

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

PSYCHOLOGY 304 – Brain and Behaviour (September 2015 – April 2016)
Tuesdays 6:00 - 8:30 pm, Leonard S. Klinck building (CSCI) Room 200

COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor: Tiffany Lee
E-mail: tylee@psych.ubc.ca;
OFFICE TBA

Office hours: 16:30 – 18:00, Tuesdays (please email in advance)

Teaching Assistants: **TBA**

Course description: The neurological basis of behaviour; neural processes involved in perception, motivation, emotion, psychopathology, learning and memory.

Learning goals:

- Understand and be able to use terms used in biopsychology/behavioural neuroscience.
- Understand biopsychological phenomena within a historical context
- Understand some of the current questions being studied in biopsychology and neuroscience research
- Navigate neuroscience and biopsychology literature

Required Text: Pinel, J.P.J. (2013). Biopsychology, 9th Edition. Allyn & Bacon, ISBN-13:978-0205915576

****Optional:** Any additional learning aids associated with the textbook (e.g., Study Guide, “MyPsychLab” website, CD) are optional. Although they might be useful for enhancing your understanding and retention of the course materials, you will not be examined on any materials contained in these learning aids. If you decide to use MyPsychLab you will need this Course ID: lee05892.

Course Policies:

All course-related announcements will be made in class or posted on the Connect website. If you would like to contact the course instructor and/or TAs, please send us emails directly (to email addresses on syllabus above). That is, **please do not send any emails via Connect.**

Emails will be answered on weekdays during normal working hours. Please limit emailed questions to ones that can be answered briefly. For more complex questions, please come to my office hour or contact one of us to schedule an appointment.

Please note Office hours might change; please check the Connect website for updates and email in advance.

Lectures and Reading

- Lecture slides will be available on the Connect website. However, if you miss a lecture, you are responsible for getting notes from another student.
- Lecture slides will be posted on the Connect website the night before each lecture. This is done as a courtesy. Please be aware that I may make changes to the slides between that time and the lecture the next day.
- Lecture material may not cover all textbook content and textbook material will not necessarily be covered by lectures. You are responsible for both in that all lecture and textbook material is examinable.

Below is the general lecture topic schedule and associated chapters from the textbook. Please note that some topics have been expanded (e.g. October 6) and textbook chapters are not always taught in order. Please plan ahead and study accordingly.

	<u>Date</u>		<u>Topic</u>
1.	September 08		Course overview
2.	September 15		Introduction to Biopsychology (Ch. 1)
3.	September 22		Functional Neuroanatomy (Ch.3)
4.	September 29		Neural Conduction & Transmission (Ch. 4)
5.	October 06		Neurotransmitters, Hormones and the Brain
6.	October 13		Thanksgiving weekend (No Class)
7.	October 20		Research Methods in Biopsychology (Ch. 5) and Q&A session for Exam 1
8.	October 27	**Exam 1**	
			Evolution, Genetics & Experience (Ch. 2)
9.	November 03		Neural Development (Ch. 9)
10.	November 10		Visual System (Ch. 6)
11.	November 17		Perception & Conscious Awareness (Ch. 7)
12.	November 24		Sensorimotor System (Ch. 8)
13.	December 01		Q&A session for Exam 2
		Exam 2 – December 08-22	
14.	January 05		Hunger, Eating & Health (Ch. 12)
15.	January 12		Hormones & Sex (Ch. 13)
16.	January 19		Sleep, Dreaming & Circadian Rhythms (Ch. 14)
17.	January 26		Emotions, Stress & Health (Ch. 17)
18.	February 02		Emotions, Stress & Illness (Ch. 17) and Q&A session for Exam 3
19.	February 09	**Exam 3**	
20.	February 16		Reading Break (No Class)
21.	February 23		Brain Damage & Neuroplasticity (Ch. 10)
22.	March 01		Learning, Memory & Amnesia (Ch. 11)
23.	March 08		Drug Addiction & Brain Reward Systems (Ch. 15)
24.	March 15		Lateralization, Language & the Split Brain (Ch. 16)
25.	March 22		Psychiatric Disorders (Ch. 18)
26.	March 29		Psychiatric Disorders (Ch. 18)
27.	April 05		Q&A session for Exam 4
		Exam 4 – April 12-27	

Withdrawal Dates:

If you wish to withdraw from this course without any record of the course on your transcript, you must do so on or before September 25. If you wish to withdraw with a “W” on your transcript, you must do so on or before November 27.

