

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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UBC's Point Grey Campus is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəyəm (Musqueam) people. The land it is situated on has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam people, who for millennia have passed on their culture, history, and traditions from one generation to the next on this site.

**COURSE INFORMATION**

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Course Title	Course Code Number	Credit Value
Introduction to Biological and Cognitive Psychology	PSYC 101 - 009	3

**PREREQUISITES**

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none

**COREQUISITES**

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none

**CONTACTS**

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Course Instructor	Contact Details	Office Location	Office Hours
Luke Clark	<a href="mailto:luke.clark@psych.ubc.ca">luke.clark@psych.ubc.ca</a>	CIRS building on West Mall, 4 <sup>th</sup> floor - room 4342B	I will be available for brief discussions with students after each class. Office hours Mondays 1-2pm at my office.

**OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF**

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The TA for this course is Mikayla Pachkowski (email [pmikayla@psych.ubc.ca](mailto:pmikayla@psych.ubc.ca)). Mikayla is an MA student in the Clinical Psychology Graduate Program, studying psychological processes in suicidal thoughts and behaviours. Her office hours this term will be Tuesdays 10-11am in the Kenny building, room 1708 (2136 West Mall).

You may contact the TA or the Instructor in person or by email. In correspondence, please feel free to refer to me as 'Dr Clark' or 'Prof Clark'. Please be judicious in your use of email: if you have more than 2 questions, your best option is to visit in person, in office hours. Note: if you need to send me a direct message, including any urgent correspondence about personal matters, please send me a direct email (to [luke.clark@psych.ubc.ca](mailto:luke.clark@psych.ubc.ca)) rather than sending a message within Canvas. The reply functionality in Canvas is limited and I can reply faster if you email me directly.

**COURSE STRUCTURE**

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Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behaviour. This course will serve as an introduction to the *cognitive* and *biological* aspects of psychology. To this end, we will cover a number of topics, including the formation of psychology as a discipline, an introduction to research methods in psychology and neuroscience, and an overview of some of the major fields in psychology, including perception, learning and memory, language, consciousness, and what we commonly call 'thinking' (e.g. solving

problems, making difficult decisions). We will consider human psychology as well as the insights that can be gained from research in non-human species. The course will include introductory material on the scientific process of studying the mind and brain, including the challenges of studying behaviour, working with data, and research ethics in human participants.

Lectures are on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays at 12 noon in the CIRS main lecture theatre, 1250.

### LEARNING ACTIVITIES

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The course will follow a traditional lecture-based format supported by the textbook (see Learning Materials below). I will make slide handouts available before each class, for download from Canvas. I encourage students to take notes in class, and to take *brief* notes when reading the textbook (e.g. key constructs, useful examples). I encourage class participation by asking and answering questions, as well as using the Canvas Discussion threads. I will offer online office hours via the Canvas discussion threads if you cannot attend in person, and endeavor to reply to questions on those threads on Monday afternoons.

The purpose of class is to cover core material in the *Schedule of Topics* (below). Classes will cover concepts and examples from the textbook, but the Instructor(s) may also refer to other (non-textbook) material to reinforce important points or provide alternative examples. The purpose of the textbook is to help you to prepare for class, and to further extend your knowledge of material covered in class. The exam questions on the Midterms and Final exam will examine material covered in class – including textbook material that has been discussed in class.

The textbook is paired with an online platform called Launchpad, which we will be using for weekly quizzes throughout the course, due on Fridays (at 1 minute to midnight!) In reviewing the *Schedule of Topics*, please note the dates on which the Launchpad quizzes are due. The purpose of these quizzes is to familiarize you with relevant material from the textbook ahead of those classes, in order that you are best prepared to engage with that material during class, including asking and answering questions.

If the course runs to schedule, we will have an additional ‘off textbook’ class on the Psychology of Gambling in late March. This will give some insight into a specific area of research, for those of you who are considering taking further psychology courses and/or majoring in Psychology, and this class will also help consolidate some material across the different chapters of the textbook.

### LEARNING MATERIALS

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The textbook for this class will be:

Schacter DL, Gilbert DT, Nock MK, Johnsrude I, Wegner DM (2017) *Psychology* (Canadian 4th edition + Launchpad). New York: Macmillan.

