

2012-13

PSY 1101 - INTRODUCTION TO EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

Objectives

The goals of this course are to provide an overview of the vast field of psychology and to illustrate the scientific methods used to study behaviour.

Organization of the course

Each student is assigned to a specific section: A, B, C, D, E, or F. Due to the large number of students registered in this course (over 3500), we have to control the registration in the different sections. When you register, you are automatically assigned to one section. If, for a serious reason, you wish to change section, you should meet, before the deadline, with an academic advisor of your faculty.

A professor and a teaching assistant are assigned to each section. Each Intro professor follows a similar procedure. Thus, all Intro sections are substantially the same in content and approach.

Textbook

The textbook is entitled "Psychology" (9th Edition), by David G. Myers. It is available at the University Bookstore. We strongly suggest that you buy your own copy; it is a recent document on modern psychology and it covers the course program efficiently and pleasurably. Computerized material is available at the following:

<http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/myers9e>

Student evaluation

The passing mark for this course is 50%. The final exam, identical for all English sections, is worth 45% of your final grade. This exam, containing 100 multiple choice questions, will be based on the textbook only. The date of the final exam is set by the central administration of the University, and it is usually scheduled at the end of the exam period.

THEREFORE, WE STRONGLY SUGGEST THAT YOU CONSULT THE EXAM SCHEDULE BEFORE PLANNING ANY TRIPS OR HOLIDAYS.

Of the remaining 55%, four marks will be attributed to participation in research projects (see below) and the allocation of the remaining 51% will be determined by each professor.

Absence from exams

Midterms

For **midterms**, arrangements should be made with your **professor**. Absence due to illness must be justified by a medical certificate which should be presented to the professor in charge of your section together with a copy of the appropriate request form (Request for a deferred mark (DFR), which may be obtained at your academic secretariat) duly completed. These should be presented to your professor within **5 working days** following the exam.

GOING ON HOLIDAYS IS NOT A VALID REASON. MISREADING THE EXAM SCHEDULE IS NOT A VALID REASON.

Final exam

Arrangements regarding the **final exam** must be made with the **course coordinator or his assistants**. Absence from the final exam must be justified by appropriate document(s) together with a copy of the appropriate request form (Request for a deferred mark (DFR), which may be obtained at your academic secretariat) duly completed. These should be presented to the course coordinator or his assistants within **5 working days** following the exam.

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Student card

IN ORDER TO BE ADMITTED TO ANY EXAM, THE STUDENT CARD MUST BE PRESENTED.

Participation in research projects: Integrated system of participation in research

The integrated system of participation in research aims to give students the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the methods used in psychology that lead to the advancement of science. This initiative for research in psychology is carried out by the participation in various studies underway at the School of Psychology or by the viewing of films. This research initiation activity is worth four marks of the final grade. For each participation in a study (of a duration of approximately 45-60 minutes), one mark will be allocated. Students wishing to view films on the scientific methods used in psychology will be allocated one mark for every viewing session lasting 45-60 minutes followed by a questionnaire to be completed. The integrated system of research participation is completely computerized and all relevant information about its operation can be found in the

participant's manual located at the following website:

<http://www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/psy/eng/ispr.asp>

To access the system, students are required to use their "uOttawa.ca address": The student number is the password. The deadline for participation in the project is **December 5 at 5:00 PM**. No extension will be granted. Further information on this system is available on the homepage of the School of Psychology.

Course content (Textbook)

1. PROLOGUE: THE STORY OF PSYCHOLOGY/THINKING CRITICALLY WITH PSYCHOLOGY SCIENCE -- Prologue and Chapter 1, pp. 1-45
2. THE BIOLOGY OF MIND -- Chapter 2, pp. 47-83
3. SENSATION AND PERCEPTION -- Chapter 6, pp. 229-289
4. CONSCIOUSNESS AND THE TWO-TRACK MIND -- Chapter 3, pp.85-131
5. LEARNING -- Chapter 7, pp. 291-325
6. MEMORY -- Chapter 8, pp. 327-367
7. MOTIVATION AND WORK, EMOTION -- Chapter 11, pp. 443-495; Chapter 12, pp. 497-526

SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY

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Please contact the coordinator or his assistants with regards to final exam deferral. For any questions concerning midterms or course content, contact the teaching assistant assigned to your section.

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Assistant	Jenna Boulanger jboul064@uottawa.ca