

Psychology 201 — Mind and Brain
Fall, 2005

Lecture Location. 180 PLC; Monday Wednesday, 2:00-3:20

Instructor:

Dr. Michael Anderson, 345 Straub, 346-4796. mcanders@darkwing.uoregon.edu
Office Hours: Monday/ Wednesday, 3:30-4:30 or by appointment.

Discussion Instructors:

David Small, Rm 407 Straub Hall, 346-5778. dsmall@uoregon.edu,
Office Hours: Tuesday, 3:30-4:30, Thursday, 2:00-3:00.
Cara Lewis, Rm 392 Straub hall, 346-0821, clewis@uoregon.edu,
Office Hours: Mondays, 12:30-1:30; Tuesdays, 12:30-1:30
Chelan Weaver, 341 Straub Hall, 346-4959, lweaver@darkwing.uoregon.edu,
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:00-1:00

Additional Personnel:

Ted Gardner 328 Straub, 346-4924, tgardner@uoregon.edu
Management assistant, office hours by appointment only.
Melissa Foyne, 383 Straub Hall, 346-3936,
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Research Experience Response grader, office hours by appointment only.

Introductory note: This is a long syllabus. Read it all. You will find much information that will help you do well in this course.

Course Blackboard Site: This course has a Blackboard site. Blackboard is a web-based instructional aid. You are responsible for checking the Blackboard site regularly (at least once a week, but ideally more often) for information related to this course. Powerpoint slides from lectures, course handouts, and other useful resources will be posted there. Check out the Blackboard site for this class at: <https://blackboard.uoregon.edu>. Login using your UO computer account user name and password.

Text: Psychology. by Peter Gray, 4th Edition. Worth Publishers.

A copy of the textbook will be placed on reserve at the Knight Library.

Goal: The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the basic methods, theories, and findings of experimental psychology. Topics include how psychologists do research, how the nervous system is organized, how we sense and represent the world, how behavior is changed by the environment, how we remember, and the nature of thought.

Students with Special Needs - If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me soon. Please request that the Counselor for Students with Disabilities send a letter verifying

your disability. [Director for Students with Disabilities: Molly Sirois, 164 Oregon Hall, 346-1155, TTY 346-1083, sirois@uoregon.edu].

If English is not your native language, and you think you may need to use a dictionary for tests, please have your dictionary checked by me or one of the TAs prior to the test. Electronic dictionaries are not permitted.

Lectures and Readings - Although an attempt has been made to coordinate the lectures with the readings, they frequently will be independent of each other. Some material will be covered in both reading and lecture, but much of the material in the reading will not be discussed in class and new information not covered in the reading will be presented during class time. The check-ups and the exam will cover material from both lectures and readings. It is anticipated that you will need to spend a substantial amount of time outside of class (reading, studying, writing papers) to do well in this course. It may be helpful to check out the Psychology Department's Best Practices@ for students webpage at: <http://psychweb.uoregon.edu/guidelines/students.htm>.

Discussion (Lab) Sessions: The lab sections will be devoted to a variety of activities intended to complement the information covered in lecture and by the textbook. Sessions will consist of demonstrations of important psychological principles, discussion of relevant concepts and activities designed to assist students in preparing for exams and for completing course requirements. The lab section offers students the opportunity to ask questions about topics covered in lecture. Please plan to attend the lab regularly and bring any questions you have about the course material.

Exams: The exams will primarily be multiple choice in format, and will cover readings, lectures, and lab sections. Exams will not be cumulative. *No exam can be taken earlier than the time listed on this syllabus. NO MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN. However, if you must miss one of the mid-terms due to illness, this exam will be dropped (see the section on Grading below). The final Exam will be given on the date listed in the course schedule, which is part of this syllabus. No make-ups for the final will be given. THIS IS THE ONLY TIME THE FINAL WILL BE OFFERED. IF YOU DO NOT TAKE THE FINAL, YOU WILL FAIL THE COURSE, REGARDLESS OF YOUR PREVIOUS AVERAGE.* Please note the day of the final NOW, before you make your work or travel plans for December. If you have a scheduling problem that satisfies the criteria for a "multiple examination conflict" (more than 3 exams scheduled on one day), please contact the Office of Academic Advising in 364 Oregon Hall.

RESEARCH REQUIREMENT - There are two options for completing the research requirement in this course.

