



Psychology 1000, section 531 Introduction to Psychology

Dr. John Mitchell
2014-15

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introductory survey of the methods and findings of modern scientific psychology. The following topics will be covered: history and methodology, biological psychology, sensation and perception, learning and motivation, verbal and cognitive processes, developmental psychology, social psychology, individual differences (intelligence and personality), and clinical psychology.

Antirequisites: Psychology 1100E, 1200, the former Psychology 020, 022E, 023, 100

COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. John Mitchell

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Office Hours: Tuesday 9:00 – 10:00; Thursday 1:00 – 2:00, and by appointment.

Classes: Monday 2:30 – 4:30, BR 303
Wednesday 2:30 – 3:30, BR 303

Textbook (Required): Passer, Smith, Atkinson, Mitchell, and Muir. (2014). *Psychology: Frontiers and Applications, Fifth Canadian Edition*. Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson Limited.

Course OWL Sakai Site: The course website has a copy of the course outline, contact information, announcements, and abbreviated copies of the slideshows that I use in class. The posted slideshows are meant to be useful as outlines; they will *not* substitute for class notes. You will also be able to access your course marks from our website.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Reading
First Term		
Sept. 8	Psychology: The Science of Behaviour	1
10, 15, 17	Studying Behaviour Scientifically	2, Appendix
22, 24	The Neuronal Basis of Behaviour	3 (66 – 74)
29	The Nervous System	3 (74 – 102)
Oct. 1, 6	The Nervous System	3 (74 – 102)
8	Genes, Evolution, and Behaviour	4
13	<i>Thanksgiving</i>	
15	Genes, Evolution, and Behaviour	4
20	Fall Midterm	Chapters 1 – 4
22, 27	Sensation and Perception	5
29	States of Consciousness	6
Nov. 3, 5	States of Consciousness	6
10, 12, 17	Learning	7
19, 24, 26	Memory	8
Dec. 1, 3	Language and Thinking	9
Second Term		
Jan. 5, 7	Intelligence	10
12, 14, 19	Motivation and Emotion	11
21, 26, 28	Development Over the Lifespan	12
Feb. 2, 4	Personality	14
9	Spring Midterm	Chapters 10, 11, 12, 14
11	Behaviour is a Social Context	13
16, 18	<i>Reading Week, no classes</i>	
23, 25	Behaviour is a Social Context	13
Mar. 2	Behaviour is a Social Context	13
4, 9, 11	Stress, Coping, and Health	15
16, 18, 23, 25	Psychological Disorders	16
30	Treatment of Psychological Disorders	17
Apr. 1, 4	Treatment of Psychological Disorders	17
6	Last Class	-

Topics will be covered in the order given above. *Approximate* lecture dates are listed so that you can keep up with the readings. It is best to read the assigned chapter or chapter section before class, and then return to the text and reread the material more carefully after we have discussed it in class. The lectures will highlight certain aspects of each topic and may include material that is not in the text to update and expand upon the topic. There is not enough time to cover all of the material from the text in class; you are, however, responsible for all of the material from the text.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, among other learning objectives, students should be able to:

- compare and contrast different theoretical approaches to the study of psychology;
- understand psychology as a science, including research design and methodology used to approach the study of psychology;
- recognize the different structures of the central and peripheral nervous system and their functions;
- demonstrate an understanding of how language, motivation, and cognition influence behaviour; and the processes involved in human and animal learning;
- discover how we develop as individual human beings, with unique capacities and differences in a social context;
- critically analyze journal articles, and interpret the findings;
- Students will also have an opportunity, via voluntary participation, to have an active role in the research process and to experience directly how psychological research is performed.

A NOTE ON LAPTOPS, TABLETS, SMARTPHONES, AND RESPECT

You are welcome to use your laptops, tablets and other devices in class to assist your learning. However, if you are going to Facebook, Pinterest, watch YouTube, browse, etc. please sit at the back of the class or at the far edges of the classroom. If you choose to spend class time that way it is your decision, but you need to respect your classmates who sit next to and behind you. A screen showing vacation pictures, cat videos, or photographic evidence of bad decisions can be very distracting. Respect your fellow students and do not engage in these types of activities during class or, if you must, locate yourself in the room so that you are not disrupting those around you.

*We **all** need to do our part to create and maintain a supportive, helpful learning environment.*

It is also worth noting that research has shown the non-academic use of laptops and smartphones during class (e.g., Facebook, texting, browsing) has a negative correlation with exam grades (e.g., Ravizza, Hambrick, & Fenn, 2014). That is, the more students use electronic devices in class the lower their marks, regardless of intellectual ability. Even among students who believe they can multi-task effectively, marks are lower if they text, Facebook and browse during class.

EVALUATION & EXAM SCHEDULE

Fall Mid-term Test: Scheduled for Monday, October 20, in class. The Fall Mid-term will consist of approximately 75 multiple choice questions and is worth 20% of your course mark. Questions will be based on material from Chapters 1 – 4, the Appendix, and the corresponding classes.

