

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

PSYCHOLOGY 101 - SECTION 901

Fall 2007

<http://www.psych.ubc.ca/~kevin/Psych%20101/>

3-Credits

Please note: The online presentation of this course outline is the official version

COURSE DIRECTOR:

Dr. Kevin Hamilton

Office: 3531 Kenny Bldg.

Office Hours: Tuesdays 17:00-18:00

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TEACHING ASSISTANT:

Name: Jonathan Jassy

Office: Kenny 2533

Office Hours: TBA

Mail Box: Kenny Room 2508

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Where possible, most problems and issues should be directed initially to your Teaching Assistant

LECTURES:

Tuesdays: 18:00-21:00 **Math 100**

READING LIST:

(1) Myers, D. (2007). *Psychology* (8th Edition). New York: Worth

(2) Straub (2007). *Study Guide to Accompany Psychology Eighth Edition David G. Myers*. New York: Worth

GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Psychology is the scientific study of human behaviour. This course is designed to promote critical thinking skills and to introduce students to several key areas that make up the field of Psychology. Areas discussed are listed under 'Topics and Required Readings'.

Please note that this is a 3 credit course. Including in-class and out of class time, students should be prepared to devote at least 6 hour per week to this course.

The format for the course is one - 3 hour lecture per week, which includes time for discussion and films.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS:

You are responsible for course readings listed under 'Topics and Required Readings'. In addition, you are responsible for all material presented in lectures that may not be covered in your text. This includes supplemental topics and issues presented in films shown regularly throughout the course.

Before coming to each class, it is highly recommended that you read the appropriate sections in the text to be discussed that day. This will greatly facilitate your understanding of material covered during class. Participation in class discussion is encouraged and regular attendance is extremely important and expected. Students unavoidably absent because of illness or disability should report to the instructor on returning to class.

The grade for this course is based on 2 in-class exams consisting of both multiple choice and short answer questions (80% and 20% respectively). The exams are not cumulative. Each is on a different section of the course and each counts for 50% of the overall grade.

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.

There are no make-up exams or assignments in this course. If an exam is missed, you are required to notify the Teaching Assistant or Course Director within 48 hours of the exam time. An equivalent form of the exam can be written with the Teaching Assistant when you return to the University. Please make these arrangements directly with the Teaching Assistant. A verifiable Doctors note must be provided in order to write an exam outside the scheduled time.

When writing Exams, please bring a dark pencil (N0. 2 or HB). This is required for machine scoring your multiple choice answer sheets. Also, you will need picture ID and your student number (found on your library card). Examination dates are indicated below. All exams are 2 hours in duration.

Subject Credit:

In addition to your exams, you have the opportunity to earn up to 3 extra percentage points on your overall final grade by participating in studies regularly conducted by the Psychology Department. This provides the valuable opportunity to observe the research process directly and to contribute to the ongoing research activities at UBC. The extra grades are obtained by signing up for the Introductory Psychology Subject Pool posted on the main bulletin board in the Kenny Psychology Building (2nd Floor) or through the web site <http://hsp.psych.ubc.ca>. 1/2 percentage point is assigned to your final grade for each 30 min. of participation.

Credits can be recorded and tracked via the subject credit website <http://hsp.psych.ubc.ca>. Your credits are added to your grade at the end of the course. Make sure that you retain your portion of the experimental credit receipt in the event that verification of participation is required when the final grades are compiled.

As an alternative to obtaining subject credit by participating in studies regularly conducted by the Psychology Department, students can participate in the Library Option. The Library option involves writing summaries of recently published research articles from accredited Psychology journals. For details contact your instructor or Dr. Peter Graf in room 3110 of the Kenny Building.

Academic Dishonesty:

Please note that academic dishonesty will not be tolerated at UBC. 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. The Department has implemented software that, can reliably detect cheating on multiple-choice exams by analyzing the patterns of students' responses.

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

In this course, academic dishonesty pertains primarily to the issue of cheating on exams. Examination protocol is posted on the board and reviewed prior to each exam.

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>)

Special Needs:

The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with the Disability Resource Centre. The University accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and examinations. Please

let your instructor know in advance, preferably in the first week of class, if you will require any accommodation on these grounds. Students who plan to be absent for varsity athletics, family obligations, or other similar commitments, cannot assume they will be accommodated, and should discuss their commitments with the instructor before the drop date.

Students have the right to view their marked examinations with their instructor, providing they apply to do so within a month of receiving their final grades. This review is for pedagogic purposes. The examination remains the property of the university.

CLASS DATES, TOPICS AND REQUIRED READINGS

Sept 4	(1)	Introduction Prologue
Sept 11	(2)	Research Methods Ch. 1 Thinking Critically with Psychological Science
Sept 18	(3)	Neuroscience Ch. 2 Neuroscience and Behavior
Sept 25	(4)	Behavioural Genetics Ch. 3 Nature Nurture and Human Diversity
Oct 2	(5)	Sensation Ch. 5 Sensation
Oct 9	(6)	Perception Ch. 6 Perception
Oct 16		Test 1 (50% ch's: Prologue, 1,2,3,5,6)
Oct 23	(7)	Test 1 Review States of Consciousness Ch. 7 States of Consciousness
Oct 30	(8)	States of Consciousness con't Learning Ch. 8 Learning
Nov 6	(9)	Learning Continued
Nov 13	(10)	Memory Ch. 9 Memory
Nov 13	(11)	Cognition Ch. 10 Thinking and Language
Nov 20	(12)	Test 2 (50% ch's: 7,8,9,10)
Nov 27	(13)	Last class Test 2 Review