The textbook is paired with an online platform called Launchpad, which we will be using for weekly quizzes called Learning Curves. Launchpad has been integrated into Canvas for this course, and in order to use Launchpad through Canvas, you **MUST** purchase your course materials either at the UBC Bookstore or directly in Canvas. Purchases from other retailers (ie. Amazon, Discount Textbooks, etc.) are not able to be verified through the course site, and you will not be able to access the Launchpad content, which comprises 5% of your course grade.

You have two options of purchasing your course materials for this course:

- 1) Purchase either the physical or digital product in-store or online at the UBC Bookstore – **for these purchases you MUST keep your receipt in order to verify the purchase in Canvas.**
- 2) To purchase only a digital copy of the textbook, log into Canvas and follow the link to purchase the required materials.

If you purchase in-store or online from the UBC Bookstore, you will need to log into Canvas and click on the 'Redeem Your Purchase Receipt Number' option in order to verify your purchase and gain access to the online materials.

There are two versions of a loose-leaf textbook in the UBC Bookstore:

- 1) For only the 101 chapters, there is a looseleaf textbook priced at \$45, which includes 6 month access to Launchpad & online textbook access.  
Short Title: CUSTOM PSYCHOLOGY VOL1: 4/CDN ED (BINDER READY) ISBN-13: 9781319263003.
- 2) If you also expect to take Psyc 102 (or are taking 101 and 102 together this term), there is a looseleaf version of the full textbook for \$75, which including 24 month access to Launchpad):  
Short Title: CUSTOM PSYCHOLOGY FULL TEXT 4/CDN ED (BINDER READY) ISBN-13: 9781319262976.

Alternatively, you can obtain access codes to the digital-only versions at the UBC Bookstore for either 6 month access (ISBN 9781319252687) or 24 month access (ISBN 9781319252694) (the latter option is recommended if you expect to take Psyc 102 in the future). Finally, there is a 14-day free trial access to Launchpad, if you need to begin the quizzes (in week 1) before you have purchased the textbook.

The publisher has provided a FAQ document on accessing Launchpad through Canvas, which I have uploaded to Canvas (Modules > ExtraMaterials). Note that Chrome is the recommended browser. If you have used Launchpad previously via the MacMillan website for other courses, please note that you should now complete the quizzes inside Canvas to obtain course credit.

Launchpad can be accessed in Canvas through the Assignments section. As well as the quizzes, Launchpad includes a full online copy of your textbook, plus a number of other useful tools including videos and revision aids. Each week, you will be assigned either 2 or 3 'Learning Curve' quizzes on the relevant chapter in the textbook. These quizzes comprise 5% of your overall grade, and Launchpad access is therefore mandatory for this course. The quizzes are designed to be adaptive: if you have read and understood the textbook material, they are quick to complete. On the other hand, if you attempt the quiz without knowing the material, they will take you much longer. You will be awarded one credit for completing each Launchpad quiz; the quizzes are only scored as passed (or not). The other tools in Launchpad are an excellent way to augment your weekly studying and prepare for the exams - I strongly encourage you to make use of these online resources throughout the term.

You may see opportunities to purchase second hand copies of the textbook. Earlier editions, and Non-Canadian editions of the textbook cannot be verified as appropriate for the course, and also *will not include* Launchpad access.

If you have any issues with Launchpad access, please first consult the FAQ guide on Canvas. If your problem is not resolved, decide whether the problem is with Canvas access to Launchpad (in which case, UBC support via **the LT Hub**: [lthub.ubc.ca](http://lthub.ubc.ca) ) or with Launchpad itself (in which case

<http://support.bfwpub.com/supportform/form.php?View=contact>

### Canvas

All course materials will be available via Canvas [www.canvas.ubc.ca](http://www.canvas.ubc.ca). Lecture slides will be uploaded to Canvas, typically the evening before class. I will use Canvas to share links to any extra material discussed in class. I encourage the use of Discussion Threads in Canvas, as it is very often the case that many students share the same confusion or misunderstanding about a topic.

