

COURSE SYLLABUS

PSYCHOLOGY 367(001): Sensory Systems, Term 1 2020W

Calendar Description: Anatomy and physiology of the sensory pathways and their relation to perception. [3 credits]

Prerequisites: Psyc 101 and Psyc 102

Contacts

Instructor: Professor Debbie Giaschi email: giaschi@mail.ubc.ca
virtual contact hours: Tues. & Thurs. 12:20 – 1:00 pm (*Collaborate Ultra*)

Teaching Assistants:	email	virtual contact hours
Nicolai Blasdel	nblasdel@student.ubc.ca	Wed. 8-9 pm (<i>Collaborate Ultra</i>)
Oliver Jacobs	ojacobs@psych.ubc.ca	Mon 3-4 pm (<i>Collaborate Ultra</i>)
Melody Shayanfar	melody.shayanfar@alumni.ubc.ca	Mon 9-10 am (<i>Collaborate Ultra</i>)

We are also easily reached through **Canvas** using **Piazza**. **All questions** about lecture material, readings and exams should be posted publicly, either anonymously or with your name attached, for the rest of the class to see. Questions of a personal nature should be posted privately (but not anonymously) for only Dr. Giaschi or the TAs to see. Please **sign up** at piazza.com/ubc.ca/winterterm12020/psyc3670012020w

Learning Activities and Materials

Lectures: Tues. & Thurs. 11:00 am - 12:20 pm on **Canvas** (*Collaborate Ultra*)

Textbook: *Sensation & Perception, 5th edition* (2018) by J. Wolfe, K. Kluender, D. Levi et al. (hardcover new ~\$240 or 6-month ebook rental ~\$80
shop.bookstore.ubc.ca/courselistbuilder.aspx; 12-month ebook rental ~\$120
www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/sensation-amp-perception-jeremy-m-wolfe-keith-r-v9781605357157?term=9781605356419; 1st [2006], 2nd [2009], 3rd [2012], 4th [2015] editions are **not** suitable)

Learning Management System: canvas.ubc.ca

(to access: downloadable files [course syllabus, lecture outlines, lecture objectives, lecture slides]; *Collaborate Ultra* [live lectures, recorded lectures]; textbook demonstrations; library [additional readings, textbook excerpts]; *Piazza* [peer & instructor discussions]; quizzes & exams; grades)

Assessment of Learning:

Quiz 1 (Sept 29) or Quiz 2 (Oct 13) [<i>highest mark for set 1</i>]	15%
Midterm Exam 1 (Oct 27)	35%
Quiz 3 (Nov 10) or Quiz 4 (Nov 19) [<i>highest mark for set 2</i>]	15%
Final Exam (Dec 7-22)	35%
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Total	100%
Human Subject Pool participation	3%

Note: supplemental exams to improve your grade are not offered in any course in the Faculty of Arts.

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Course Details

Course Learning Outcomes: This course will provide you detailed knowledge about

- methods for assessing sensory systems and sensations;
- sound, the auditory system, and hearing;
- the vestibular system and spatial orientation;
- the somatosensory system, touch, and pain;
- light, the visual system, and seeing;
- the olfactory system and smell;
- the gustatory system and taste;

through lectures, readings, and demonstrations.

Readings and Lectures: All lectures will be given live at the scheduled class time on **Canvas** (*Collaborate Ultra*) and also recorded for later viewing on **Canvas** (*Collaborate Ultra*). A version of the lecture slides will be available on **Canvas** (*Modules*) the evening before each lecture to facilitate your preparation and note taking, but these slides may not be identical to the ones shown on **Canvas** (*Collaborate Ultra*). In addition, some of the material covered in lectures is not in the textbook, and some of the material in the textbook will not be covered in lectures (a scanned copy of these parts of the textbook is available through *Library Course Reserves*). It is recommended that you both attend/watch lectures and read ahead in the textbook (see Schedule on page 3). When it comes to the quizzes and exams, you are responsible for ALL material covered in lectures and ALL material assigned from the textbook including figures, definitions, boxes and summaries.

