



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

Department of Psychology
Psychology 369 (L01) –Psychology of Aging
Fall 2008

Instructor:	Charles (Chip) Scialfa	Lecture Location:	A142
Phone:	220-4951	Lecture Days/Time:	MWF 1400-1450
Email:	scialfa@ucalgary.ca		
Office:	A151B		
Office Hours:	TBA		

Course Description and Goals

To provide an understanding of:

- basic anatomy and physiology of the visual and auditory and other sensory systems.
- major methods of measuring sensory function in vision and audition (e.g., acuity; pure tone sensitivity).
- classical psychophysical techniques, signal detection theory, and scaling.
- traditional (e.g. Gestalt) and contemporary (e.g., Marr) approaches to object perception.
- major theories of color perception.
- several views of attention and how it is measured behaviorally and physiologically.
- perception of depth and the information affording depth perception.
- motion, and in particular, the subjective impressions of velocity.
- essential concepts in pattern recognition as applied to vision and hearing.
- the interaction of bottom-up and top-down processes in perception.

Text

Because of on-line materials developed to facilitate learning in the course, there is no required text. Many materials are available on-line in web resources developed by Dr. Donald Kline and his students under the PIP program. If you would like to have access to additional, course-related materials in textbook form, you may use...

Goldstein, E.B. (2002). Sensation and Perception. Pacific Grove, CA: Wadsworth

Evaluation

There will be three equally weighted, non-cumulative examinations that will consist of multiple-choice questions. Test 1 is October 6th, test 2 is November 14th and the final exam is scheduled by the Registrar. Your final mark is the arithmetic average of the three exams.

Below you will find the grading system (in percent) that I will use to assign letter grades to each individual test as well as to your final grade for the course. Under no circumstances will the

grading system be harsher than that shown here. I do reserve the right, however, to make the grading system more lenient, if circumstances should warrant such an unexpected show of compassion and mercy.

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-).

Lecture Schedule

September 2-6, 2008	Block Week	Lecture Notes Blackboard	PIP Materials www.pip.ucalgary.ca/psyc-369/	Optional Text Chapter
Mon Sept 8	Methods & Introduction	psyc369.psychophysics 1.ppt	Unit 1.1 - Introduction to Sensation and Perception Unit 1.2 - Measuring Sensitivity Unit 1.3 - Difference Thresholds and Magnitude Estimation	1; Appendix A
Weds Sept 10	Methods & Introduction	psyc369.psychophysics 1.ppt		
Fri Sept 12	Methods & Introduction	psyc369.psychophysics 1.ppt		
Mon Sept 15	Vision I	psyc369.visual system 1.ppt psyc369.visual system 2.ppt	Unit 2.1 - The Eye Structure and Function Unit 2.2 - The Retina	2
Weds Sept 17	Vision I	psyc369.visual system 3.ppt		
Fri Sept 19	Last day for registration and change of registration. No fee refunds after this date. Vision I	psyc369.visual system 4.ppt psyc369.visual system 5.ppt		
Mon Sept 22	Vision II	psyc369.visual system 5.ppt	Unit 2.3 - Visual Pathways Unit 2.4 - The Visual	3

			Brain	
Weds Sept 24	Vision II	psyc369.acuity.ppt psyc369.spat freq anal.ppt	Unit 4.1 - Spatial Vision	Appendix B
Fri Sept 26	Vision II	psyc369.bright spat freq.ppt	Unit 3.1 - Brightness, Lightness, Darkness and Contrast	
Mon Sept 29	Vision III	None		4
Weds Oct 1	Vision III	None		
Fri Oct 3	Vision III	None		
Mon Oct 6	Test 1			
Weds Oct 8	Form	psyc369.form.ppt	Unit 4.4 - Perceiving Objects, Scenes and Faces	5
Fri Oct 10	Form			
Mon Oct 13	Thanksgiving – University closed			
Weds Oct 15	Depth	psyc369.depth dist percep.ppt	Unit 4.3 – Percpetion of Location, Depth and Distance	7
Fri Oct 17	Depth			
Mon Oct 20	Color	psyc369.colour.ppt	Unit 3.2 – Color Vision Unit 3.3 – Color Vision Deficiencies	6
Weds Oct 22	Color			
Fri Oct 24	Color			
Mon Oct 27	Motion	psyc369.time and motion.ppt	Unit 4.2 – Perceiving Movement	8
Weds Oct 29	Motion			
Fri Oct 31	Motion			
Mon Nov 3	Attention	psyc369.attention.ppt	None	pp. 130- 136
Weds Nov 5	Attention			
Fri Nov 7	Attention			
Mon Nov 10	Reading Days Nov 8-11 no lectures			
Weds Nov 12	Review			
Fri Nov 14	Test 2			
Mon Nov 17	Audition I	psyc369.audition.ppt	Sound: The Auditory System and Pitch	10
Weds Nov 19	Audition I			

Fri Nov 21	Audition I			
Mon Nov 24	Audition II	psyc369.audition2.ppt	Perceiving Loudness, Timbre and Location Clinical Aspects of Hearing	11
Weds Nov 26	Audition II			
Fri Nov 28	Audition II			
Mon Dec 1	Speech	psyc369.speech.ppt	The Perception of Speech	12
Weds Dec 3	Speech			
Thurs Dec 4	Cutaneous Senses	psyc369.touch and pain.ppt	Cutaneous Senses:An Introduction to Touch Temperature and Pain	13
Fri Dec 5	Fall Session lectures end. Last day to withdraw. Cutaneous Senses			
Dec 8- Dec 17	Final exam			10-13

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 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

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 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 **December 4, 2008**.

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 220-5567.

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

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and still receive a fee refund is **September 19, 2008**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **December 5, 2008**.