Grade Evaluation: There will be a total of 4 examinations in this course. All exams are non-cumulative and will cover both lecture and textbook material. Each exam is worth 25% of your total grade. Two exams will be written during class time and 2 exams are scheduled by the Registrar’s Office (you must be available to write at any time during the exam periods in December and April).

Examination Format:

- All examinations will consist of multiple-choice questions and short answer questions.
- Lecture material may not cover all textbook content and textbook material will not necessarily be covered by lectures. You are responsible for both in that all lecture and textbook material is examinable.
- All four exams are not cumulative.

Examination Schedule:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>
October 27	Lecture material and textbook chapters from September 15-October 20.
December exam period	Lecture material and textbook chapters from October 27-December 01.
February 09	Lecture material and textbook chapters from January 05 – February 02
April exam period	Lecture material and textbook chapters from February 23 - April 05

Reporting of grades:

Once the exams have been marked, marks will be posted on Connect. You should receive an email notification when the grades have been posted so please ensure the University has your correct email address.

You are strongly encouraged to review your exams with your TA.

Requests for adjustments of grades must be made within 2 weeks of the exam grades being posted. Most requests for adjustment of exam grades can be settled directly with the TA. In cases of a dispute that cannot be resolved in this fashion, the instructor will re-grade the question. Please note that this can result in the mark going up, down or remain the same.

Missed Exams:

If you miss any of the exams due to illness, you must **contact the instructor either prior to or on the day of the exam**. Failure to notify me that you missed the exam may result in a grade of 0 with no opportunity to write a makeup exam. Once you are well and ready to write the make up exam, you must notify me of this and provide **original medical documentation** (pictures or copies sent via email are not acceptable) from your doctor, dated appropriately and confirming that you were too ill to attend the exam. Notes which only state you were seen in the doctor's office are not acceptable.

If exams scheduled during the final exam period (exams 2 and 4) are missed, you must notify me as above **AND** apply through the Registrars office to write a make-up exam--they will probably require medical or other documentation. Please refer to the UBC Calendar for details of 'academic concession.' Students will not be permitted to write exams earlier or later than the scheduled exam day due to vacations, etc.

Peerwise:

Peerwise is an excellent study tool that allows you to create, share and evaluate multiple choice questions with classmates. In some cases, I may use a small number of questions that you and your classmates generate on the exams. However, I reserve the right to alter questions slightly, if necessary. Those individuals whose questions I choose to use on exams will receive a 1% bonus towards their final grade in the course. In order to be considered for an exam question, Peerwise questions are due 1 week before the date and time of the exam.

Start by visiting: http://peerwise.cs.auckland.ac.nz/at/?ubc_ca.

If you have not used PeerWise before, click the "Registration" link and follow the prompts. Choose a user name and a password for your PeerWise account.

If you have used PeerWise before, log in and select "Join course" from the Home menu.

Once registered and logged in to the Peerwise website, access our course, "Psyc 304-901", by entering two pieces of information: 1. Course ID = 11509, 2. Identifier = Please enter your UBC student ID

Psychology Department's Policy on Grade Distributions and Scaling

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 these departmental norms, the mean grade in a 300- or 400-level class is 70 for a good class, 68 for an average class, and 66 for a weak class, with a standard deviation of 13. Be aware that scaling is likely to be used in order to comply with these norms; grades may be scaled up or down as necessary by the instructor or Department.

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. For example, the Department has implemented software that can reliably detect cheating on multiple-choice exams by analyzing the patterns of students' responses.

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 the student's transcript. All graded work in this course, unless otherwise specified, is to be original work done independently by individuals. 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>) and read the University's Policy 69 (available at <http://www.universitycounsel.ubc.ca/policies/policy69.html>).