Lecture Objectives: Statements indicating what you should learn in the lectures and readings will be included on the first slide for each lecture and in the lecture outline, which will be available on **Canvas** (*Modules*) the evening before. These objectives are to guide your studying and to make it unnecessary for you to ask us what you need to know for the tests. Many students choose to treat each objective as an exam question and attempt to answer it. We recommend this method of studying, but we do not have a list of correct answers.

Human subject pool (HSP) participation: To learn more about psychology and earn up to 3 bonus points toward your course grade, you may participate in research projects between September 8 and December 3. The projects are posted at ubc-psych.sona-systems.com. Please register in this online system by the end of September. You can earn your first ½ point by completing a pretesting survey that will make you eligible for a wider variety of studies. As an alternative to participating in studies, you may complete a library writing project which consists of reading and summarizing a research article from the journal *Psychological Science*. Each written summary counts as 1 hour of participation, and is due no later than Dec 3 using Turnitin (class ID is 26333843, class name is “HSP 2020-21 (Winter Term 1), password is “Research”). More information on both research participation and the library option can be found at psych.ubc.ca/undergraduate/human-subject-pool/. **Be sure to check your recorded bonus points for this course before the online system closes at the end of the term.** These points will be added to your final course grade, after any scaling that may be required.

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Lecture Schedule and Assigned Readings

Date	Topic	Reading
Sept 8	Imagine UBC Day (classes cancelled)	
1. 10	Introduction; Psychophysics (classical)	Chpt 1 (p. 2-10)
2. 15	Psychophysics (modern and scaling)	Chpt 1 (p. 10-13); Chpt 14 (p. 486)
3. 17	Psychophysics (signal detection)	Chpt 1 (p. 13-17)
4. 22	Sensory neuroscience; Sound	Chpt 1 (p. 17-33); Chpt 9 (p. 282-287)
5. 24	The ear	Chpt 9 (p. 287-296)
6. 29	Quiz 1 (Sept 10-24 material); Auditory nerve	Chpt 9 (p. 296-300)
7. Oct 1	Auditory pathways; Loudness	Chpt 9 (p. 300-305)
8. 6	Pitch; Hearing loss	Chpt 9 (p. 306-313)
9. 8	Sound localization	Chpt 10 (p. 314-329)
10. 13	Quiz 2 (Sept 29–Oct 8); Vestibular sense	Chpt 12 (p. 378-387)
11. 15	Vestibular organs; Somatosensation	Chpt 12 (p. 387-398); Chpt 13 (p. 420-430)
12. 20	Somatosensory pathways; Touch	Chpt 13 (p. 430-436; 441-446)
13. 22	Pain	Chpt 13 (p. 436-441); <i>Basbaum*</i>
	27 Midterm exam (no lecture)	Sept 10 – Oct 22 material
14. 29	Light; The eye	Chpt 2 (p. 34-41)
15. Nov 3	Retina (photoreceptors)	Chpt 2 (p. 41-51)
16. 5	Retina (neurons)	Chpt 2 (p. 52-58)
17. 10	Quiz 3 (Oct 29-Nov 5 material); Visual acuity	Chpt 3 (p. 60-72)
18. 12	Visual pathways	Chpt 3 (p. 72-78)
19. 17	Visual cortex	Chpt 3 (p. 78-85)
20. 19	Quiz 4 (Nov 10-17); Pattern analyzers	Chpt 3 (p. 85-96)
21. 24	Olfactory system	Chpt 14 (p. 462-484)
22. 26	Smell sensation	Chpt 14 (p. 484-506)
23. Dec 1	Gustatory system	Chpt 15 (p. 508-525)
24. 3	Taste sensation	Chpt 15 (p. 525-537)
7-22 Final Exam (2 hours)		Oct 29 – Dec 3 material

**Basbaum & Julius (2006)* can be downloaded from [Canvas](#) ([Oct 22 Module](#))

Textbook demonstrations can be found through [Canvas](#) ([Modules](#)) or at oup-arc.com/access/sensation-and-perception-5e-student-resources

Chpts 4-8, 11 and pages 330-345, 399-419, 447-459 will be covered in Psyc 368

Photographing, screenshotting, video or audio recording of lectures or tests is not permitted at any time.

