

Psychology 101.007 Spring Term, January 2015
Dr. Catharine Rankin
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Text: Psychology: The Science of Behavior, Second Custom Edition of 4th Canadian Edition by Carlson, Buskist, and Heth. The text comes packaged with My Psychlab which includes access to a text website with study tools including an electronic version of the text, practice quizzes, flashcards, chapter reviews, relevant links, videos and more can be found at www.mypsychlab.com. (If you chose to use an earlier version of the text it is your responsibility to determine any differences between it and the required text).

Instructor: Dr. Catharine Rankin- Dr. Rankin is a professor in the Psychology Department in the area of Behavioural Neuroscience. Her research focuses on the neural basis of learning and memory.

Teaching Assistants: Troy McDiarmid- office Kenny Bldg Rm 3514, email: tmcdiarmid@psych.ubc.ca Office hours: TBA. Troy is a MSc student in the Graduate Program in Neuroscience and is working in Dr. Rankin's lab.

Office Hours: Most problems should be referred first to the teaching assistant for this course. I will be available after class most days. Otherwise please email or phone my office to set up an appointment.

Appropriate use of email: Use email to the TAs and the professor wisely- in order to be answered an email must include your name and student number. A long list of questions will not be answered by email- your best option is to set up an appointment with the TA to ask your questions.

I often send out emails to all of the students in the class so please ensure that the registrar has an up-to-date email address for you.

Classes: **Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30 to 11:00 in CIRS 1250.** Attendance is expected and is necessary for success. Please show respect for your fellow learners and leaders, including arriving on time and reading in advance, please turn off cell phones and refrain from distracting conversations or computer activities during class. Please remember your i-clicker and spare batteries, your text, and writing tools.

Course Objectives: This is a one-term course that offers an Introduction to Biological and Cognitive Psychology. This course is designed to introduce you to Psychology as a science. This term will include materials that illustrate how research is done in psychology, and how the data are viewed and analyzed. It will deal with the evolution and biological basis of behaviour (after all we are living creatures). It will investigate how information is acquired from the external world, which will involve the processes of sensation and perception. We will also explore issues of learning, memory, cognition language and consciousness. This is a broad ranging survey in order to introduce you to many of the aspects of Biological and Cognitive Psychology.

You will be responsible for reading the materials in the text in the order shown on the schedule. There may also be additional readings posted on the UBC connect website. The text and

readings contain much material that will not be covered directly in the lectures. You are, however, still responsible for that material. On the other hand, there is much material that will be covered in the lectures that will not appear in the readings. Every text is, by necessity, always several years out of date in its coverage, and somewhat limited in its scope, hence the lectures will cover material which the text does not, or can not, include. In any event, you will generally find that if you have done the reading BEFORE the lectures, the material given in class will be clearer and more easily retained.

Course Website: PowerPoint slides *after* each chapter, important announcements and discussion forums can be found on UBC Connect. You are responsible for checking this site frequently, and for registering your i>clicker here. (If you have a used i>clicker, please visit the Learning Commons to find out the code.) To access the website, go to <https://shibboleth2.id.ubc.ca/idp/Authn/UserPassword> and log in using your CWL.

Evaluation: There will be 3 quizzes: they will be on Feb 5, on March 17 and a final quiz scheduled during the Spring exam period. Each quiz including the final is worth 31% of your final grade. In addition 5% of your final grade will come from multiple choice clicker questions during each class and class participation points during the class. A final 2% of your grade will come from participation in Psychology experiments.

i>clicker: i>clicker questions and polls will be integrated into every class; please bring yours! They can be purchased at the bookstore, used or new. Please REGISTER your i>clicker on our Connect course website. (**NO MONEY?** If you're choosing between buying food or textbooks and i>clickers, *please* come to me and I'll do my best to set you up with what you need.

Quizzes will be non-cumulative, and will consist of multiple-choice questions. Each exam will cover only the material that you have not yet been tested on. Material covered in the exams is about equally divided between the readings and the lecture material. When you arrive for exams you must have with you a pencil (not a pen). It should have dark lead, such as No. 2 or HB. This is because the exams will be machine scored whenever possible. In addition you will need your student number, which can be found on your library card. You should always bring your student card to examinations. On days when there is an examination there will be a review session prior to the test. Be sure to arrive on time since no additional time is given to students who arrive late.

