



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY  
Department of Psychology  
Psychology 353 (L01) –Psychology of Aging  
Fall 2008

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Instructor:	Charles (Chip) Scialfa	Lecture Location:	EDC 179
Phone:	220-4951	Lecture Days/Time:	MWF 1300-1350
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Office:	A151B		
Office Hours:	TBA		

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### Course Description and Goals

Examines theory and research related to psychological processes during adulthood and aging. Topics may include life-span developmental theories and methods; biological processes; sensory, perceptual and cognitive processes; personality and social processes; life transitions, mental health issues; and dying

### Required Text

Cavanaugh, J. C. & Blanchard-Fields, F. (4th Edition). Adult Development and Aging. Brooks/Cole.

Or

Cavanaugh, J. C., Blanchard-Fields, F. & Norris, J. (1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Edition). Adult Development and Aging. Thomson/Nelson.

### Evaluation

There will be three multiple-choice exams including a final. Test 1 is October 15<sup>th</sup>, test 2 is November 7<sup>th</sup> and the final exam is scheduled by the Registrar. The final exam will not be comprehensive/cumulative. The exams will be equally weighted at 1/3 of your total grade.

### 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	Textbook Chapter
Mon Sept 8	Lectures begin. Introduction	3
Weds Sept 10	Introduction	
Fri Sept 12	Introduction	
Mon Sept 15	Demography	
Weds Sept 17	Demography	
Fri Sept 19	Last day for registration and change of registration. No fee refunds after this date. Demography	
Mon Sept 22	Research Methods	1
Weds Sept 24	Research Methods	
Fri Sept 26	Research Design	
Mon Sept 29	Biology of Aging	2
Weds Oct 1	Biology of Aging	
Fri Oct 3	Biology of Aging	
Mon Oct 6	Sensation and Perception	2
Weds Oct 8	Sensation and Perception	
Fri Oct 10	Sensation and Perception	
Mon Oct 13	Thanksgiving – University closed	
Weds Oct 15	Test 1	
Fri Oct 17	Reaction Time and Attention	6
Mon Oct 20	Learning	
Weds Oct 22	Learning	
Fri Oct 24	Learning	
Mon Oct 27	Memory	7
Weds Oct 29	Memory	
Fri Oct 31	Memory	
Mon Nov 3	Intelligence	8
Weds Nov 5	Intelligence	
Fri Nov 7	Test 2	
Mon Nov 10	Reading Days Nov 8-11 no lectures	
Weds Nov 12	Personality	10
Fri Nov 14	Personality	
Mon Nov 17	Mental Health	4
Weds Nov 19	Mental Health	
Fri Nov 21	Relationships and Sexuality	11
Mon Nov 24	Retirement and Work	12
Weds Nov 26	Death and Dying	13
Fri Nov 28	Death and Dying	
Mon Dec 1	Catch up and Review	
Weds Dec 3		
Thurs Dec 4	Last day to allocate research participation bonus credit	
Fri Dec 5	Fall Session lectures end. Last day to withdraw.	
Dec 8- Dec 17	Final exams	

## **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**.

### **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.