### Clickers

This class will make use of iClickers, for monitoring attendance (see Learning Assessment) and in-class polls. I will present at least one iClicker question per class – where possible in the middle section of the class -- in order to have a record of class attendance through the term. Note the 2% course grade from these iClicker data is only linked to your *participation* in the polls, not giving a correct answer. *Please register your iClicker in the Canvas site for this course* (for technical support including browser settings, see <https://lthub.ubc.ca/guides/clickers/> )

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

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By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Apply scientific methods to the investigation of human nature, behaviour, and mental processes. This will include research design, understanding the major techniques that are used in psychology, and interpretation of psychological data and graphs.
- Display knowledge about the *organization of the nervous system* at multiple levels, from transmission at the level of single neurons to how complex mental functions arise from networks comprising multiple brain regions. In particular, students will understand how specific brain structures e.g. hippocampus, visual cortex, are linked to psychological processes.
- Display knowledge about the *psychological processes* and *mental representations* that underlie complex mental functions including perception (with a focus on vision), learning and memory, language, consciousness, and other aspects of ‘thinking’ including problem solving, judgment and decision-making.
- Apply psychological research to everyday life and real-world behaviour, as well as understanding the effects of brain injury and processes relevant to some forms of mental illness.

## ASSESSMENTS OF LEARNING

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### Evaluation:

• Attendance	2%	(from iClicker data)
• Launchpad LearningCurve quizzes	5%	(submitted in Canvas)
• Midterm 1	30%	(assessing the first third of the course)
• Midterm 2	30%	(assessing the middle third of the course)
• Research Experience Component	2%	(through the Psychology HSP system)
• Final exam	31%	(cumulative)

The two midterms will consist of 40 multiple choice questions. Both midterms are non-cumulative. Questions will test your understanding of topics that were covered in class, including the textbook

material that was covered in class. For revision purposes, and depending on the quality of your class notes, this material is often explained more thoroughly in the textbook. For revision, I recommend that students treat the class slides as the core curriculum, but refer regularly to corresponding parts of the textbook for greater depth. The midterms will take place in the CIRS lecture theatre at the usual class time.

The Final will include multiple choice questions similar to the midterms (60 questions) as well as 20 fill-in-the-blank style questions (we will practice these questions in class around the time of midterm 2). The Final is cumulative, testing material both from post-midterm 2 and from the entire course. ***Please note: the date of the Final is not announced by the University until after the start of term. You should NOT make travel plans until you learn the date of your final exams. For any discussion of re-scheduling the Final exam, you will be referred to your Faculty Advising office.***

For course policies regarding in-term academic concessions, please refer to the relevant UBC calendar entry: <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,329,0,0>. In cases where students miss the Midterm, please contact the Instructor as soon as possible (ideally before the exam). The Instructor will decide whether it is possible to offer a make-up test, or whether there are grounds for exemption. For any components that are exempted, the overall course grade will be calculated by re-weighting the available components using the same ratios listed above.

#### *LearningCurve (5% of course grade)*

The LearningCurve exercises on Launchpad are online tests that reward you for doing your readings. They emphasize which sections you need to review and which sections you know. The deadlines are shown in the lecture schedule; this term they are all due on Fridays by midnight. You will receive email reminders one day before each deadline. The Learning Curves become unavailable for credit after their deadline, and I cannot re-open a quiz for individual students. To receive the full 5% grade, you need to complete **20** of the 27 quizzes before the deadlines. This gives you the opportunity to drop any 7 LearningCurves over the course of the term and still receive the full grade. If you join the course late, or if you are ill during term, this uses up some of your 7 'drop-able' LearningCurves. This is a large class and most students will encounter at least a couple of weeks where they cannot make a LearningCurve deadline, ***please do not contact me to discuss this***, this is why you need only submit 20 of the 27. For students who submit fewer than 20 LearningCurves, each one will be marked at 0.25%.

