



---

Psychology 369 (LEC 01)

Sensation and Perception

Fall 2014

<b>Instructor:</b>	<b>Dr. Audny T. Dypvik</b>	<b>Lecture Location:</b>	<b>ST 145</b>
<b>Phone:</b>	403-220-8970	<b>Lecture Days/Time:</b>	MWF 13:00 – 13:50
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:audny.dypvik@ucalgary.ca">audny.dypvik@ucalgary.ca</a>		
<b>Office:</b>	AD 155A		
<b>Office Hours:</b>	By appointment		

---

### Course Description and Goals

The purpose of this course is to examine the psychological and physiological basis of sensory and perceptual processes including a thorough introduction to perception and psychophysics, vision, audition, speech perception, touch, pain, taste, and smell. It is meant to provide a background for advanced courses in sensory and perceptual processing.

### Prerequisites

Psychology 200 and 201 – Principles of Psychology I & II

### Required Text

Goldstein, E.B. (2014). *Sensation and Perception*, (Ninth Edition). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.  
Textbooks will be available in the University Bookstore.

### Evaluation

There will be **three virtually equally weighted, non-cumulative examinations**. The format of the exams will be **multiple-choice** questions. The average of the three exams will be your final mark. The date of **Exam 1** will be Fri. Oct. 3rd and will test chapters 1 through 5. The date of **Exam 2** will be Wed. Nov. 5th and will test chapters 6 through 10. The final exam, **Exam 3**, will be scheduled by the Registrar, and will test chapters 11 through 15.

Exam	Date	Text coverage	% of Grade
Exam 1	Oct. 3	Chapters 1-5	33.3%
Exam 2	Nov. 5	Chapters 6-10	33.3%
Exam 3, Final Exam	Dec. 8-18 (date set by Registrar)	Chapters 11-15	33.4%

### **Department of Psychology Grade Distribution Policy**

The distribution of grades in Psychology courses (the percentage of A grades, B grades, etc.) will be similar to the distribution of grades in other courses in the Faculty of Arts. The Department monitors the grade distributions of 200-, 300-, and 400-level courses in the Faculty to ensure that the grade distributions in Psychology courses are comparable. Based on these reviews, students can expect that 1) up to 30% of grades in 200- and 300-level psychology courses will be "A" grades (A+, A, and A-), and 2) up to 40% of grades 400-level psychology courses will be "A" grades.

### **Department of Psychology Criteria for Letter Grades**

Psychology professors use the following criteria when assigning letter grades:

**A+ grade: *Exceptional Performance.*** An A+ grade indicates near perfect performance on multiple choice and short answer exams. For research papers/essays/course projects/presentations, an A+ grade is awarded for exceptional work deserving of special recognition and is therefore not a common grade.

**A, A- Range: *Excellent Performance.*** Superior understanding of course material. Written work is very strong in terms of critical and original thinking, content, organization, and the expression of ideas, and demonstrates student's thorough knowledge of subject matter.

**B Range: *Good Performance.*** Above average understanding of course material. Written work shows evidence of critical thinking and attention to organization and editing but could be improved in form and/or content.

**C Range: *Satisfactory Performance.*** Adequate understanding of course material. Knowledge of basic concepts and terminology is demonstrated. Written work is satisfactory and meets essential requirements but could be improved significantly in form and content. Note: All prerequisites for courses offered by the Faculty of Arts must be met with a minimum grade of C-.

**D range: *Marginally meets standards.*** Minimal understanding of subject matter. Written work is marginally acceptable and meets basic requirements but requires substantial improvements in form and content. Student has not mastered course material at a level sufficient for advancement into more senior courses in the same or related subjects.

**F grade: *Course standards not met.*** Inadequate understanding of subject matter. Written work does not meet basic requirements. Student has not demonstrated knowledge of course material at a level sufficient for course credit.

### 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 Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic	Exams	Text Chapter
M Sep 8	<b>Lecture begins.</b> Study of perception, introduction		1
W Sep 10	Measuring perception		1
F Sep 12	Initial perceptual processes – vision		2
M Sep 15	Electrical signals in neurons – action potential		2
W Sep 17	Neural convergence/developmental considerations		2
F Sep 19	<b>Last day to drop full courses (Multi-term) and Fall Term half courses.</b> No refunds for full courses (Multi-term) or Fall Term half courses after this date.  Neural processing – lateral inhibition, receptive fields		3
M Sep 22	<b>Last day to add or swap full courses (Multi-term) and Fall Term half courses.</b> Last day for change of registration from audit to credit or credit to audit.  Neural processing – feature detectors, higher level neurons		3
W Sep 24	Visual system - cortical organization – spatial organization and information pathways		4
F Sep 26	Fee payment deadline for Fall Term full and half courses.  Visual system – information pathways and modularity		4
M Sep 29	Object perception		5
W Oct 1	Scene perception, perceptual organization		5
F Oct 3		Exam 1 Chapters 1-5	
M Oct 6	Visual attention – scanning a scene		6
W Oct 8	Visual attention		6
F Oct 10	Action – ecological approach		7

M Oct 13	Thanksgiving Day, University closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.		
W Oct 15	Taking action - physiology		7
F Oct 17	Motion perception		8
M Oct 20	Studying motion perception		8
W Oct 22	Color perception		9
F Oct 24	Color perception - theories		9
M Oct 27	Color perception - theories		9
W Oct 29	Depth perception		10
F Oct 31	Depth perception		10
M Nov 3	Size perception		10
W Nov 5		Exam 2 Chapters 6-10	
F Nov 7	Hearing, basics of perceiving sound		11
M Nov 10	<b>Reading Days. No lectures.</b>		
T Nov 11	<b>Remembrance Day (Observed).</b> University Closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.		
W Nov 12	Perceptual aspects of sound		11
F Nov 14	Structure of the ear and physiology of hearing		11
M Nov 17	Hearing, physiology to perception		11
W Nov 19	Sound localization		12
F Nov 21	Auditory scene analysis		12
M Nov 24	Speech perception, the speech stimulus, phonemes		13
W Nov 26	Speech perception, categorical perception		13
F Nov 28	Cutaneous senses – touch		14
M Dec 1	Cutaneous senses - pain		14
W Dec 3	Chemical senses – taste/olfaction		15
F Dec 5	<b>Fall Term Lectures End.</b> Last day to withdraw with permission from Fall Term half courses.  Review		
Dec 8-18	<b>Fall Term Exam Period.</b> Exam set by Registrar.	Exam 3-Final Exam Chapters 11-15	

### 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; no reappraisal of term work is permitted after the 15 days. 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**

Makeup tests/exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam.

### **Travel During Exams**

Consistent with University regulations, students are expected to be available to write scheduled exams at any time during the official December and April examination periods. Requests to write a make-up exam because of conflicting travel plans (e.g., flight bookings) will NOT be considered except under exceptional circumstances. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements.

### **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 255), 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 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 Dec. 5, 2014.

### **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 [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suvpaca@ucalgary.ca)  
**Student Union Faculty Rep.:** Phone: 403-220-3913 [socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca)

### **Student Ombudsman's Office**

The Office of the Student Ombudsmen 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](mailto: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 with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Friday, September 19, 2014**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **Monday, September 22, 2014**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **December 5, 2014**.