



Department of Psychology
Psychology 375 (L20) – Brain and Behaviour
Spring 2011 – Course Outline

Instructor:	Amy Nakashima	Lecture Location:	EDC 280
Phone:	403-220-5093	Lecture Days/Time:	MWF 10:00-11:50
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Office Hours:	By appointment		

Course Description and Goals

The task of the branch of psychology called behavioural neuroscience is to explain behaviour in terms of the functioning of the brain. This course explores the neural basis of behaviour, sensation, learning & memory, language, as well as neurological and psychological disorders that arise from nervous system malfunctioning.

Prerequisites

Psyc 205 – Principles of Psychology

Required Text

An Introduction to Brain and Behaviour (3rd Ed.), B. Kolb and I.Q. Whishaw (2011), Worth Publishers. The text is available at the University Bookstore.

Tutorials, quizzes, research exercises, and essay questions are available at the companion website: <http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/kolbintro3e/>

Evaluation

There will be 3 exams with a combination of short answer and multiple-choice questions. The first two exams are not cumulative. The final exam will focus on the final third of the course, but 25% of the material will come from the first two-thirds. Midterm exams will be held in the same location as our regular classes. No books, computers, or calculators will be allowed during exam writing.

Exam	% of Grade	Testing material	Date	Duration
Midterm #1	30	Chapters 1-6 and lectures	Friday May 27, 2011	60 minutes
Midterm #2	30	Chapters 7-10 and lectures	Friday June 10, 2011	60 minutes
Final	40	75% Chapters 11-16 and lectures 25% Chapters 1-10 and lectures	To be scheduled by the registrar	120 minutes

Grading Scale

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades. To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

Tentative Schedule

Date	Topic/Activity
W May 11	Introduction
F May 13	Chapter 1 – What are the origins of brain and behaviour?
M May 16	Last day for registration/change of registration and last day to drop a course with tuition refund. Chapter 2 – How does the nervous system function?
W May 18	Chapter 3 – What are the units of nervous system function?
F May 20	Chapter 4 – How do neurons transmit information?
M May 23	Victoria Day. No Lecture
W May 25	Chapter 5 - How do neurons communicate and adapt?
F May 27	Midterm #1
M May 30	Chapter 6 – How do we study the brain's structure and function?
W June 1	Chapter 7 – How does the nervous system develop and adapt?
F June 3	Chapter 8 – How do drugs and hormones influence the brain and behaviour?
M June 6	Chapter 9 – How do we sense, perceive, and see the world?
W June 8	Chapter 10 – How do we hear, speak, and make music?
F June 10	Midterm #2
M June 13	Chapter 11 – How does the nervous system respond to stimulation and produce movement?
W June 15	Chapter 12 – What causes emotional and motivated behaviour?
F June 17	Chapter 13 – Why do we sleep and dream?
M June 20	Chapter 14 – How do we learn and remember?
W June 22	Chapter 15 – How does the brain think?
F June 24	Last day to withdraw. Chapter 16 – What happens when the brain misbehaves?
June 27-29	Final Exam – Scheduled by the Registrar

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 15

days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than 14 days after the start of this course.

Absence From A Test/Exam

Students who miss a term test due to a valid and documented official University reason (illness, domestic affliction, or religious conviction) have 48 hours to contact AND schedule a makeup test with the instructor. The onus is on the student to have a makeup test approved and scheduled within 48 hours, or the makeup test option is forfeited. The same process applies to missed makeup tests. At the instructor's discretion, the makeup test may differ significantly in form and/or content from the missed test. However, the makeup test cannot differ in weight (% of final grade) from the missed test. Except in extenuating circumstances (a documented official University medical excuse), a makeup test must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test. Absence from a final exam, and deferral of a final exam, are handled by Enrolment Services (see http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/deferred_final). Students absent from a final exam must notify the instructor within 48 hours and must then apply for an official deferred final exam no later than the deadline indicated in the Examinations Schedule.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act

The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during office hours, or via the Department Office (Admin 275), or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIP-sensitive information.

Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved

research and earn credits toward their final grades. **A maximum of two (2) credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to the student's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation.** The demand for timeslots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is **June 24th, 2011.**

Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>. Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in Administration 170 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 403-220-3911 suypaca@ucalgary.ca

Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 403-220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Student Ombudsman's Office

The Office of the Student Ombuds provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. The office can be reached at 403-220-6420 or ombuds@ucalgary.ca (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>).

Safewalk

The safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333.

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a tuition fee refund** and the last day for registration/change of registration is **May 16, 2011.** The last day to withdraw from this course is **June 24, 2011.**