

PSYC 400.03
Brain and Behaviour
Winter 2019

Instructor:	Dr. Simon Spanswick	Lecture Location:	TI STUDIOE
Phone:	403-220-4948	Lecture Days/Time:	M 14:00-16:45
Email:	scspansw@ucalgary.ca	TAs:	TBA
Office:	AD 032		
Office Hours:	Email me to arrange a convenient time		

Course Description

Students will learn to apply appropriate research methods to answer research questions, to collect and analyze data, and to interpret and report research findings as they apply to Brain and Behaviour. Topics may include functional and comparative neuroanatomy, quantification of the nervous system, and behavioural analysis. We will take an interactive and experiential approach to the course content.

Course Learning Outcomes

The Department of Psychology is committed to student knowledge and skill development. The table below lists the key learning outcomes for this course, the program-learning outcomes they facilitate (see psyc.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/program-learning-outcomes), and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Methods	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Identify and explain the major research methodologies used in neuroscience, as well as their appropriate usage	Lab assignments	1, 2, 6, 7	A, A, C, A
Locate and describe the major structures of the brain as well as their function	Lab assignments	1, 4, 7	A, A
Effectively communicate research findings in the field of neuroscience	Lab assignments, team project, lab notebook	4, 7	A, A
Appropriately collect, analyze, and interpret neuroscientific data	Lab assignments	2, 3, 7	A, C, A
Work as a member of a team to successfully complete a group project relating to the field of neuroscience	Team project	1, 4, 5	A, A, A

Notes. PLOs = Program-Learning Outcomes: 1 = demonstrate knowledge of psychological sciences, 2 = think critically and solve problems, 3 = conduct research and analyze data, 4 = communicate effectively, 5 = demonstrate information literacy, 6 = understand and implement ethical principles, 7 = apply psychological knowledge and skills. Level of PLO achievement facilitated by this course: I = introductory, C = competency, A = advanced.

Prerequisites

Admission to the Psychology major or Honours program and Psychology 312 or 300 and 301, and 375.

Antirequisites

Credit toward degree requirements will be given for only one of Psychology 400.01, 400.02, 400.03, 400.04, 400.05, 400.06, 400.07, 400.08.

Required Text

There is no required textbook for this course

Assessment Methods

Lab assignments (8 total):	70%
Team Project (due April 8 th):	20%
Lab Notebook (due April 12 th):	10%

There will be 8 lab assignments throughout the semester (worth 70% of your final grade). These will be related to the lab they are assigned in and will be due the following week via Dropbox on the course D2L site by 11:00pm. Each assignment will be approximately 2-3 pages in length (not including title page or references section), and should be formatted according to APA (e.g. double-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font with 1" margins). More details/rubrics relating to the lab exercises and the associated assignments will be available on D2L. **Late or missed assignments/projects will not be accepted without appropriate documentation.**

The team project (worth 20% of your final grade) will require you to put together a digital poster that will be presented at our Student Conference on April 8th. Your goal is to put together an engaging digital poster that addresses a common question that the general public has about the brain (examples will be provided in class). Your team should take an evidence-based approach to answering the question, and provide sufficient background information regarding your topic. Class time will be provided during the semester to allow for your team to meet and plan your poster. Overall you will be assessed as a team on this project, but to ensure that all team members contribute you will be asked to provide peer ratings. Your grade for the group project will be comprised of the grade assigned to the team as well as the evaluation provided by your peers. Additional details regarding the poster and a rubric will be posted on D2L.

You will be responsible for maintaining a lab notebook (worth 10% of your final grade) throughout the semester. A good lab notebook should contain a record of the procedures, observations, and the results of your work in each lab. A physical copy of the lab notebook is due on April 12th by 4:30pm at the main Psychology Office (Admin 255). More details and a rubric will be provided on D2L and in class. **Late or missed assignments/projects will not be accepted without appropriate documentation.**

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	Due Date
W Jan 02	<i>Winter term begins.</i>	
F Jan 11	<i>MWF Lectures Begin</i>	
M Jan 14	Introduction to the course. Team building and problem solving.	
R Jan 17	<i>Last day to drop Winter Term half-courses.</i>	
F Jan 18	<i>Last day to add or swap Winter Term half courses.</i> <i>Last day for change of registration from audit to credit or credit to audit.</i>	
M Jan 21	It's a small world after all... (Research methods)	
F Jan 25	<i>Fee payment deadline for Winter Term fees.</i>	
M Jan 28	Comparative and Functional Neuroanatomy Part One (The Sheep Brain)	Lab #1 Due
M Feb 4	Comparative and Functional Neuroanatomy Part Two (The Rat Brain)	Lab #2 Due
M Feb 11	Poster Presentation Research Day	Lab #3 Due

