

Psychology 101: Introduction to Biological and Cognitive Psychology
The University of British Columbia, Winter Term I (Fall 2016)

Section 901: Wednesday 5:00-7:50pm, Buchanan A103

	Instructor: Kyle Danielson, PhD kdanielson@psych.ubc.ca Office: Kenny 2037 Office Hours: By appointment	Dr. Kyle Danielson is a Lecturer in the Department of Psychology, where he teaches undergraduate courses and researches infant language development. Kyle completed his Bachelor's degree at Duke University, his MSc at the University of Alberta, and his PhD here at UBC.
	TA: Kyle Gooderham kyle@psych.ubc.ca Office: Kenny 3407 Office Hours: By appointment. Set office hours will be posted on Connect for the week before and after exams.	Kyle Gooderham is a first-year Master's student in the Department of Psychology, where he researches the relationship between physical activity and cognition with an emphasis on learning and memory. Kyle completed his BA in Psychology here at UBC.

Contacting the instructor and TAs:

A very important note: Yes, your instructor and TA have the same first name! Please make sure that you address emails to **Dr. Kyle Danielson** at kdanielson@psych.ubc.ca, and emails to **Kyle Gooderham**, your TA, at kyle@psych.ubc.ca.

We are each very happy to hear from you by email whenever you have a question or concern, or to set up an in-person appointment. When writing to us, please put "PSYC 101.901" in the subject line of the email to help us get to it faster. We will respond to all emails within two business days (not counting weekends and statutory holidays). Please address emails to your section's TA when enquiring about textbook material, quiz preparation, project questions, grades, or to review quizzes after they are marked. Please address emails to your instructor for clarification on anything that he presents during lecture, or if you are unable to address your concern with your TA.

Course Description: In this course, we will explore the biological and cognitive aspects of psychology. We will begin with an introduction to the history of and research methods utilized by the field of psychological science. We will continue with an overview of a number of topics, including neuroscience, sensation and perception, learning and memory, language, consciousness, and thinking. Upon successfully completing this course, you will have acquired a basic understanding of the themes and methods of psychological science, and will be prepared to use this knowledge base to further your learning in other psychological and non-psychological domains.

Course Materials:

Required Textbook:

Schacter, D.L., Gilbert, D.T., Wegner, D.M., Nock, M.K., & Johnsrude, I. (2014). *Psychology* (3rd **Canadian** Edition).

An important note about the textbook:

This is a two-year-old Canadian edition of the textbook (black cover with one ballerina on it). Previous versions of the textbook were from the U.S. (black cover with two dancers on it). You are encouraged to purchase the Canadian textbook, either new or used, because it contains the most up-to-date information and it will be the book used for creating exams. You are free to purchase the U.S. version, but note that there may be some discrepancies between the two versions, and that in case of any discrepancy, the Canadian version will be authoritative for the purposes of this course and its quizzes.

Connect: You can access the course website through UBC Connect at connect.ubc.ca using your CWL. Please check the course website frequently (e.g., at least twice a week, before classes) so that you don't miss important updates about the course. This is where you will find the course syllabus (this document), view your grades, see important announcements, and turn in papers. Lecture slides will also be posted on this website **after** each lecture.

A note about posting lecture slides online:

We are aware that some students prefer to take notes on printed lecture slides as the lecture progresses, but we have made the determination that posting slides *after* lecture creates a more collaborative learning environment during class. However, to help students take notes, there will be a blank note-taking template available on Connect, which we encourage you to use on your laptop or on paper. Page numbers will be prominent on lecture slides both during class and when posted on Connect, to provide you with the opportunity to take notes on individual slides by number.

Launchpad: Your textbook comes with an electronic learning module that we will use in this course. As you will be required to complete certain activities online for your grade, you must acquire access to Launchpad in one of the three following ways:

- 1) If you purchased your textbook new from the UBC bookstore and it came with a Launchpad access code, you can use that code.
- 2) If you purchased your textbook new from the UBC bookstore and it **did not** come with a Launchpad access code, please see our publisher representative, Chhaya, when she comes to the first day of class. She will get you access to Launchpad.
- 3) If you purchased your textbook elsewhere (new or used) and do not have a Launchpad access code, you will need to buy one online using the link below.

You can access our class Launchpad at:

<http://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/schacter3ecanadian/3701045>

If you have technical issues using Launchpad, a customer service representative is available to help you between 6:00 am and midnight, 7 days a week, by calling (800) 936-6899. Please note that your instructor and TAs are not equipped to help with Launchpad technical issues.