#### *Attendance Credit (2% of course grade)*

iClickers attendance will provide 2% of your grade. I will present at least one iClicker question per content class (not including review classes or midterms). In the Schedule of Topics, there are 32 taught classes in total. You will receive 1% attendance credit for attending 20 of the taught classes, and the maximum 2% for attending 25 of the taught classes. Thus, as with the LearningCurve exercises, you do not need to attend every class to get the full credit, and I would request that students ***do not contact me*** to request exemptions for short-term illnesses etc. For any classes where the iClicker system is malfunctioning, snow days, transit strikes etc, I will assign credit for that class to everyone. The iClicker attendance credit is only linked to your *participation* in the polls, not giving a correct answer. ***Make sure you register your iClicker in the Canvas site for this course*** (for technical support on browser settings, see <https://lthub.ubc.ca/guides/canvas/clickers-for-canvas/> )

#### *Research Experience Component (REC) (2% of course grade)*

Psychology is an active and exciting scientific discipline. Many of the studies that you will learn about in this course were carried out at universities just like ours! As part of this course, you will be asked to

complete a research experience component (REC) as way of introducing you, in a more hands on and interactive way, to cutting edge research in psychology. This REC will be worth 2% of your grade in the class and you are free to choose one of two options:

*Participate in the Psychology Department Human Subjects Pool:* Most students will choose to earn their research experience component by spending **two hours participating in psychology studies (worth 1% point for each hour)** through the Department of Psychology's Human Subject Pool (HSP) system. You can locate, create an account, and sign up for studies by going to <https://ubc-psych.sona-systems.com/>. **Please register in the system by the end of the first month of classes to have the opportunity to earn your first ½ hour credit with a brief online survey that will increase your eligibility for more studies.**

Once registered in the system, you will be able to browse through and select which studies you wish to participate in, sign up for an available timeslot, and confirm your accumulated credits afterward. At the end of the last day of class for the term, the subject pool is closed. At that point, you will no longer be able to receive credits. I strongly urge you to participate in and confirm your credits long *before* the last week of class. Further instruction on how to use the HSP online system can be found at <http://www.psych.ubc.ca/resguide.psy> in the document entitled "Subject Pool Information for Participants."

#### Alternative assignment: **The Library Option**

As an alternative to participation in psychology subject pool experiments, you may complete a library-writing project. Such projects consist of reading and summarizing 1) the research question, 2) the methods and 3) the results (in written form) of a research article from the peer reviewed journal *Psychological Science*. You will receive one (1) research participation credit for each article summary that meets the following requirements.

#### Requirements:

- The article must have been published in the journal titled "*Psychological Science*"
- The article must have a publication date from the year 2000 to present (i.e. papers from 2001 are acceptable; those from 1999 or earlier are not)
- The article must be a research article; it cannot be a review article, a news item, a notice, or a letter to the editor, for example
- The summary should be approximately 500 words in length
- You must include your name, student number, course, section, instructor and email address on each summary
- You must log on to the Human Subject Pool system (<https://ubc-psych.sona-systems.com/>) and create an account before submitting your article summaries. Your credit is assigned using the online system.

For each course, you may obtain the same number of extra credits via the library option as specified in the course syllabus (i.e. the same number of credits available for students who participate in research).

Summaries must be submitted **before the last day of classes**.

You are to submit your article and your summary to Turnitin.com. If you don't have a Turnitin account already (from a previous course), you will need to create a user account in Turnitin. For the class ID and

password for this year, please check <https://psych.ubc.ca/undergraduate/opportunities/human-subject-pool/>. Then, go to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com), and click on the "Training" link at the top of the page for detailed instructions on how to submit papers to Turnitin.

Any student who is suspected of plagiarism will, at a minimum, not be granted credit, and their course instructor will be notified. Further action may be taken at a departmental or university level.

### *Extra credit (optional)*

You may earn up to **3% extra credit** that will be added to your final grade. These extra credit points can be earned by doing up to three additional hours of study participation in the HSP (or summarizing another three additional journal articles for the library option), as described above.

Any REC credits you earn will first be applied to the course requirement of 2%. Any additional credits will be applied to extra credit. For extra credit, one percentage point is assigned to your final grade for each hour of participation. Partial credits will be rounded down (i.e., 1.5 hours extra credit hours = 1% extra credit). HSP credits can be recorded and tracked via the HSP sona website.

### *Course grading*

Your final grade consists of the items described above: the performance for each of the items will be put into a calculator that outputs your final course percentage. Any extra credit earned will be added to this final score.

Grade Distribution: A 80-100%, B 68-79%, C 55-67%, D 50-54%, F <50%

Scaling Policy: The Department of Psychology reserves the right to scale grades in order to maintain fairness across different sections or with school norms. The anticipated distribution of grades is an average of 65-67 % with a standard deviation of 14. Scaling may be used in order to comply with these norms; grades may be scaled up or down as necessary by the professor or department. Grades are not official until they appear on a student's academic record.

