

Psychology 427	Environmental Psychology	Winter 2024
Instructor: Jeff Caird	Lecture Location: SS 10	
Phone: 403-220-8441	Lecture Days/Time: T/Th 3:30-4:45 p.m.	
Email: jkcaird@ucalgary.ca	Laboratory (Lab 1): M 3:00 to 4:50 p.m.	
Office: 222 AD	Laboratory (Lab 2): W 2:00 to 3:50 p.m.	
Office Hours: By appointment	Lab. Location TBA	
TA: TBD	TA Email: TBD	

Course Description

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

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 <https://live-arts.ucalgary.ca/psychology/about#program-learning-outcomes>), and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Methods	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Students will apprehend and articulate the knowledge and methods within environmental psychology.	Multiple choice and essay exams.	1,5,7,8	A
Students will apply knowledge and methods to a variety of contexts and problems.	Laboratory assignments, essays exams, group activities.	2,6,7,8	A
Students will search and synthesize knowledge on a specific topic.	Research paper, presentations.	3,5,7,8	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 in a diverse world, 7 = apply psychological knowledge and skills, 8 = Demonstrate multicultural competence and awareness of issues related to equity, diversity, and inclusion. Level of PLO achievement facilitated by this course: I = introductory, C = competency, A = advanced.

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 (Districts 5 and 6).

Course Format

This is an in-person class held on campus.

Prerequisites

Psychology 300, 301 and admission to the Psychology major or Honours program.

Required Text (available from the Bookstore and online)

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

Assessment Methods

Examinations:

- 1) The **mid-term exam (20%)** on **February 15th (Th)** will cover readings (C1–7) and lectures through Feb. 13th. The midterm is closed book.
- 2) The **final exam (30%)** will stress the final half of the course readings and lectures (i.e., C8–C15), however, a portion of it will be cumulative. The final exam will be scheduled by the Registrar and will be two hours in length and is again closed book.
- 3) The format of the midterm and final exams is approximately 60% multiple choice and 40% essay. The weighting of each exam is indicated under the Distribution of Grades. A review sheet will be provided prior to each exam with example essays.
- 4) Exams in this course are closed book. The use of resources, including class notes, the textbook, online resources, and calculators is prohibited during the exams in this course. Students may not communicate with others about course material or the exam either in person or electronically during exams.

Written Papers:

A major written paper is part of the course requirements. A paper proposal is due during lab on either February 5th and 7th (depending on your lab. section). The paper proposal should be structured into a one-page outline of the topics that are to be addressed in the review and summarize a minimum of three empirical papers. The TA 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 or 7.0) formatted papers shall not exceed 15 pages inclusive of references. A detailed marking framework will be provided on D2L.

Papers are due **March 21st (Th) at 4:00 p.m. through the D2L dropbox**. **Late assignments will not be accepted without instructor approval**. I will not accept emailed papers. Students will give a presentation of their paper for about 5 minutes in class (**March 26th, 28th, April 2nd, 4th**). The presentation should cover the topic reviewed and the important conclusions reached. Presentations

constitute approximately 2% of the final grade and missed presentations will be assigned a 0 without instructor approval.

Laboratories:

Six laboratories assignments are required and comprise 30% of the final grade. Each laboratory is worth approximately 5% of the final mark and assignments will typically be 2 to 3 pages in length. The TA will provide a detailed laboratory handout on D2L that outlines each of the laboratories, marking expectations, methods of submission, due dates and late assignment penalties. Students must achieve a passing grade on both the class and lab components to pass this course.

Distribution of Grades:

Laboratory Assignments	30%
Paper	20%
Mid-term Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%
Total	100%

Late assignments will not be accepted without instructor approval.

Once approved by the course instructor, and at their discretion, alternative arrangements for missed assessments may be considered. <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-1-2.html>. Students may be asked for documentation <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>.

University of Calgary Academic Integrity Policy

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity.

Research integrity, ethics, and principles of conduct are key to academic integrity. Members of our campus community are required to abide by our institutional code of conduct and promote academic integrity in upholding the University of Calgary's reputation of excellence. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have read and are familiar with the student academic misconduct policy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Policy.pdf>.

Department of Psychology Criteria for Letter Grades

Psychology course instructors 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-).

Important Dates

Date	Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date (revise and add columns & rows as necessary)
T Jan 9	First day of lectures
R Jan 18	Last day to drop a class without financial penalty
F Jan 19	Last day to add or swap a course
F Jan 26	Fee payment deadline for Winter Term full and half courses.
R Feb 15	Midterm
Feb 18-24	Term Break, no classes
T Apr 9	Winter Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw with permission from Fall Term half courses.

Apr 12-23	Winter Final Exam Period
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Tentative Lecture Schedule

	Dates	Topic(s)	Readings
1.	Jan. 9, 11	Introduction, Research Methods	Gifford, C1
2.	Jan. 16, 18	Perception, Spatial Cognition	C2
3.	Jan. 23, 25	Env. Attitudes, Personality	C3, C4
4.	Jan. 30, Feb. 1	Personal Space, Territoriality	C5
5.	Feb. 6, 8	Crowding, Residential EP	C6, C7
6.	Feb. 13, 15	Urban EP, Midterm	C8
7.	Feb. 27, 29	Place Attachment, Education EP	C10, C11
8.	March 5, 7	Natural EP	C12
9.	March 12, 14	Climate Change, Sustainability	C13, C14
10.	March 19, 21	Designing Environments	C15
11.	March 26, 28, April 2, 4	Paper Presentations	In class
12.	April 9	Final Review	

Tentative Laboratory Schedule

Date	Laboratory	Lab. Number
Jan. 8, 10	No Labs.	
Jan. 15, 17	Wayfinding	1
Jan. 22, 24	Accessibility	2
Jan. 29, 31	Personal Space	3
Feb. 5, 7	Paper Proposals	Sign-Up
Feb. 12, 14	No Labs., Midterm	
Feb. 26, 28	The City	4
March 4, 6	University Space/Design	5
March 11, 13	Environmental Impact	6
March 18, 20	No Labs., Work on Papers	

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

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 Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are **NOT** an option without the approval of the instructor <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-1-1.html> 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 on a day/time scheduled by the instructor. 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 [Deferred Final Exams | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#) Students with an exceptional extenuating circumstance (e.g., a family emergency) should contact the Department of Psychology psyugrd@ucalgary.ca

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

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

Academic Accommodations

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf>.

Academic Misconduct

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments, and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed, or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright

(https://library.ucalgary.ca/services/copyright?_gl=1*bcjlpn*_ga*OTY1ODc0Njg0LjE2NjkxNTA1NTM.*_ga_X4GN9Y4W7D*MTY3Nzc5MjM3Ni4xNy4xLjE2Nzc3OTI4MDYuMC4wLjA) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary

Student Support and Resources

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Thursday, January 18th, 2024**. Last day add/swap a course is **Friday, January 19th, 2024**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Tuesday, April 9th, 2024**.