Feb 17-24	Reading Week. No lectures. University open (except Family Day).	
M Feb 18	Alberta Family Day, University closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.	
M Feb 25	Quantifying the Nervous System (Golgi and Sholl analysis)	
M Mar 4	Quantifying the Nervous System (An Introduction to volumetrics)	Lab #4 Due
M Mar 11	Quantifying the Nervous System (Applying the Cavalieri method)	Lab #5 Due
M Mar 18	Poster Presentation Research Day	Lab #6 Due
M Mar 25	Behavioural Analysis Part One (Non-human animals)	
M Apr 1	Behavioural Analysis Part Two (Humans)	Lab #7 Due
M Apr 8	Student Conference Day	Lab #8 Due
F Apr 12	<i>Winter Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw from full courses and Winter Term half courses.</i>	
Apr 15-27	Winter Term Final Examinations	
F Apr 19	Good Friday	
Apr. 30	<i>End of Term</i>	

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded, may have the paper 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 who will arrange for a reassessment of the work **within the next fifteen days**. Students in faculties without a departmental structure should take the matter to the dean or the associate/assistant dean (Academic/Student Affairs) of the faculty offering the course. The result of that reassessment should be given to the student in writing. ***The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered or to remain the same.***

Reappraisal of Final Grade <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

In the reappraisal of a final grade, the only element that will be considered is the grading of the final assessment that makes up the final mark (e.g., final examination, final project, final paper). An exception may occur when the Instructor of Record evaluates a piece of graded term work at the end of the term; that grade may also be considered in a reappraisal of final grade.

A student wishing a reappraisal of a final grade should first attempt to review the final assessment with the department or faculty offering the course. After which, the student shall obtain a Reappraisal of Final Grade form from ucalgary.ca/registrar (under Student Forms). Students must indicate exactly what error was made in marking the final assessment and/or in computing the final grade. The reappraisal will only be considered if the student provides a detailed rationale that outlines where and for what reason an error is suspected.

Students wishing a reappraisal of a final grade (excluding Law courses) must submit their request by the following dates:

Fall Term – March 1

Winter Term – June 30

Spring Intersession – August 15

Summer Term – October 15

Supplemental Examinations: 30 calendar days from the date the examination was written

The reappraisal form shall be submitted to Enrolment Services who will forward it to the department head or dean of the faculty offering the course. Reappraisals of final grades are dealt with by the head of the academic unit in consultation with members of academic staff. Normally, the department/faculty will respond to a reappraisal request within thirty calendar days of its initiation. After the reappraisal is completed, the department shall return the form to the Registrar's Office who shall inform the student in writing of the decision. ***Students should be aware that the grade being reappraised may be raised, lowered or remain the same. A student may request a reappraisal of final grade only twice in one academic year (September 1 – August 31).***

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 Accommodations

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy. Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the instructor.

Seating During Exams

Instructors and exam invigilators are free to ask students to move seats before an exam begins or even during an exam. Students must comply with this request and refusal to do so may warrant a charge of academic misconduct.

Absence From A Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are **NOT** an option without the approval of the instructor. A student may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request for a make-up exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/n-1.html>. . Students who miss a test/exam have up to 48 hours to contact the instructor to ask for a makeup test/exam. It's the instructor's discretion if they will allow a make-up 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. Once approved by the instructor a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam during exam make-up hours provided by the department <http://psychology.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/exam-and-course-information#mues>. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

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 by the department. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>. Students with an exceptional extenuating circumstance (e.g., a family emergency) should contact the Department of Psychology (psyugrd@ucalgary.ca).

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 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.

Acknowledgments and Respect for Diversity

Our classrooms view diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion. The Department of Psychology would also like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Extra Research Participation Course Credit is Not Offered for this Course.

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 130 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 403-220-3911 suvpaca@ucalgary.ca

Student Union Faculty Rep.: arts1@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

(<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>)

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 **January 17, 2019**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **January 18, 2019**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **April 12, 2019**.