Mid-year Examination: To be scheduled by the Registrar for the December Examination Period (December 6 – 17). The 2 hour Mid-year Exam will consist of approximately 100 multiple choice questions and is worth 25%. Questions will be based on material from Chapters 10, 11,

12, and 14 and the corresponding classes.

Spring Mid-term Test: Scheduled for Monday, February 9, in class. This test will consist of approximately 75 multiple choice questions from the text and lecture material. The Spring Mid-term test will cover material from Chapters 10, 11, 12, and 14, and the corresponding classes.

Final Examination: Scheduled during the Final Examination Period (April 11 - 30). The 2 hour Final Exam is worth 30% and will contain approximately 100 questions based Chapters 13, 15, 16, and 17, and corresponding classes.

Evaluation Summary:

Spring Mid-term:	20%
Mid-year Exam:	25%
Fall Mid-term:	20%
Final Exam:	30%
Research participation	<u>5%</u>
	100%

Please note that grades **cannot** be adjusted on the basis of need. Your mark in the course will be the mark that you earn. Tests and exams cannot be re-written to obtain a higher mark and there are no extra credit assignments.

For academic accommodation to be considered for any course component worth less than 10% of the final course grade, it is the responsibility of the student to approach the course instructor(s) in a timely fashion. Documentation may be required to be submitted to the academic advisor. If documentation is required, the request for accommodation will be decided by the academic advisor in consultation with the instructor. If documentation is not required, the instructor will make the final decision.

The policies governing requests for academic accommodation for course components worth 10% or more of the course grade are outlined in the Academic Policies section included at the end of the course outline. Note that **all** requests for academic accommodation for course components worth 10% or more of the final grade must be made through an Academic Advisor.

Research Participation

In Psychology 1000, 5% of the overall mark is allocated to participation in Psychology with a “learn about research” theme. Such learning will be either practical or theoretical, allowing participation in research studies or production of short, general papers from reading selected research articles. All students must complete the participation requirement to gain these marks for the course. You may use any combination of papers or being a research subject as described below to earn the 5%.

Theoretical: Analysis of Research

Students may complete up to five theoretical papers. Students will read journal articles and answer set questions on each article. Members of faculty teaching psychology will choose short, research focused articles to form a set of ten or so from which students may choose which they wish to read. Successful completion of one research paper report will be allocated a mark of 1%.

It is advised that students complete as many theoretical papers as they can early in the Academic Year as this is a time when research participation may not yet be available. Also it will be easier to get a theory paper done early on, rather than waiting until later in the term when you might be busy with research participation.

Practical: Research Participation

Students will be allowed 1% per 30 min of research participation up to a maximum of 5% (2.5 hours). Participation will be rounded up to the nearest half hour; i.e. a 20 min research study will count as one “unit” of participation and be worth 1%, a 40 min session gains 2%. This option gives an opportunity to be involved in the research process and to see how psychological research is performed.

Sign-up for research studies will be done using an on-line booking system. More information regarding this booking system will be provided during the first week of class.

If you sign up for a study but you cannot attend the scheduled appointment, un-book as soon as possible. If you cannot attend a scheduled appointment, go online and remove your name so that the scheduled time can be used to work with another participant and so that the researcher does not show up unnecessarily. Be considerate of the researcher and if you sign up, show up.

Most of the research studies that will be available are by Psychology Honours Specialization students who are conducting the research for their Honour’s Thesis. There may also be research that is being done by Psychology faculty. All of the research studies posted in the Psychology Research Participation binder have been reviewed and given ethics approval. Only studies included in the Psychology Research Participation website can be used toward the 5% research participation mark in your Psych 1000 course at Brescia. **It is your responsibility to keep track of your research credits. Check your status periodically.**

Deadlines:

All participation in Psych. 1000 (research participation and theoretical paper or papers) **must be completed by April 1st**. Any research participation or theoretical papers submitted after April 1st will not be considered. Please note that a hard copy of the theoretical research paper(s) must be received by your instructor – email submissions will not be accepted. Do not leave signing up for research participation too late. Most of the research studies that will be available are studies being conducted by Honours Specialization thesis students. It is unlikely that any honours students will still be recruiting participants after mid-March. Most research studies will be looking for participants in January, February and early March. There may be a few research studies underway in November.

Note: No student may be forced to participate in research studies - this is entirely a voluntary action. If you do not feel comfortable with research participation, the alternative is to complete five theoretical papers. All students have the opportunity to gain the full 5% participation mark. If you do not complete the requirements for participation before April 1st you will **not** be allowed to “make up” the lost marks. You are strongly advised to write papers and/or participate in research studies as participation marks cannot be gained in any other way.

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation on medical grounds will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are not grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required** if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> . If it is not possible to have an SMC completed by the attending physician/nurse practitioner, the student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** adequate to support a request for academic accommodation. All documentation is to be submitted to an Academic Advisor.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full statement of University policy regarding extensions of deadlines or makeup exams can be found at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg117.html>

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, www.registrar.uwo.ca, for official dates). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory.

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test

or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar.

6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

7. SUPPORT SERVICES

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar_services/index.html . The Western Registrar's website is at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/index.cfm> . The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/> . Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.