Research Experience Component (REC) 2% of final grade

Psychology is an active and exciting scientific discipline. Many of the studies that you will learn about in this course were carried out at universities just like ours! As part of this course, you will be asked to complete a research experience component (REC) as way of introducing you, in a more hands on and interactive way, to cutting edge research in psychology. This REC will be worth 2% of your grade in the class and you are free to choose one of two options:

Participate in the Psychology Department Human Subjects Pool

Most students will choose to earn their research experience component by spending **two hours participating in psychology studies (worth 1% point for each hour)** through the Department of Psychology's Human Subject Pool (HSP) system. You can locate, create an account, and sign up for studies by going to <https://hsp.psych.ubc.ca>. **Please register in the system by the end of the first month of classes to have the opportunity to earn your first 1/2 hour credit with a brief online survey that will increase your eligibility for more**

studies.

Once registered in the system, you will be able to browse through and select which studies you wish to participate in, sign up for an available timeslot, and confirm your accumulated credits afterward. At the end of the last day of class for the term, the subject pool is closed. At that point, you will no longer be able to receive credits. I strongly urge you to participate in and confirm your credits long *before* the last week of class. Further instruction on how to use the HSP online system can be found at <http://www.psych.ubc.ca/resguide.psy> in the document entitled "Subject Pool Information for Participants."

Alternative assignment: Library writing projects

As an alternative to participating in the Subject Pool, you can instead choose to complete two library writing projects (worth 1% point each). For this assignment, you will read and summarize two research articles. You must select a research article (not a letter to the editor, commentary, or review paper) published between 2000-present in the journal *Psychological Science* – one of the disciplines' leading journals. Each summary should be about 500 words and should describe the purpose, method and results of the study *in your own words*. Please see the "Subject Pool Information for Participants" document found at <http://www.psych.ubc.ca/resguide.psy> for further instructions. **If you choose the library option, you must, a) submit your summaries and a copy of the articles no later than 10 days before the end of classes, and b) submit each summary to turnitin.com.** If you don't have a turnitin account already (from a previous course), you will need to create a user account in Turnitin. For the library assignment the class ID is **9183443**, password is **research**. See *www.turnitin.com*, and click on the "Training" link at the top of the page for detailed instructions on how to submit papers to Turnitin. **Any student who is suspected of plagiarism will, at a minimum, not be granted credit, and their course instructor will be notified. Further action may be taken at a departmental or university level.**

Updated Library Assignment Information:

1. Library assignments are due on the last day of classes (e.g., **Friday April 10** for the upcoming term)
2. Students should submit their assignments on TurnItIn, to class ID 9183443, entitled "Psychology HSP (Winter 2015)", password "research".
3. A full description of the library assignment is available on page 4 of the "Info for Participants" document. This document will be available for students through the psychology department website as of the first day of classes.

Extra credit

You may earn up to **3% extra credit** that will be added to your final grade. These extra credit points can be earned by doing up to three additional hours of study participation in the HSP (or summarizing another three additional journal articles for the library option) as described above as the research experience component of the course.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Classes of this size add certain constraints on the way in which I must teach the course. One such constraint is that there will be no (for emphasis let us repeat the word NO) make up exams in this course. If you miss an exam you will simply lose the number of points associated with it. Your grade will be computed as if that particular entry was a zero. The only

exceptions to this are validated medical excuses. Such excuses must be in the form of a written note from your doctor attesting to the fact that on the day of the exam you were too ill to be expected to function reasonably. Please note, that although the Student Health Service will provide such validations for Xmas and Final exams, they will not provide these for quizzes, hence in the event of a missed quiz your medical excuse must be obtained from a private physician. If you should have a personal or psychological trauma which is of such a magnitude that you would be forced to miss an examination such an excuse must be accompanied by a written letter of explanation from your psychiatrist, psychologist, or student counselor. Exams missed due to a death in the family must be validated by a letter from the attending physician or clergyman. In the absence of such written verification you will not be excused. All medical excuses must be personally presented to the professor as soon as you are able to return to class for a make up to be scheduled. This means that if you are planning a personal crisis, bankruptcy, or a dream vacation, you had best schedule these events so that they do not conflict with your examination schedule, which is listed on the outline. Be proactive- if things are going wrong act before an exam not after- once the exam is written I can do nothing for you. If you do miss the exam you will also miss the points that it represents -- the choice, of course, is yours.

RESPECTFUL & ETHICAL CONDUCT You are expected to treat all your classmates, your instructor, your TAs, and yourself with respect at all times, both in and out of the classroom, face-to-face and in writing (e.g., on email). This includes arriving to class on time and, especially if you are late, minimizing distractions for other students.

