

Psychology 427	Environmental Psychology	Winter 2015
Instructor:	Dr. Jeff Caird	Lecture Location: SH 284
Phone:	(403) 220-8441	Lecture Days/Time: M, W, F 11–11:50 a.m.
Email:	jkcaird@ucalgary.ca	Laboratories: B01: W, AD 248 9–10:50 a.m. B02: F, AD 248 9–10:50 a.m.
Office:	222 Administration	TA: Sarah Simmons
Office Hours:	By Appointment	Office: 67 Administration
		Email: sarah.simmons@ucalgary.ca

Course Description and Goals

This course surveys the theory and data pertaining to the relationship between human behavior and the physical environment, both natural and built. Particular emphasis is placed on the implications of current knowledge for the management of the human-environment interface. A written review paper is a course requirement.

Prerequisites

Psychology 200, 201 & 312.

Required Text (Available from the Bookstore or Amazon.ca)

Gifford, R. (2014). *Environmental Psychology: Principles and Practice (5th Ed.)*. Optimal Books.

Evaluation

Laboratory Assignments	30 %
Mid-term Exam	15 %
Review Paper	25 %
Final Exam	30 %
Total	100 %

Exams

The **mid-term exam** on **February 13th** (F) will cover all lectures and readings through February 11th and be composed of multiple choice questions. The **final exam** will stress the final half of the course readings and lectures and a portion will be cumulative (e.g., theory). The Registrar will schedule the final exam. The format of the final exam is approximately 75% multiple choice and 25% essay.

Written Review Papers

A written review paper is part of the course requirements. A paper proposal is due during lab on February 25th or 27th. The paper proposal should be structured into a one-page outline of the topics that are to be addressed in the review. The T.A. and instructor will provide guidance in the selection of appropriate topics. Students are expected to select a topic, research it in depth, write a review outside of class, and edit it extensively. APA (6.0) formatted papers shall not exceed 15 pages inclusive of

references and cover page. Papers are due **April 8th (W) at 4:00 p.m. No exceptions.** Students must submit digital and printed papers. Students are expected to briefly present their papers (5 min.) on April 8th, 10th or 13th and missed presentations will receive a 0/25 points.

Laboratory Assignments

Six assignments comprise the mark for the laboratory. The exact percent for each assignment varies from 3% to 8% depending on the scope the enquiry. The TA will provide students a written document when the laboratory first meets (i.e., the 2nd week of classes) that explains each laboratory, due dates, assignment descriptions, methods of submission and marks associated with each assignment. Students must achieve a passing grade on both the class and lab components to pass this course.

Department of Psychology Grade Distribution Policy

The distribution of grades in Psychology courses (the percentage of A grades, B grades, etc.) will be similar to the distribution of grades in other courses in the Faculty of Arts. The Department monitors the grade distributions of 200-, 300-, and 400-level courses in the Faculty to ensure that the grade distributions in Psychology courses are comparable. Based on these reviews, students can expect that 1) up to 30% of grades in 200- and 300-level psychology courses will be "A" grades (A+, A, and A-), and 2) up to 40% of grades in 400-level psychology courses will be "A" grades.

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. In this course there will be no rounding up of final grades, especially in light of the opportunities students have to increase their final grade via research participation.

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date
M Jan 12	Syllabus Handout
W Jan 14	Introduction/Method Preface & Chapter 1
F Jan 16	Perception/Spatial Cognition Chapter 2
M Jan 19	Perception/Spatial Cognition Chapter 2
W Jan 21	DVD: Manufacturing Landscapes
F Jan 23	Environment Attitudes Chapter 3 Last day to drop Winter Term half-courses.
M Jan 26	Environment Attitudes Chapter 3 Last day to add or swap Winter Term half courses. Last day for change of registration from audit to credit or credit to audit.
W Jan 28	Personality Chapter 4
F Jan 30	Personality Chapter 4 Fee payment deadline for Winter Term fees.
M Feb 2	Personal Space Chapter 5
W Feb 4	Personal Space/Territoriality Chapter 5
F Feb 6	Territoriality Chapter 5
M Feb 9	Crowding Chapter 6
W Feb 11	Crowding/Privacy Chapter 6
F Feb 13	Midterm
Feb 15-22	Reading Week. No lectures. University open (except Family Day).
M Feb 16	Alberta Family Day, University closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.
M Feb 23	Residential EP Chapter 7
W Feb 25	Residential EP Chapter 7
F Feb 27	Residential EP Chapter 7
M Mar 2	Urban EP Chapter 8
W Mar 4	Urban EP Chapter 8
F Mar 6	DVD: Homelessness
M Mar 9	Place Attachment Chapter 9
W Mar 11	Educational EP Chapter 10
F Mar 13	Educational EP Chapter 10

M Mar 16	Workplace EP	Chapter 11
W Mar 18	Workplace EP	Chapter 11
F Mar 20	Natural EP	Chapter 12
M Mar 23	Natural EP	Chapter 12
W Mar 25	Climate Change	Chapter 13
F Mar 27	Sustainability	Chapter 14
M Mar 30	Sustainability	Chapter 14
W Apr 1	Designing Environments	Chapter 15
F Apr 3	Good Friday University Closed	
M Apr 6	DVD: Frank Gehry	
W Apr 8	Present Papers	Papers Due
F Apr 10	Present Papers	
M Apr 13	Present Papers	
W Apr 15	Winter Term Lectures End Last day to withdraw from full courses and Winter Term half courses.	
Apr 18-29	Winter Term Final Examinations.	

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; no reappraisal of term work is permitted after the 15 days. 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.

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 except under exceptional circumstances. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements.

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 255), 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 credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to an individual's final grade. **To get 2%** added to the final grade in a full-year course, like this one, you have to acquire **a total of 4 bonus credits** towards the course. These credits may be acquired in the Fall and/or the Winter Session. 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 **Apr 15th, 2015**.

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

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.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>).

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 23rd, 2015**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **January 26th, 2015**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **April 15th, 2015**.