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Course Policies

Tests: All tests will be done through **Canvas**. The quizzes and midterm exam will occur during the scheduled class time (see page 3 for dates & topics). There will be a practice quiz to be completed at your convenience before Quiz 1. The final exam will occur as scheduled during the formal exam period. **Students are expected to use the terminology introduced in this course in their answers. Only minor deviations from correct spelling will be accepted.** For each set of 2 quizzes, only the highest mark will count (*quiz 1 or quiz 2; quiz 3 or quiz 4*). You may miss 1 quiz in each set without penalty, but it is recommended that you write all 4 quizzes if possible. The midterm exam will include material tested on the first set of quizzes. The final exam will include material tested on the second set of quizzes, but not material tested on the midterm exam.

Grades will be posted on **Canvas** as soon as they are available. Test feedback will be provided during live lectures. Marked tests will not be viewable by students, but incorrect answers may be discussed with TAs during virtual contact hours.

Accommodations: If you will be seeking accommodation through the *Centre for Accessibility*, please provide your accommodation letter to Dr. Giaschi as soon as possible, and before the first quiz. If you anticipate a *religious or cultural observance* will conflict with a test, at least 2 weeks advance notice must be provided to Dr. Giaschi in writing. If you have *conflicting responsibilities or time zone issues* that will interfere with your attendance in this course, please discuss this with Dr. Giaschi before the withdrawal date (Sept 21); supporting documentation may be requested.

Academic Concession: One quiz in each set may be missed without penalty or the need to report your absence. For all other absences from tests you must request academic concession (based on conflicting responsibilities, medical circumstances or compassionate grounds; refer to the UBC calendar entry: www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,329,0,0), and **let Dr. Giaschi know**. The procedure for submitting request forms depends on your Faculty as follows:

Arts 1st request (to Dr. Giaschi) - [Student-Self-Declaration-Form-1.6-Arts.pdf](#)

Arts 2nd request (online) - students.air.arts.ubc.ca/academic-concession-form/

Science (to Dr. G.) - [Template - In-Term Academic Concessions Self Declaration, 2019.pdf](#)

Kinesiology (online) - kin.educ.ubc.ca/undergraduate/bkin/academic-concession/concession-itw/

There will be no make-up quizzes. If you miss one quiz in a set, the mark you receive on the remaining quiz in that set will count for 15% of your final grade. **If you miss both quizzes in a set and concession is granted, the weighting of the exam that covers the missed quiz material will be increased by 15%** (i.e. midterm exam for quizzes 1 and 2; final exam for quizzes 3 and 4). **If you miss an exam, a make-up exam must be taken** (it will be a different format from the one given to the rest of the class). **If you miss the final exam, you will also need to apply for deferred standing in the course through your faculty academic advising office.** Concession will **not** be granted for: a test that you have already taken, absences due to travel or other social plans or test conflicts with other online courses. Please carefully regard your ability to complete and succeed in online courses prior to the course drop deadlines (*Sept 21 without W standing, Oct 30 with W standing*).

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Departmental and University Policies

Scaling of grades: In order to reduce grade inflation and maintain equity across multiple course sections, all psychology classes are required to comply with departmental norms regarding grade distributions. **However, in the spirit of flexibility and compassion in light of COVID-19 and the associated pivoting to online teaching, those departmental norms have been adjusted upwards by 5% for only 2020W.** According to these adjusted norms, the mean grade in a 300-level class is 75 for a good class, 73 for an average class, and 71 for a weak class, with a standard deviation of 13. 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 at the end of the course. Grades are not official until they appear on a student's academic record. You will receive both a percent and a letter grade for this course. At UBC, they convert according to the key below:

A+	90-100%	B+	76-79%	C+	64-67%	D	50-54%
A	85-89%	B	72-75%	C	60-63%	F	0-49%
A-	80-84%	B-	68-71%	C-	55-59%		

Student support: 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, discrimination and racism are not tolerated, nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious and cultural 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 senate.ubc.ca/policies-resources-support-student-success. UBC's evolving anti-racism work is described at equity.ubc.ca/together-against-racism/

Online learning for international students: During this pandemic, the shift to online learning has greatly altered teaching and studying at UBC, including changes to health and safety considerations. Keep in mind that some UBC courses might cover topics that are censored or considered illegal by non-Canadian governments. This may include, but is not limited to, human rights, representative government, defamation, obscenity, gender or sexuality, and historical or current geopolitical controversies. If you are a student living abroad, you will be subject to the laws of your local jurisdiction, and your local authorities might limit your access to course material or take punitive action against you. UBC is strongly committed to academic freedom, but has no control over foreign authorities (please visit www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,33,86,0 for an articulation of the values of the University conveyed in the Senate Statement on Academic Freedom). Thus, we recognize that students will have legitimate reason to exercise caution in studying certain subjects. If you have concerns regarding your personal situation, consider postponing taking a course with manifest risks, until you are back on campus or reach out to your academic advisor to find substitute courses. For further information and support, please visit: academic.ubc.ca/support-resources/freedom-expression

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Academic Integrity

Welcome to the academic community. As part of this community, you are expected to act honestly and ethically in all of your academic activities, just like the rest of us. In Psyc 367 that means doing your own work, avoiding collusion, not using aids that have been excluded by the examiner, not sharing material provided for you to use in this course, and acknowledging the ideas of others (more details on each of these below).

Make sure you understand UBC's definitions of [academic misconduct](#), [consequences](#), as well as expectations about [academic honesty](#). Please ask if you're not sure how these apply to our course. While you're checking out the calendar, you should also remind yourself about the "[Student Declaration and Responsibility](#)" statement you agreed to when you registered.

DO your own work. All individual work that you submit should be completed by you and submitted by you. All assessments are designed to help you learn about Sensory Systems. It is *unacceptable* to misrepresent your identity by using someone else to complete any portion of this course (e.g., comment on Piazza, complete a test question). It is *unacceptable* to buy/sell/swap/share test questions or answers on any platform. It is *unacceptable* to help someone else cheat.

AVOID collusion. Collusion is a form of academic integrity violation that involves working too closely together without authorization. The resulting submitted work gains unfair advantage over other students because it is a measurement of the groups' understanding rather than the individual's understanding. Studying together does not count as collusion, but working together to write answers or answering someone else's question in a chat app, on either open- or closed-book tests, is considered to be collusion. Out of respect for your privacy, and to reduce mishaps with technology, the tests in this course will not be proctored, but you are expected to take them on your own without any type of assistance.

DO NOT use aids that have been excluded by the examiner. Unless otherwise explicitly specified, all tests in Psyc 367 will be closed book. This means you may not use notes, lecture slides, books, calculators, websites, chat rooms etc. to look up answers to test questions. Please be aware that student activity captured by **Canvas** during tests can be used to detect many instances of cheating.

DO NOT share materials provided for you to use in this course. We are working hard to provide all the materials you need to succeed in this course. In return, please respect our work. All test questions and answers, Piazza posts, announcements, lecture slides and outlines, audio/video recordings, Canvas modules, and any other materials provided to you by Dr. Giaschi and the TAs or in the textbook and other readings are for use in this course by students currently enrolled in PSYC 367. It is *unacceptable* to share any of these materials beyond our course, including by posting on file-sharing websites (e.g., CourseHero, GoogleDocs). It is *unacceptable* to copy and paste sentences from the textbook (e.g., definitions) into for-profit software (e.g., Quizlet) for use in studying. Please respect our intellectual property, and follow copyright law.

DO acknowledge the ideas of others. Scholars build on the work of others, and give credit accordingly—this is a quality of strong academic writing. As an example, most of these academic integrity principles were adapted from material prepared by Dr. Catherine Rawn. Psyc 367 will not have a writing component outside of tests, but appropriate citing of sources will be important in Psyc 368 next term.