

Psychology 260 – Experimental Psychology and Laboratory 2015/2016 Winter Term 1

When: TTh, 9:30 – 10:45 am
Where: BUCH B215

Instructor: Kiran K. Soma, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Psychology
Office: Kenny 3505
Office hour: Th 11:00 - 12:00, or by appointment
Tel: 604-827-5820
Email: ksoma@psych.ubc.ca
****** If you have questions, I would like to help you in person. I will only use email to schedule in-person meetings.***

TAs: Silvain Dang : silvain@psych.ubc.ca
Richard Rigby: rarigby616@gmail.com
Ryan Tomm: rtomm@hotmail.com
Office hours: by appointment
****** If you have questions, please see the TAs in person. The TAs will only use email to schedule in-person meetings.***

Course description:

This course covers the scientific study of the brain and behavior. Topics will include: neuroanatomy, neurochemistry, neuroendocrinology, and neural circuits for behaviors. This course is also designed to encourage critical and creative thinking, as well as improve written and oral communication. Questions and discussion are *strongly* encouraged.

Required Textbook: *Biological Psychology*, 12th Edition, J.W. Kalat. It is best to get the 12th edition. Can buy the book at the UBC Bookstore or Amazon etc.

Labs: Lab sessions will be every Tuesday (14:30-16:30 or 16:30-18:30), starting Sept 15, in room 4506 of the Kenny (Psychology) Building. The lab schedule will appear in the lab manual, which you can obtain in the first lab session.

Webpage: Lecture notes will be available online before the lecture. Print out the slides (double-sided, 4 or 6 slides per page), so you can take notes on them during lecture (get a large 3-ring binder to store the notes). The slides will be missing critical information that will be tested on the exams. Missing information will be provided during lectures, so attend all the lectures. See this webpage: <http://www.psych.ubc.ca/~ksoma/>

****** Please arrive to lecture on time. Late arrivals are disruptive.***

****** All student laptops and tablets must be turned off and put away during lectures. No exceptions. Please take notes on printouts of the slides.***

****** Turn off and put away your phone during lectures and exams. Come to lectures to listen, think, and actively participate.***

***** Do the readings before the lectures. This will help you follow the lectures.**

	Topic	Readings
Sep 8	Imagine UBC (no class or labs)	
Sep 10	What is behavioural neuroscience?	pp. 3-13, 110-111, 509-511
Sep 15	Neuroanatomy 1	pp. 65-79
Sep 17	Neuroanatomy 2	pp. 80-101
Sep 22	Neurochemistry 1	pp. 15-37, 503-507
Sep 24	Neurochemistry 2	pp. 39-57, 465-474
Sep 29	Neuroendocrinology 1	pp. 57-62, 325-329
Oct 1	Neuroendocrinology 2	pp. 383-384
Oct 6	Midterm 1 info and review	review
Oct 8	Midterm 1	none
Oct 13	Neural development 1	pp. 103-110, 117-127, 499-502
Oct 15	Neural development 2	pp. 127-135, 404-406
Oct 20	Neurobiology of feeding behavior 1	pp. 307-313
Oct 22	Neurobiology of feeding behavior 2	pp. 313-323
Oct 27	Neurobiology of sleep 1	pp. 261-283
Oct 29	Neurobiology of sleep 2	pp. 284-290, 481-486
Nov 3	Midterm 2 info and review	review
Nov 5	Midterm 2	none
Nov 10	Neurobiology of reproductive behavior 1	pp. 325-335
Nov 12	Neurobiology of reproductive behavior 2	pp. 336-353
Nov 17	Neurobiology of aggression 1	pp. 367-370
Nov 19	Neurobiology of aggression 2	none
Nov 24	Neurobiology of stress 1	pp. 383-388
Nov 26	Neurobiology of stress 2	pp. 475-480
Dec 1	Final info and review	review
Dec 3	Conclusions	review

Evaluation:

- Midterm 1 20%
- Midterm 2 20%
- Laboratory 25%
- Final exam 35%
- Dept of Psychology policy for 200-level courses: **averages will be 63-67% with a standard deviation of 14%**. Grades are not official until they appear on your academic record.

Exams:

- Material from both the lectures and readings will be on the exams.
- **Midterm 2 is not cumulative.**
- **The final exam is cumulative**, but with strong emphasis on the last third of the course.
- Exams will consist of multiple choice and short-answer questions.
- Emphasis on critical thinking, analysis of experimental design, interpretation of data, and proposing new experiments
- Students can view their marked exams with their TA or professor. The exam remains the property of the university.
- **Regrade requests must be made in writing to the professor. The professor reserves the right to regrade the entire exam (not just a particular question), which means that your grade could go down upon regrading.**

Policy on missed tests and extensions:

- **Make-up tests will only be given for validated medical reasons, without exception.**
- **If you miss an exam, you must email the professor within 24 hours of the exam.**
- If you submit medical documentation make sure it contains the statement, "This student was unable to write the test on (date) for medical reasons."
- You are advised to see your physician within one day of the missed test. Many physicians will not provide documentation retroactively.
- All medical excuses must be personally presented to the professor as soon as you are able to return to class for a make-up exam to be scheduled.
- **NOTE: make-up exams will consist of an oral exam in front of the professor and a TA.**

Psychology Department's position on academic misconduct:

Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct are very serious concerns, and the Dept of Psychology has taken steps to alleviate them. The Department has implemented **software that can reliably detect cheating on multiple-choice exams** by analyzing the patterns of students' responses. In cases of suspected misconduct, the parties involved will be pursued to the fullest extent dictated by UBC guidelines. Strong evidence of cheating or plagiarism may result in a zero credit for the work in question. 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.

Special accommodations:

The University accommodates students with disabilities that have registered with the Disability Resource Centre.

Students who plan to be absent for varsity athletics, family obligations, or other similar commitments usually cannot be accommodated. In these cases, you must ask your instructor during the first week of class – not later than that.

Course restrictions:

Enrollment in this course is required of and restricted to Psychology B.Sc. students. Psychology B.Sc. students will not receive credit for BIOL 300, STAT 200, PSYC 217, PSYC 218, PSYC 304.

Laboratory policies:

See the lab manual and the TAs for specific rules and policies.

A final note:

Information about academic regulations, course withdrawal dates and credits can be found in the University Calendar. If you need information about studying, note taking or time management, then free workshops and advice are available from the Student Resources Centre and other student advising centres on campus. Or talk to me or the TAs during office hours!