4 to March 3; MB Chapters 15, 16, 18, 20.
April __	Lecture material from September 10 to April 7; IP readings from March 10 to April 7; MB Chapters 22, 23, 25, 28.

**Course Policies:**

Your comments and questions are very welcome in class as well as in my office. Classroom participation is strongly encouraged. Examinations will be given on published dates only. Students who miss examination will not have the opportunity to re-write. Students who miss an examination and have both documentation and a valid medical excuse will have their grade on the final examination adjusted accordingly. Please note that September 21 is the last day for changes in registration and the last day for withdrawal from this course without a "W" recorded on your transcript.

### **Psychology Department's Policy on Grade Distributions and Scaling**

In order to reduce grade inflation and maintain equity across multiple course sections, all psychology courses are required to comply with departmental norms regarding grade distributions. According to departmental norms, the mean grade in a 300-level class is 70 for a good class, 68 for an average class, and 66 for a weak class, with a standard deviation of 13). The corresponding figures for 100- and 200-level Psychology courses are 67, 65, and 63, with a standard deviation of 14. **Scaling** is likely to be used in order to comply with these norms; grades may be scaled up or down as necessary by the professor or department.

### **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 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 a student's transcript.

All graded work in this course, unless otherwise specified, is to be original work done independently by individuals. **Do not** use Google/Yahoo/MSN Search/etc. to find articles for assignments in this course. **Do** use any of the indexes and databases listed under Indexes and Databases, Subject Resources, OneSearch or Metasearch on the Library's website at <http://www.library.ubc.ca>. (Not sure which index to use? Click HELP on the library homepage at [www.library.ubc.ca](http://www.library.ubc.ca) or try Subject Resources.)

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>).