Class attendance: It is essential that you attend each class. Although we will not take attendance, there is no guarantee that you will be able to succeed on exams and other assignments without being present in class. Lecture slides that are posted on Connect will serve as an outline of what is covered in each class, but may not be complete. Note that you are responsible for points that are covered verbally in class, even if they are not in the textbook or on the lecture slides (but rest assured that the instructor will make these points very clear when they are made verbally!). This class will include lots of student participation and conversation, hopefully providing a great learning environment for us all.

Course Requirements and Grading: Your mark for PSYC 101 will consist of the following assignments:

- **3 non-cumulative exams** (two midterms and one final, worth 25% each)
- **Launchpad exercises** (worth 10%)
- **Mythbuster paper** (worth 13%)
- **Research Experience Component** (worth 2%)

1. Exams (25% each): The exams will consist of multiple choice questions which will be completed on scantron forms. This means you will need to bring a pencil and an eraser to every exam period to complete the scantron. You will also need to bring your student ID or another acceptable form of government-issued photo ID. The exams are not cumulative and will consist only of multiple choice questions. Any material covered in lecture, the textbook or required *Launchpad* exercises may appear on the exam. Please note that material covered verbally in lecture but not listed on the lecture slides is examinable. It is thus recommended that you attend every class and take comprehensive, detailed notes.

All exams will consist of **60 multiple-choice questions** and will be **80 minutes long**.

The first two exams in the course will be held during normal class time on the dates listed in the calendar below. Please note that, because this is a

three-hour class, exams will only take up one half of the class period. The other half of the period will be devoted to lecture and activities as usual. On exam days, we will explore **Special Topics in Psychology**. You will have the opportunity to suggest and vote on topics!

The third exam will be held during the final exam period. The date and location will be determined by the Registrar's Office and announced in mid-October.

Because the date and time of the final exam is not announced by UBC Student Services until mid-semester, ***you must not make travel arrangements until you know the date of the final exam.*** You will not be excused from the final exam because of pre-existing travel arrangements.

Multiple-choice questions on the exams will be answered on a scantron. If you have not taken an exam using a scantron before, please make sure that you see your TA for instructions on use before the day of the first exam. Because scantrons are marked by machine, not by hand, mistakes made in filling them out could reduce your mark!

Tests are often a source of stress for students, and your instructional team would like to lessen this stress as much as possible. We encourage you to visit your TA throughout the time leading up to exams (not just the week before!) to ensure that you feel comfortable going into the exam.

Despite our desire to be flexible and to ensure the success of each student, because of the large number of students in this course, some guidelines must be observed regarding exams. Please note that these guidelines are not flexible and will not be modified on an individual basis for any reason:

- **Late arrival to exams:** If you arrive **less than 30 minutes late** to an exam, you will be permitted to write the exam, but will not be allotted extra time to do so. For example, if you arrive at 5:15pm for an exam that started at 5:00pm, you will still only have until 6:20pm to finish the exam, along with the rest of the class. If you arrive **more than 30 minutes late** to an exam, you will not be permitted to write the exam.
- **Leaving during an exam:** If you have a medical condition that may require you to leave an exam and return to the room to continue writing the exam, you must provide this information to the instructor at the start of classes in September or at the earliest possible date prior to the first exam in which the medical condition is applicable. Otherwise, no student will be permitted to leave the room during an exam for **any reason** (including

bathroom breaks). If you choose to leave the room during the exam, you must first turn in your exam, and you will not be permitted to continue writing the exam after that point.

- **Exam security:** UBC takes the security of its examination procedures seriously. Please see the end of this document for additional information on the University's procedures regarding breaches in exam security and/or plagiarism. Note that it is required that you remain completely silent during exams, including when turning your exam in, until all exams have been collected. Not remaining silent, using unauthorized materials during the exam, and looking at another student's examination materials may be grounds for a 0 on the exam. Please note that the instructional team reserves the right to ask an individual student to change seats during an exam for any reason.
- **Missed exams:** We understand that circumstances may arise that cause a student to miss an exam. If you **plan** to miss an exam because of a religious obligation or because of official travel as part of a UBC-sanctioned extracurricular activity, you must present this information to the instructor at the beginning of classes in September so that arrangements can be made.

If you miss an exam because of an *unexpected* illness or event:

- **Immediately** apply for an academic concession from your Faculty (e.g., Arts, Science, etc.).
 - You must do so at your earliest possible convenience, and at a maximum of 48 hours after the missed exam (unless medically incapacitated). You can find your Faculty's academic advising office's contact information by searching online. You will be required to send them documentation of the event that caused you to miss the exam. They will process your request and will contact the instructor with their decision regarding your concession.
 - **IF** your faculty asks the instructor to grant you an academic concession and the instructor agrees, your mark for the course will be adjusted so that your two remaining exams count for 37.5% each instead of for 25% each. **There are no makeup exams in this course.**
 - Please note that there is no guarantee that your Faculty will advocate for an academic concession on your behalf, or that the instructor will agree to provide a concession. While concessions are usually granted for medical emergencies with a medical professional's written and dated note, they are

typically *not* granted for other types of event (e.g., sleeping in, academic or professional workload, etc.).

