

Psychology 433: Learning & Memory

Spring 2007

Mon & Wed, 12:00 – 1:20 pm

(Gerlinger 242)



Instructor: Chelan Weaver
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Office Hours: Mon & Wed 1:30-2:30

Text: *Human Memory* (First edition, 2006) by Gabriel Radvansky.

A copy of this book is on two hour reserve at the Knight Library.

Online Course Materials: Lecture slides, supplementary readings, study guides, and other essential course materials will be available on the course Blackboard site. Additionally, the class schedule can be viewed as a Google calendar at the following website:

<http://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=4jc7keobf41mqvkjshpfr3i3ec%40group.calendar.google.com>

Course Description: My goal in this course is to help you build an appreciation for the central role that memory plays in our lives. You could not have a conversation, play basketball, hum a song, recognize your mother, or even have a sense of your own identity if it were not for the seamless, unobtrusive influence of memory. In this course we will survey the most influential theories and findings in this intriguing area of research.

Course Format: The material for this class will be presented through assigned readings (text and primary sources), class lectures, discussions, and in-class demonstrations. Lectures will be designed to supplement the text, not simply repeat it. As such, there will be material in lecture that is not covered in the book and material from the book not covered in lecture. You will be responsible for all the materials presented in lectures and in the readings. I am more than willing to speak with you during office hours about difficult material from the text that I have not covered in class. You are expected to have done the reading before class in order to get the most out of the lectures.

Posting of Grades: Scores will be posted on blackboard throughout the course. Please do not wait until after final grades are submitted to dispute a grade; keep track of your scores as they are posted, and alert me in writing (e-mail is fine) if you think an error has been made.

Grading: Your final grade will be calculated out of 400 possible points based on a midterm exam (80 points), five quizzes (20 points each), a paper (100 points), and a final exam (120 points).

Exams: Each exam will cover material from lectures and reading assignments and will be comprised of multiple choice, fill in the blank and short answer questions. The final exam will emphasize material covered since the midterm, but will build on knowledge from the first half of class and may include cumulative questions. *Make-up exams will only be considered with advanced notice and proper documentation (e.g. doctor's note).*

Paper: For your final paper, you will be able to choose one of two paper assignments. The first option will be to evaluate the depiction of memory in a film utilizing what you've learned in this class and additional readings. The second paper option will be to review a topic of interest to you that we did not have time to explore in class using primary sources. These assignments will be outlined further in class and with a handout during Week Two. All papers must be turned in as a hard copy printed in black ink; papers will not be accepted via email. Computer problems are not an acceptable excuse for late papers. *Acceptance of late papers will only be considered with advanced notice and proper documentation (e.g. doctor's note) and are subject to a 10% deduction for each day late, up to three days.*

Quizzes: There will be seven short quizzes which occur on every Monday except weeks: one (this week!), six (mid-term exam), and nine (Memorial Day). Anything covered in class or the reading (including that day's assigned reading) will be fair game on the quizzes. These are designed to encourage timely reading and ensure your understanding of the material. Although there are seven quizzes, only your best five will count toward your grade. *Because you have the opportunity to drop your two lowest quizzes, there will be no quiz make-ups.*

Extra Credit: You may receive extra credit for this class by participating in the Psychology Department's Human Subjects Pool. For every hour (up to three) that you participate, you will receive a four point adjustment to your final grade (i.e., you can raise your final grade by 12 points if you participate in three hours of experiments).

Students with Disabilities: If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me as soon as possible. Also, please request that the Counselor for Students with Disabilities (Molly Sirois, sirois@uoregon.edu, tel. 346-1073, TTY 346-1083) send a letter verifying your disability.

Students for whom English is a Second Language: If you are a non-native English speaker and think you may have trouble in this course due of language difficulties, please see me as soon as possible to make special arrangements.

Academic Honesty: All work submitted in this course must be your own. Violations will be taken seriously and are noted on student disciplinary records. If you are in doubt regarding any aspect of these issues as they pertain to this course, please consult me or see <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~conduct/> for more information.

Tentative Topics & Readings

Subject to change

<u>Week</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Activity</u>
1	Mon 4/2	Introduction		
	Wed 4/4	Overview & History	Chapter 1	
2	Mon 4/9	Neural substrate of memory	Chapter 2; Squire (1986)	Quiz 1
	Wed 4/11	Methods	Chapter 3	
3	Mon 4/16	Sensory memory & Short-term memory	Chapter 4	Quiz 2
	Wed 4/18	Working memory	Chapter 5	
4	Mon 4/23	Non-declarative memory	Chapter 6; Pelham et al. (2002), Defeldre (2005)	Quiz 3
	Wed 4/25	Episodic memory	Chapter 7; Propper et al. (2005)	
5	Mon 4/30	Memory for space and time	Chapter 8; Maguire et al. (2000)	Quiz 4
	Wed 5/2	Semantic memory	Chapter 9	
6	Mon 5/7			Mid-term Exam
	Wed 5/9	Models of memory	Chapter 10	
7	Mon 5/14	Autobiographical memory	Chapter 11	Quiz 5
	Wed 5/16	Metamemory	Chapter 14	
8	Mon 5/21	Memory and development	Chapter 15; Mather & Carstensen (2005)	Quiz 6
	Wed 5/23	Amnesia	Chapter 16; Vargha-Khadem et al. (1997)	
9	Mon 5/28	Memorial Day: No class	(Make sure you're caught up!)	
	Wed 5/30	Other memory disorders	Chapter 17; Wilson et al. (2002)	
10	Mon 6/4	Memory and reality	Chapter 12; Assefi & Gary (2003)	Quiz 7
	Wed 6/6	Memory and law	Chapter 13; Loftus (2004)	
10	Fri 6/8	Due by 4:00 pm to the Psychology front office with my name on it		Paper Due
Finals Week	Thurs 6/14	Final exam in Gerlinger 242 at 10:15 am		Final

By signing this form, I _____ agree that I have read and understand the syllabus for PSY 433 Spring 2007, and agree to the terms and policies of this course as described.

Signature

Date