You are responsible for your own learning. Cheating of any kind will **not** be tolerated, including dishonest use of the i>clicker (e.g., entering responses for an absent classmate). See the section on academic misconduct for more information about plagiarism and exams.

Cheating on the tests is unacceptable and anyone seen using any form of notes, looking at others papers or giving or requesting information from other students, or cheating in any form during the quiz will be given a zero for the exam and will be reported to the President's advisory committee for student discipline.

Psychology Department's Position on Academic Misconduct

Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct are very serious concerns of the University, and the Department of Psychology has taken steps to alleviate them. In the first place, the Department has implemented software that, can reliably detect cheating on multiple-choice exams by analyzing the patterns of students' responses. In addition, the Department subscribes to *TurnItIn*--a service designed to detect and deter plagiarism. All materials (term papers, lab reports, etc.) that students submit for grading will be scanned and compared to over 5 billion pages of content located on the Internet or in TurnItIn's own proprietary databases. The results of these comparisons are compiled into customized "Originality Reports" containing several, sensitive measures of plagiarism; instructors receive copies of these reports for every student in their class.

In all cases of suspected academic misconduct, the parties involved will be pursued to the fullest extent dictated by the guidelines of the University. Strong evidence of cheating or plagiarism may result in a zero credit for the work in question. According to the University Act (section 61), the President of UBC has the right to impose harsher penalties including (but not limited to) a failing grade for the course, suspension from the University, cancellation of scholarships, or a notation added to a student's transcript.

All graded work in this course, unless otherwise specified, is to be original work done independently by individuals. Do **not** use Google/Yahoo/MSN Search/etc. to find articles for assignments in this course. **Do** use any of the indexes and databases listed under Indexes and Databases, Subject Resources, OneSearch or Metasearch on the Library's website at <http://www.library.ubc.ca>. (Not sure which index to use? Click HELP on the library homepage at www.library.ubc.ca or try Subject Resources.)

If you have any questions as to whether or not what you are doing is even a borderline case of academic misconduct, please consult your instructor. For details on pertinent University policies and procedures, please see Chapter 5 in the UBC Calendar (<http://students.ubc.ca/calendar>).

To understand how to avoid plagiarism: The Plagiarism Handbook: www.antiplagiarism.com

Scaling: Faculties, departments and schools reserve the right to scale grades in order to maintain equity among sections and conformity to university, faculty, department or school norms. Students should therefore note that an unofficial grade given by an instructor might be changed by the faculty, department or school. Grades are not official until they appear on a student's academic record.

Further information about academic regulations, course withdrawal dates and credits can be found in the university Calendar. You are encouraged to read this material. If you run into trouble and need information about studying, preparing for exams, note-taking or time management, free workshops and advice are available from the Student Resources Centre which can be reached through the School and College Liaison Office at 822-4319.

Department of Psychology policies: Psyc 100 and 200-level courses. In order to reduce grade inflation and maintain equity across multiple course sections, all psychology courses are required to comply with departmental norms regarding grade distributions. According to departmental norms, the average grade in a 100- and 200-level Psychology courses are 67 for an exceptionally strong class, 65 for an average class, and 63 for a weak class, with a standard deviation of 14.

Remember Jan. 19 last day to withdraw without a "W" on transcript - last day to withdraw with a "W" on transcript Feb 13, 2014.

Summary: By week 2 of classes you will need the text, access to the course website and an iClicker registered on the website. Access to My Psychlab is recommended but not required.

Psychology 101 Introductory to Biological and Cognitive Psychology, January, 2015
 Tentative Course Outline (subject to change-before any quiz check with TA)

Month	Date	Topic	
Jan.	6, 8	Introduction (Troy)	1
	13 15	Ways and Means of Psychology	2
	20, 22	Evolution, Heredity and Behavior	3
	27, 29, 3	Biology of Behavior	4
Feb.	5	Review/ Quiz 1 worth 31% of grade/ begin Learning	
	10, 12, 24	Learning	9
	17, 19	Reading Week	
	26, 3, 5	Memory and Thinking	7
Mar.	10, 12	Consciousness (Troy)	8+11
	17	Review/ Quiz 2 worth 31% of grade/ begin Sensation	
	17, 19, 24	Sensation	5
	26, 31, 2	Perception	6
Apr	7, 9	Language	10

During exams Quiz 3 worth 31% of grade