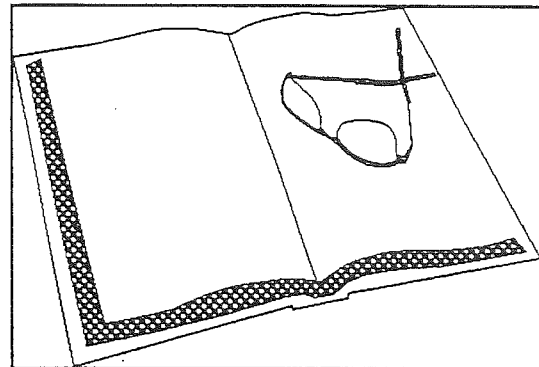


**Psychology 201 "Mind and Brain" Fall, 1991; CRN 5520**

Instructor: Richard Marrocco  
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Office: 212 Huestis Hall  
Telephone: 346-4547  
Text: Gleitman, Psychology. 3rd Ed.  
Teach. Assts.: John Rosicky, Crystal Dehle



**SYLLABUS**

**Lectures:**

- 9/24 Introduction to the course. Schools of psychological thought. Reading assignment: Chapt. 1.
- 9/26 Principles of psychological research. Appendix.
- 10/1 Biology of behavior: neurons. Pp. 17-29.
- 10/3 Drugs, neurotransmitters, and behavior. Pp. 29-36.
- 10/8 Biology of behavior: organization of the brain. Pp. 36-44.
- 10/10 The cerebral hemispheres and behavior: two brains? Pp. 44-60.
- 10/15 Midterm exam I.
- 10/17 Sensation and sensory coding. Pp. 151-164.
- 10/22 Touch and kinesthesia. Pp. 164-170.
- 10/24 Hearing: peripheral and central mechanisms. Pp. 170-175.
- 10/29 Seeing: light and the eye. Pp. 176-185.
- 10/31 Seeing: perception of color. Pp. 185-195.
- 11/5 Seeing: perception of depth. Pp. 199-207.
- 11/7 Seeing: perception of form. Pp. 207-224.
- 11/12 Seeing: perception of motion. Pp. 224-225.
- 11/14 Midterm exam II.
- 11/19 Sleeping and waking. Pp. 85-92.
- 11/21 Attention and consciousness, eye movements. Pp. 226-229.
- 11/26 Learning: classical conditioning. Pp. 102-111.
- 11/28 Learning: operant conditioning. Pp. 112-123; 124-146.
- 12/3 Cognition: memory. Chapt. 7.
- 12/5 Review
- 12/13 Final exam, 1 p.m.

**Lab/Discussion. Week of:**

- |       |  |       |                        |
|-------|--|-------|------------------------|
| 9/23  | no labs  | 11/11 | lab-memory             |
| 9/30  | lab-data analysis                                  | 11/18 | discussion of learning |
| 10/7  | discussion of nervous system; review for midterm I | 11/25 | library research       |
|       |  | 12/1  | review for final       |
| 10/14 | lab-sensory thresholds                             |       |                        |
| 10/21 | discussion of visual perception                    |       |                        |
| 10/28 | review for midterm II                              |       |                        |
| 11/4  | discussion of consciousness                        |       |                        |

### Grading:

Course grades are based on the sum of all exam scores and lab reports, minus discussion attendance absences. The weights of each are as follows:

- 2 midterms (multiple choice), each is 25 % of total grade.
- 1 final exam (multiple choice, cumulative), 35 %.
- 3 lab reports, 5 % each.
- Attendance in in lab/discussion (mandatory): Each absence results in a loss of 2 pts from total score.

Exam grades and the course grade are determined on a curve. The course grade may also depend on improvement: I will usually give you the benefit of the doubt if you have improved significantly and are close in total points to a higher grade. I reserve the right to make the determination of what is significant. You can get an approximate idea of your current grade by an average of the letter grades. However, your final course grade may not be a strict average of the letter grades.

### Rules and suggestions:

1. You must take all the exams and cannot pass the course without doing so. Makeup exams will be given for verified medical excuses only. A note from a doctor on professional stationery must be obtained and presented to the instructor. Any other excuses require prior permission. Plan your holiday travel early; the final exam time or date will not be rearranged to suit individuals nor will incompletes be given so that the final may be taken after the holiday break.
2. Lab reports are due at the beginning of your lab/discussion section one week after the lab exercise. Lab reports are graded on a scale of 0 to 5. If you turn in your lab report late, you will lose one point for each day of lateness.
3. Attendance at the lectures is important. Many lectures will cover material that is not available in the book. Lectures will not cover all the assigned reading, but will highlight and synthesize the more important aspects of the chapters. Exam questions will cover lecture material and book material that was not necessarily discussed in lectures but will not test concepts learned in the lab/discussion sections. You are responsible for all assigned reading.
4. Participation in psychology department experiments during the term is required of all students. Complete information will be supplied during the first week of classes. Be sure to sign the agreement that is included in the packet and return it to the instructor.

The goals of my section of the 201 course are two-fold. First, I want the students to begin to appreciate the scientific method and its power to answer questions of interest. To this end, I expose them to a formal lecture on the scientific method and I describe various experiments during the term.

Second, I present a broad survey of factual material on topics shown on the syllabus. To make this as interesting as possible, I lace the lectures with lots of demonstrations and exercises that stimulate student participation.

Generally, the course material follows the general outline presented in the text. I try to emphasize those topics I consider most important. However, I also add material that is not in the text, especially in the areas in which I am an expert.

The lab/discussions are run entirely by the TAs, with the exception that I have the TAs structure the discussion topics so that they can blend in a timely way with the lectures. I also insist that one discussion period be spent discussing how to do library research.

