

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

PSYCHOLOGY 101 - SECTION 921
Introduction Biological and Cognitive Psychology

Summer 2017 Term 1 Syllabus (May 15-June 22)

Course Website:

<http://elearning.ubc.ca/connect/>

Important Semester Dates:

<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/academicyear.cfm>

3-Credits

COURSE DIRECTOR:

Dr. Kevin Hamilton

Office: Room 4037 Audain Art Centre (just north of Kenny Psychology Bldg.)

Office Hours: Wednesdays 4:30-5:30 PM or by appointment.

Please contact me by email if you are unable to make my office hours.

Mail Box: Kenny Room 2508 (checked weekly)

Phone: 604-599-2606 (KPU).

Main Psychology Office UBC: 604-822-2755

Email: kevin.hamilton@psych.ubc.ca

TEACHING ASSISTANT:

Name: Lisa Zhang

Office Hours: Thursdays from 2-3

Location: Kenny Bldg, Rm. 2011

Email: lisazhang@psych.ubc.ca

Where possible, most problems and issues should be directed initially to your Teaching Assistant

LECTURES:

Monday and Wednesday: 18:00-21:00 PM
CIRS 1250

READING LIST:

(1) Myers, D. (2015). *Psychology* (11th Edition).
New York: Worth.

(2) Straub (2015). *Study Guide to Accompany Psychology
11th Edition - David G. Myers*. New York: Worth.

Use of earlier editions of Myers *Psychology* is at the discretion of students. This course is taught from and exams are set from the 11th edition.

Use of *Launch Pad* is optional. This is student learning software provided by the publisher. Access codes for *Launch Pad* are provided with purchases of new texts from the UBC Bookstore.

GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Psychology is the scientific study of human behaviour. This course promotes critical thinking skills and introduces students to several key areas within mainstream Psychology. Areas discussed are listed under 'Topics and Required Readings' on page 6.

The format for the course is two - 3 hour lecture per week, which includes time for discussion and films. The content for this 10 week summer course is identical to the same course taken in September or January. Classes meet for 6 hours per week in the summer rather than 3. Students are advised to plan their time accordingly and allot at least double the course time (12 hours per week) to PSYC 101.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS:

Student Responsibilities:

You are responsible for all course readings listed under 'Topics and Required Readings' and for all material presented in lectures that may not be covered in your text. This includes supplemental topics and material presented in films and video clips shown regularly throughout the course.

Before coming to each class, it is highly recommended that you read the relevant sections in the text to be discussed that day. This will greatly facilitate your understanding of material covered during class. Please refer to the 'Study Strategies' posted on the course website.

Participation in class discussion is encouraged and **regular attendance is extremely important and expected.** Students unavoidably absent because of illness or disability should inform the instructor and report to the instructor on returning to class.

Course Grades:

Your grade for this course is based on 2 exams consisting primarily of multiple choice questions drawn from the text and from lecture material. Together, the two exams represent 98% of your overall grade.

The 2 exams are not cumulative. Each is on a select section of the course and is worth 49%. The remaining 2% of the course grade is based on a Research Experience Component (REC) organized and managed by the UBC Psychology Department (see details below).

Normalizing of Grades:

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 mean grade in a 300-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. The corresponding figures for 100- and 200-level Psychology courses are 69, 67, and 65, with a standard deviation of 14. **Scaling** or grade normalization is likely to be used in order to comply with these norms; grades may be scaled up or down as necessary by the professor or department. It is important to understand that if grade adjustments are made, each student remains in their same position relative to other students in the class.

Writing Exams:

When writing Exams, please bring a dark pencil (N0. 2 or HB). This is required for machine scoring your multiple choice answer sheets. A pen will be required for short answer questions. Also, you will need picture ID and your student number (found on your library card). Examination dates are indicated below. All exams are 2 hours in duration.

If you are interested in viewing your exams please make arrangements directly with your Teaching Assistant.

Missed Exams:

There are no make-up exams or assignments in this course to improve grades. However, **if you miss an exam for legitimate reasons**, an equivalent form of the missed exam can be written with your Teaching Assistant when you return to the University. **Having an exam or lab in another courses that has been scheduled at the same time as this class is not a legitimate reason for missing a Psychology Exam.** Exams held in regular class time take priority. Arrangements need to be made with the other instructor to set up an alternate time for writing your exam.

Note, if you are going to miss an exam, you must notify the Teaching Assistant or Course Director within 48 hours of the scheduled exam time. Please make arrangements to write missed exams directly with your Teaching Assistant. A verifiable Doctors note must be provided in order to write an exam outside the scheduled time.

Research Experience Component (REC) 2%:

Psychology is an active and exciting scientific discipline. 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 and can be obtained in 2 ways as indicated below. You can also augment your overall course grade by up to a 2% bonus through additional HSP participation.

1) 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 few weeks of classes to have the opportunity to earn your first ½ 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."

2) 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 2828541, password is library. 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.**

Academic Dishonesty:

Please note that academic dishonesty will not be tolerated at UBC. 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

In this course, academic dishonesty pertains primarily to the issue of cheating on exams. Examination protocol is posted on the board in the classroom and reviewed prior to each exam.

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>).

Special Needs:

The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with Access and Diversity. The University accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and examinations. Please let your instructor know in advance, preferably in the first week of class, if you will require any accommodation on these grounds. Students who plan to be absent for varsity athletics, family obligations, or other similar commitments, cannot assume they will be accommodated, and should discuss their commitments with the instructor before the drop date.

Students have the right to view their marked examinations with their instructor, providing they apply to do so within a month of receiving their final grades. This review is for pedagogic purposes. The examination remains the property of the university.

CLASS DATES, TOPICS AND REQUIRED READINGS

May 15	Prologue: The Story of Psychology Ch. 1 Thinking Critically with Psychological Science
May 17	Ch. 1 Con't Research Methods and Data Analysis
May 22	Victoria Day – No Class
May 24	Ch. 4 Nature, Nurture and Human Diversity
May 29	Ch. 2 The Biology of Mind
May 31	Ch. 3 Consciousness and the Two-Track Mind
June 5	<u>Midterm</u> (Prologue Ch. 1, 2, 3, 4 - 49%)
June 7	Ch. 6 <u>Sensation</u> & Perception
June 12	Ch. 6 Sensation & <u>Perception</u>
June 14	Ch. 7 Learning
June 19	Ch. 8 Memory
June 21	Ch. 9 Thinking and Language (Cognition)

- **Final Exam Ch. 6, 7, 8, 9** (49%) will be held in the formal examination period from **June 22-28** (exact date and location of exam TBA)