2. **Launchpad exercises (10%):** Launchpad exercises listed in the course calendar below are **required**. Each week, you will be assigned **one** Weekly Exercise and **one** Summative Quiz. These are both due each Friday evening at 11:59pm Pacific time, except where indicated differently on the course schedule. Weekly Exercises will count for 40% of your Launchpad mark (4% of your total grade) and Summative Quizzes will count for 60% of your Launchpad mark (6% of your total grade).
3. **Mythbusters (13%):** This is a **two-part** assignment. The first part, your proposal, is due on **Friday, September 23 by 11:59pm** on Connect. This proposal should be approximately 250 words in length (12-point, Times New Roman font, double-spaced). In your proposal, you should identify a commonly held belief about psychology and give some background about that belief. There is no need to reference sources for this part of the assignment. Failure to complete a proposal by the deadline will result in an automatic 15% deduction from your Mythbusters mark.

The second part of the assignment, the paper, is due on **Friday, November 25 by 11:59pm** on Connect. This paper should be approximately 1000 words in length (12-point, Times New Roman font, double-spaced). In this paper, you should investigate the topic that you proposed in September, now relying on information that you learned in lecture, from the textbook, and from scholarly sources. For this paper, you are required to cite *at least* four scholarly sources, of which *one* can be the course textbook. APA formatting must be used throughout the paper.

Additional details regarding this assignment, as well as a rubric, will be made available on Connect in early September.

4. **Research Experience Component:** All PSYC 101 students at UBC are **required** to complete two (2) credits of research experience, which will earn you 2% of your final mark in the course. There are two options to earn your research experience: 1) through participating in real psychology experiments via the Human Subjects Pool, and 2) through writing a report based on a psychological research article. These two options are explained in depth below.

- Research experiment participation
 - This is the more common way of earning extra credit, and it allows you to observe first-hand the way that psychologists collect data. You must first sign up for a Human Subjects Pool (HSP) account at <https://ubc-psych.sona-systems.com/>. **Please note** that when signing up for an account, you must use your full legal name exactly as it is listed in the Student Service Centre. *Please do not use a nickname for this account*, or the system may not be able to match your credits with your name. For example, as you all noticed when you signed up for this course, your instructor's real name is Donald, but he goes by Kyle. He would create an account using the name "Donald Danielson" to make sure that he gets his credits for his hard work! This system is maintained by the Department of Psychology, and not by your instructor or TA. If you have technical issues, please use the website to address your concerns to the Department.
 - After you sign up for your account, you will be asked to take a brief introductory survey that will help researchers match you to studies for which you are eligible. You will receive your first ½ credit just by completing this online survey.
 - Once you have completed the survey, you may search for studies and timeslots to participate.

- Alternative library assignment
 - If you do not wish to participate in studies, you may complete an alternative writing assignment to earn your credits (one credit per completed assignment). This project consists of reading an article from the journal *Psychological Science* and then summarizing the research question, the methods, and the results.
 - You must have an HSP account (see above) to complete this project, even if you do not intend to participate in research studies.
 - Your assignment must conform to the following guidelines. Again, this system is maintained by the Department of Psychology and your papers will not be seen by your instructor or TA. Please conform to these guidelines so that your paper is accepted!

- The article that you review must have been published in the journal entitled *Psychological Science* (available through the UBC library)
- The article must have a publication date from the year 2000 to present (e.g., articles from the year 2000 are acceptable; articles from 1999 are not).
- The article must be a research article. It cannot be, for example, a review article, a news article, a notice, or a letter to the editor.
- Your summary should be approximately 500 words in length.
- You must include your name, student number, course number, section number, instructor's name, and your email address on each summary.
- You will submit your assignment through Turnitin.com. If you do not have a Turnitin account from a previous course, you must register for one to turn in your assignment. The course ID for this library assignment is **13369088** and the course name is **Psychology HSP (2016-2017)**. The password is **research**.

Note: The research participation system closes on the last day of classes on December 2, not on the last day of exams, so please give yourself plenty of time to complete your extra credit before then. Library assignment papers are due one week before classes end. Very often, both researchers and students become quite busy near the end of November, and there may not be sufficient participation slots available. We therefore encourage you to do your research credits early!

5. **Extra credit:** You may earn up to **three** extra credit percentage points by earning up to three additional research experience credits (for a total of 5 credits). Of these 5, note that **2 credits are required for your grade**, and the additional 3 credits are extra credit.

