



Department of Psychology

Psychology 205 (L60) – Principles of Psychology

Summer 2008

Instructor: Dr. Melissa Boyce

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Office: Admin

Office Hours: Tues/Thurs 3:30 – 4:30 pm

Lecture Location: Admin 140

Lecture Days/Time: Tues/Thurs 5:00 – 7:45 pm

Course Description and Goals

This course provides a general introduction to the major areas of psychology. At the end of the course, you will be able to evaluate psychological information according to the scientific method and will have introductory-level knowledge of:

- psychology as a biological and social science
- the diverse sub-fields of psychology
- current theories for understanding different areas of psychology
- methodologies and terminology used in different areas of psychology

Required Text

Lefton, L.A., Brannon, L., Boyes, M. C., and Ogden, N.A. (2008). *Psychology (Third Canadian Ed.)*. Toronto, Canada: Allyn and Bacon. (available in the bookstore)

Course Website

The course website is located on blackboard: <https://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login/>.

Notes for each week's classes will be posted at the beginning of the week. In addition, announcements, grades, and answer keys will be posted on this site.

Evaluation

Tests. There will be two tests during this course (July 17 & July 31), each of which will be worth 30%. Tests are non-cumulative and will feature multiple-choice and short-answer questions (max total = 60%). Please see the lecture schedule to determine what topics will be covered on each test.

Final exam. A final exam covering the entire course, with emphasis on material covered since test 2, will be written during the final exam period. The exam will be similar in format to the tests (max = 40%) and you will be given 3 hours to write it.

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. I will determine final letter grades by rounding final percentage grades up or down to the nearest whole percentage (i.e., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90%; 89.4% will be rounded down to 89%, etc.).

Lecture Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Reading
1	Thurs, July 3	Intro & The Science of Psychology	Ch. 1 & 2
2	Tues, July 8	Brain & Behaviour	Ch. 3
	Thurs, July 10	Sensation & Perception	Ch. 4
3	Tues, July 15	Consciousness	Ch. 5
	Thurs, July 17	Test 1	All material to date
4	Tues, July 22	Learning & Memory	Ch. 6 & 7
	Thurs, July 24	Cognition & Intelligence	Ch. 8 & 9
5	Tues, July 29	Motivation & Emotion	Ch. 10
	Thurs, July 31	Test 2	All material since Test 1
6	Tues, Aug 5	Developmental Psychology	Ch. 11 & 12
	Thurs, Aug 7	Personality	Ch. 13
7	Tues, Aug 12	Social Psychology	Ch. 14
	Thurs, Aug 14	Psychological Disorders & Treatments	Ch. 16 & 17
	TBD – during scheduled exam period	Final Exam	All material with emphasis on material since Test 2

Attendance

Regular class sessions will primarily be lectures on topics covered in the text, but (a) text material will not simply be repeated but rather presented in different ways intended to enhance understanding of the concepts, and (b) some lectures will include material not mentioned in the text or that differs from the text and that will appear on tests and/or the final.

If you miss a lecture, you will be responsible for obtaining a copy of the notes. *To that effect, I highly recommend exchanging email addresses with a person in the class so that you can contact him/her to get a copy of the notes should you miss a class.*

Class Preparation

You are expected to read each chapter of the text *before* it is discussed and expanded upon in class. The chapters of the text are distributed fairly evenly across the duration of the classes, so

your reading load is reasonably constant. Keeping that in mind, it is important to stay on top of the readings as this only a 7-week course and it can be difficult to catch up if you fall behind.

The classes are *not* substitutes for the text – rather, they will expand upon and discuss the research and implications behind the ideas raised in the text. Any questions you may have about the text can be clarified in class, and it is your *understanding* of the topics that will be tested in the exams.

University of Calgary Curriculum Objectives

University of Calgary Core Competencies. Through this course, in addition to the course content detailed in this outline, you will be provided opportunities to observe and apply **critical and creative thinking skills**, to conduct **analyses of problems** within and beyond course material and be shown some of the skills needed to **gather and organize information** effectively. You will experience a small amount of the logical **calculation and mathematical ability** that underpins some of the sub-fields of Psychology. Further, as far as is possible in an introductory course, you will have an opportunity to see and **apply the abstract reasoning** that supports Psychological theories as well as the **interpretive and assessment skills**, and the **insight and intuition** that goes into **generating knowledge** in Psychology and in general.

Curriculum Redesign Features. Exploring **interdisciplinary aspects** of Psychology will be a regularly featured part of the course. As well, **international aspects** of Psychological theory and discipline issues will be presented. While limited by the size and introductory nature of the course, you will, through class examples and the opportunity to participate in research, have an opportunity to learn about psychology **experientially**, and see how **research fits** directly into the material discussed and practiced in class.

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work has been unfairly graded may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within fifteen 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 Director of Undergraduate Studies in Psychology, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next fifteen 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 fifteen 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 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 fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

Absence From A Test

Make-up exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). You must contact the instructor before the scheduled examination or you will have forfeited any right to make up the exam. At the instructor's discretion, a make-up exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup exam is written within two (2) weeks of the missed exam.

A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test for health reasons. The student will be required to pay any cost associated with the Physician Counselor Statement.

Course Credits for Research Participation

Students are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. A maximum of two credits (2%) may be applied to an individual's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each 30 minutes of participation. Students can create an account and access the Research Participation System website at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>.

The rationale for the extra credit policy is that participating gives you hands-on experience in psychological research, helps you to learn about current research being conducted in particular areas of psychology, and gives you contact with upper-level students engaged in research.

There is no penalty for not earning extra credit; however, students who leave their participation until the end of the course may not find enough research opportunities available to earn extra credit. Thus, students are encouraged to plan ahead carefully. If you sign up to participate in a study, make sure that you don't miss the appointment and that you are on time.

The last day to participate in research and allocate credits is August 13th, 2008

Student Organizations

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

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 220-3911 suypaca@ucalgary.ca
Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a fee refund** is July 4th, 2008. The last day to withdraw from this course is August 14th, 2008.