



Psychology 375

Brain and Behaviour

Instructor:	Andrew Brown	Lecture Location:	MFH 164
Phone:	403 210 6669	Lecture Days/Time:	Saturday 13:00 - 17:30
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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 learning, memory, language and thinking, as well as pathological, sexual, aggressive, and emotional behaviour that arises from neural and hormonal malfunctioning.

Prerequisites

Psyc 205 – Principles of Psychology

Required Text

- *An Introduction to Brain and Behavior* (3rd Ed.), B. Kolb and I.Q. Whishaw (2011), Worth Publishers. The text is available at the University Bookstore.
- An electronic version of the text can be purchased at <http://www.coursesmart.com/9781429247801>
- Tutorials, quizzes, research exercises and essay questions are available at the companion website <http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/kolbintro3e>

Evaluation

There will be 3 **multiple-choice exams**. Test questions can be based on the lectures and assigned textbook chapters. The first two exams are **not** cumulative. **The final exam will focus on the last third of the course, but 25% of the material will come from the entire course.** Midterm examinations will be held in the same location as our regular classes (MFH 164). The final examination location will be scheduled by the registrar. No books, notes, computers, calculators, or cellular phones will be allowed during exam writing.

Exam	% of Grade	Content	Date	Duration
Midterm #1	30	Chapters 2-5*	May 26 th , 2012	60 minutes
Midterm #2	30	Chapters 8-11*	June 9 th , 2012	60 minutes
Final exam	40	75% will be from chapters 12-15* 25% will be from chapters 2-5 and 8-10*	Scheduled by the Registrar	120 minutes

**Content covered on exams will include listed textbook chapters and corresponding lecture material*

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	Chapter
S May 5	Introduction to the course How does the nervous system function? What are the units of nervous-system function?	2 3
S May 5	Last day for registration /change of registration. Last day to drop a course with tuition refund.	
S May 12	How do neurons transmit information? How do neurons communicate and adapt?	4 5
S May 19	How do drugs and hormones influence the brain and behavior? How do we sense, perceive, and see the world?	8 9
M May 21	Victoria Day. University Closed.	
S May 26	Midterm #1 (chapters 2-5) How do we hear, speak, and make music?	10
S June 2	How does the nervous system respond to stimulation and produce movement? What causes emotional and motivated behavior?	11 12
S June 9	Midterm #2 (chapters 8-11) Why do we sleep and dream?	13
S June 16	How do we learn and remember? How does the brain think?	14 15
S June 16	Last day to withdraw.	
June 25-27	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

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.

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 22nd, 2012.**

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.

Safewalk

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

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

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 5th, 2012.** The last day to withdraw from this course is **June 16th, 2012.**