Grade disputes and changes: If you believe that your quiz or paper was marked in error, please contact the TA that marked the assignment. Typically any issues with mismarked assignments can be rectified between the student and the TA. If the student and TA are unable to come to an agreement, the TA will contact the instructor for guidance. Please note that emails to the course instructor or TAs asking for mark changes at the end of the term cannot be honoured.

Ethical and Responsible Conduct: Always treat yourself, your classmates, and your instructional team with respect both in and outside of class. This includes being on time to class, and being aware of your words and actions. Be mindful of other students during class. Please turn off all mobile phones, mp3 players, etc.

before coming to class. If you choose to take notes on a laptop, please quit/minimize any programs that may distract others (internet, IM, facebook, games, etc), or sit in the back of the room.

Cheating of any type is not tolerated. Just don't do it—it is not worth your education, your reputation, or your future. Any cheating will result in failing the assignment or exam, and may lead to an automatic fail for the course and/or expulsion from the university. If you have any questions about the proper way of citing and using sources in your assignments, please see your Instructor or TA **before** the assignment is due.

Department of Psychology'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. 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 a 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>).

Department of Psychology's Position on Grade Distribution and Scaling: 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 for 100- and 200-level classes is 63-68, with a standard deviation of 14. Scaling may be used in order to comply with these norms; grades may be scaled up or down as necessary by the instructor or department. Each student will earn a percent grade for this course and will be automatically assigned a corresponding letter grade by the Registrar.

Additional Resources Available to You:

UBC Academic Regulations: Information on academic regulations, including course withdrawal dates and credits, can be found in the UBC Calendar at <http://students.ubc.ca/calendar>

UBC Learning Commons: <http://learningcommons.ubc.ca> offers a variety of learning and research sources for students. The website includes tutoring, workshops, study groups, many other online tools, and links to most of the academic resources offered at UBC.

UBC Writing Centre: www.writingcentre.ubc.ca offers tutoring services, online workshops, and links to other useful writing centres.

UBC Counseling Services:

<http://www.students.ubc.ca/livewelllearnwell/book-an-appointment/counselling-services/> or 604-822-3811

Vancouver Crisis Line: <http://www.crisiscentre.bc.ca/about-us/contact-us/>

Skills for Time Management: <http://learningcommons.ubc.ca/time-management/>

Student Engagement @ UBC Psychology: Find events and opportunities for UBC Psychology students! <http://engage.psych.ubc.ca/>

Course Calendar

Required textbook readings are listed below for each class. Please read these assignments BEFORE class on the day on which they are listed. Remember to check Connect each week for any changes!

Class Date	Topic(s)	Readings/Assignments due
September 7	Welcome, History, Syllabus	Ch. 1 (pp. 1-26) (to be read anytime before next week) No Launchpad assignment this week
September 14	Research Methods and Statistics	Ch. 2 Launchpad quiz and assignment due at 11:59pm on Friday
September 21	Neuroscience & Behaviour	Ch. 3 Mythbusters proposal due at 11:59pm on Friday on Connect Launchpad quiz and assignment due at 11:59pm on Friday
September 28	Sensation & Perception	Ch. 4 Launchpad quiz and assignment due at 11:59pm on Friday
October 5	Special Topic (TBA)	Reading to be assigned on Connect Midterm Exam 1 in class on Wednesday from 6:30 to 7:50pm, covering Chapter 1 (pp. 1-26 only) and Chapters 2, 3, & 4. No Launchpad assignments this week
October 12	Consciousness	Ch. 5 Launchpad quiz and assignment due at 11:59pm on Friday

October 19	Memory	Ch. 6 Launchpad quiz and assignment due at 11:59pm on Friday
October 26	Learning	Ch. 7 Launchpad quiz and assignment due at 11:59pm on Friday
November 2	Special Topic (TBA)	Reading to be assigned on Connect Midterm Exam 2 in class on Wednesday from 6:30 to 7:50pm, covering Chapters 5, 6, & 7, and the Special Topic from October 5. No Launchpad assignment this week
November 9	Emotion	Ch. 8 Launchpad quiz and assignment due at 11:59pm on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14 (because of Remembrance Day)
November 16	Language & Thought	Ch. 9 Launchpad quiz and assignment due at 11:59pm on Friday
November 23	Intelligence	Ch. 10 Launchpad quiz and assignment due at 11:59pm on Friday
November 30	Future Directions in Psychology and Final Special Topic (TBA)	Ch. 1 (pp. 27-35) Additional reading to be assigned on Connect No Launchpad assignment this week

Final exam date and time will be announced by UBC in October. The final exam will cover Chapters 8, 9, and 10, as well as the special topic from November 30. Do not make travel arrangements for December until you know the date of the final exam!