1. You may participate in the Psychology Department's Human Subject Pool and get experience as a subject in actual psychology experiments. Students and faculty run many experiments on varied topics (e.g., psychological coping, attention, social interaction). An important part of the introduction to psychology is some understanding of how research is conducted and a partial perspective on this can be gained by participating in research as a subject. To participate in experiments, you will sign up on an electronic bulletin board at: <http://uopsych.sona-systems.com>

When you go to this site, there will be an option for you to request a username and password. Once logged in, you will find a list of studies that are available to you, as well as when and where these studies take place. After participating in a study, you will be electronically credited for the time allotted for that study. **You need to complete 4.5 hours of studies** (not necessarily the same thing as 4.5 studies!) of experimental credit **by no later than 4 pm on Friday December 2, 2005**. In order to encourage you to understand the researchers topics and hypotheses, you will need to complete a Research Experience Report (RER) electronically on Blackboard after participating in 2 of the studies you do. Each RER counts 5% toward your grade. Another 5% of your grade will be awarded when you complete all 4.5 hours of experiments. **The first RER must be completed by midnight on Friday Oct. 21st, 2005** (or else you will get a 0). **The second RER must be completed by midnight on Friday Nov. 18, 2005** (or else you will get a 0). *Please note that even though you only need to complete RERs for 2 studies, you must complete 4.5 credit hours of studies in order to complete this requirement. More details about participating in research studies will be provided in class and you can read more at: <http://psychweb.uoregon.edu/undergrad/humansubjects.htm>*

2. You may read a packet of articles about psychology research and write a paper about the research. You must tell your discussion section leader that you are choosing to take this option **no later than Oct 28, 2005**, so that you can get copies of the articles and the guidelines for the essay. **The is due to your discussion section leader no later than 4 pm on Wednesday, November 23, 2005**. The points you receive on this essay (maximum = 35) will substitute for the points you would have received for participating as a research subject.

If you don't complete the requirement, you will get an incomplete in the course. When/if you complete the requirement, you will get the grade you would have earned at the end of the term.

Grading: Your final grade will be calculated from your examination scores and your discussion section grade. Your examinations will count for 75% of your grade, and your discussion section performance will count for 25% of your grade. There will be 2 midterm exams given during the term, and a final exam given during finals week. The score from your lowest midterm examination will be dropped and the remaining two averaged to construct the exam portion of your grade. No make-up examinations will be given. However, if you must miss one of the examinations for any reason, the missed examination will be the one that is dropped. As an incentive to take *all three examinations*, students who take all three exams whose final exam score (% questions answered correctly) exceeds both of their other exam scores will receive a bonus of 2% extra credit on their final class grade. Tests will be graded on a curve.

Breakdown of Grading.

The following breakdown summarizes the different requirements for the course for which you will receive points. A more detailed breakdown of lab points will be given in the syllabus for your discussion section, which you receive on the first day of class in your discussion.

Midterm Exam (the highest of the two scores)	= 150 points
Final Exam	= 150 points
Lab Grade	= 100 points total
Experiment participation	= 40 points
Lab Writeups	= 30 points
Classroom participation / attendance	= 30 points
Total Points	= 400 points

Course Outline

Date	Lecture Topic	Reading Assignment	Week #
<u>Introduction and Overview</u>			
Sept 26	Introduction	Ch. 1	1
Sept 28	History of ideas in Psychology	Ch. 1	1
Oct 3	Research Methods	Ch. 2; Appendix I (pages A1-A8)	2
Oct 5	Architecture of the Nervous System	Ch. 5 (143-164)	2
Oct 10	Building Blocks of the Nervous System	Ch. 2 (165-end)	3
Oct 12	Neurons and Neural Basis of Learning	Ch. 2 (165-end)	3
Oct 17	Neurons and Brain Demo	None	4
Oct 19	Exam 1	None	4
Oct 24	Learning I : Classical Conditioning	Ch. 4	5
Oct 26	Learning II: Operant Conditioning	Ch. 4	5
Oct 31	Sensory systems	Ch. 7	6
Nov 2	Vision as a model sensory system	Ch. 8 (pgs 275-296)	6
Nov 7	Deficits in Visual Perception.	Ch. 8 (pgs 275-296)	7
Nov 9	Exam 2	None	7
Nov 14	Perception II: Form Perception	Ch. 8 (pages 297-end)	8

Nov 16	Attention	Ch. 8 (pages 297-end)	8
Nov 21	Memory 1	Ch. 9	9
Nov 23	Memory I: Structure of Memory	Ch. 9	9
Nov 28	Memory II: Amnesia	Ch. 9	10
Nov 30	Knowledge and Thought	Ch. 10	10

December 5th (Monday at 3:15 pm): Final Examination