



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY
Department of Psychology
Psychology 375 (L20) – Brain and Behaviour
Spring 2009

Instructor:	Dr. Kimberley Vaughan	Lecture Location:	A 167
Phone:	220-2242 (U of C office) or 637-3939 (my home office)	Lecture Days/Time:	M/W 5:00 – 7:45 p.m.
Email:	kjvaughan@xplornet.com		
Office:	Administration 257D		
Office Hours:	By appointment		

Course Description and Goals

This course will introduce you to the neural basis of sensation, movement, circadian rhythms, reproductive and emotional behaviours, learning, memory, and cognition. As well, psychological disorders from a biological perspective will be covered.

Prerequisite

PSYC 205 – Principles of Psychology

Required Text

Kalat, J.W. (2009) Biological Psychology (10th edition). Wadsworth.
ISBN – 10: 0495603007 ISBN-13: 9780495603009.
The textbook is available in the University Bookstore.

Evaluation

Exam 1	35% of final grade (June 1 st)
Exam 2	30% of final grade (June 15 th)*
Final Exam	35% of final grade; scheduled by the Registrar

* Note that due to our late start on May 20th, exam 2 is during the final 2 weeks of class.

- Exams will not be cumulative. The exams will be based on material from the lectures, textbook and videos. The exams will consist of multiple-choice questions.

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	Required Reading
May 20 th	Review course outline The Major Issues	Chapter 1
May 25 th	Nerve Cells and Nerve Impulses Synapses	Chapter 2 Chapter 3
May 27 th	Anatomy of the Nervous System Development and Plasticity of the brain	Chapter 4 Chapter 5
June 1 st	Exam 1 (Chapters 1-5)	
June 3 rd	Vision	Chapter 6
June 8 th	Other Sensory Systems Movement	Chapter 7 Chapter 8
June 10 ^h	Wakefulness and Sleep Internal Regulation	Chapter 9 Chapter 10
June 15 th	Exam 2 (Chapters 6-10)	
June 17 th	Reproductive Behaviours Emotional Behaviours	Chapter 11 Chapter 12
June 22 nd	The Biology of Learning and Memory Cognitive Functions	Chapter 13 Chapter 14
June 24 th	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 15
FINAL EXAM (Chapters 11-15, TO BE 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 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.

Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of student 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 **June 25th, 2009**.

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 **May 19th, 2009**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **June 26th, 2009**.