



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY
Department of Psychology
Psychology 375 (L01) – Brain and Behaviour
Winter 2010 – Course Outline

Instructor:	Dr. Trevor H. Gilbert	Office:	Admin 257D
Phone:	403-374-1607	Office hours:	by appointment
E-mail:	thgilber@ucalgary.ca		
Lecture day/Time:	M @ 4:00-6:45 p.m.	Lecture location:	A142

Course Description:

The task of biological psychology is to explain behaviour in terms of the activities of the brain. This course explores the neural basis of learning, memory, language, and thinking, as well as behavioural and neurodegenerative disorders that arise from nervous system malfunctioning.

Prerequisites

Psyc 205 – Principles of Psychology

Required Textbook

An Introduction to Brain and Behavior (2nd Ed.), B. Kolb and I.Q. Whishaw (2006), Worth Publishers.

Course Evaluation

There will be 3 exams. The format will be multiple choice and short answer/essay. All exams are noncumulative.

Component	Weight	Date	Content
Exam 1	30%	February 8, 2010	Everything up to Exam 1
Exam 2	30%	March 15, 2010	From Exam 1 to Exam 2
Exam 3	40%	Final Exam Scheduled By Registrar	From Exam 2 up to Final

Grading Scheme

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%; 89.4% will be rounded down to 89%).

Tentative Lecture Schedule

INTRODUCTION	Chapter 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• brain and behavior• evolution	
NEUROANATOMY & NEUROPHYSIOLOGY	Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• organization of the nervous system• neurons and neurotransmission• psychopharmacology	
DEVELOPMENT & SENSORY SYSTEMS	Chapters 6, 8, 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• brain development• vision• hearing• language	
MOVEMENT & SLEEP	Chapters 10, 11, 12
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• motor systems• emotional behaviour• motivated behaviour• sleep and dreaming	
LEARNING, MEMORY & COGNITION	Chapters 5, 13, 14
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• conditioning• memory circuits• plasticity• cognition	
DISORDERS OF BRAIN & BEHAVIOR	Chapter 15
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• identification and classification• treatment• neurological disorders• psychiatric disorders	

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.

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 **April 15, 2010**.

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

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

Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 403-220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Jan 22nd, 2010**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **Jan 26th, 2010**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Apr 16th, 2010**.