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### LEARNING ANALYTICS

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This course will be using the following learning technologies: Canvas and iClickers. iClicker data will be used to monitor class attendance, for a component of the course grade. In individual cases, the Instructor may review Canvas participation to form an impression of a student's engagement with the course.

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### LEARNING RESOURCES

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The Department of Psychology teaching office is situated in the main Kenny building on West Mall, and offers appointments during office hours.

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### UNIVERSITY POLICIES

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UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to acknowledge the ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all of their actions.

Details of the policies and how to access support are available on [the UBC Senate website](#).

### OTHER COURSE POLICIES

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Please mute your cell phones during class. Laptops are permitted but use of social media, Youtube etc during class is obviously discouraged.

#### *Turning up late for exams*

A student will not be allowed to write a Midterm or the Final if (1) s/he is 30 minutes late, or (2) another student has already finished and submitted their exam, whichever occurs first. Students in this situation will not be allowed to write the exam and will receive a zero. Absolutely no exceptions will be made.

When time is called at the end of the exam, you must immediately stop working and submit your exam and scantron form at the front of class. You will not be allowed more time for any reason. Failure to stop working when time is called will result in a zero on the exam.

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. Relevant to this course, the Department has implemented software that can reliably detect cheating on multiple-choice exams by analyzing the patterns of students' responses. Second, the Department subscribes to TurnItIn, a service designed to detect plagiarism. If a student has any questions as to whether or not their work is even a borderline case of plagiarism or academic misconduct, they are advised to consult the instructor.

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 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.

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### COPYRIGHT

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All materials of this course (course handouts, lecture slides, assessments, course readings, etc.) are the intellectual property of the Course Instructor or licensed to be used in this course by the copyright owner. Redistribution of these materials by any means without permission of the copyright holder(s) constitutes a breach of copyright and may lead to academic discipline.

Students are permitted to record classes – please confirm this with the Instructor at the start of term, as well as any guest lecturers on the day of class.



**SCHEDULE OF TOPICS**

#	Date	Day	Topic	Chap	Learning Curve
1	6 Jan	M	Orientation		
2	8 Jan	W	Psychology – Past and Present	1	3 due: 1a, 1b, 1c
3	10 Jan	F			
4	13 Jan	M	Ways and Means in Psychology	2	3 due: 2a, 2b, 2c
5	15 Jan	W			
6	17 Jan	F			
7	20 Jan	M	The Nervous System – Neurons & Brains	3	2 due: 3a, 3b
8	22 Jan	W			
9	24 Jan	F			
10	27 Jan	M			
11	29 Jan	W	Investigating the Mind	3	2 due: 3c, 3d
12	31 Jan	F			
13	3 Feb	M			
	5 Feb	W	Review class		
	7 Feb	F	MIDTERM 1		
14	10 Feb	M	Sensation & Perception	4	2 due: 4a, 4b, 4c, 4e
15	12 Feb	W			
16	14 Feb	F			
	17 Feb	M	NO LECTURE – READING WEEK	7	
	19 Feb	W	NO LECTURE – READING WEEK		
	21 Feb	F	NO LECTURE – READING WEEK		
17	24 Feb	M	Sensation & Perception, cont.		
18	26 Feb	W	Learning 1		3 due: 7a, 7b, 7c
19	28 Feb	F			
20	2 Mar	M			
21	4 Mar	W	Memory	6	3 due: 6a, 6b, 6c
22	6 Mar	F			
23	9 Mar	M			
	11 Mar	W	Review class (MP)		
	13 Mar	F	MIDTERM 2		
24	16 Mar	M	Language & Thought	9	2 due: 6d, 9a
25	18 Mar	W			
26	20 Mar	F			
27	23 Mar	M			2 due: 9b, 9c
28	25 Mar	W			
29	27 Mar	F			
30	30 Mar	M	Consciousness	5	3 due: 5a, 5b, 5c
31	1 Apr	W			
32	3 Apr	F			
	6 Apr	M	Review class		
	TBA		FINAL EXAMINATION		

For any changes to this schedule, students will be informed via Canvas Announcements.

Version: 3 January 2020