

Psychology 433: Learning & Memory

Summer 2007

Mon-Thurs, 12:00 – 1:50 pm
(Pacific 11)



Instructor: Chelan Weaver
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Office Hours: Mon & Wed 2:00-3:00 pm

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, grades, and other essential course materials will be available exclusively on Blackboard; please make sure you have access to the course site. If you have trouble logging on, please contact me immediately and I'll be happy to help.

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 foursquare, 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.

Responsibilities: Although I know the immediate goal of your participation in this class is to receive a decent grade and fulfill a requirement, I hope that you realize that material you learn in this class can be of long-term benefit. A large amount of information will be covered in this class in a very short time, so it is critical that we both uphold our respective responsibilities. As your instructor, my job is to effectively communicate information to you, try my best to answer questions and address any concerns you have, assess your

mastery of the material covered as accurately as possible, and grade your work fairly. Your responsibilities are to use the syllabus as your first resource for questions about coursework, complete the assigned readings before class, ask questions in class and/or office hours to ensure your own understanding of the material, complete assignments on time and to the best of your ability, prepare yourself for quizzes and exams, and monitor your own progress in this course.

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 five quizzes (20 points each), a midterm exam (100 points), a final exam (100 points) and a paper (100 points) using the following scoring criteria:

Points	Percentage	Grade
388-400	97-100	A+
372-387	93-96	A
360-371	90-92	A-
348-359	87-89	B+
332-347	83-86	B
320-331	80-82	B-
308-319	77-79	C+
292-307	73-76	C
280-291	70-72	C-
268-279	67-69	D+
252-267	63-66	D
240-251	60-62	D-
< 240	< 60	F

Quizzes: There will be six short quizzes which occur every Tuesday and on Thursdays alternating with exams. 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 six quizzes, only your best five will count toward your grade. *Because you have the opportunity to drop your lowest quiz, there will be absolutely no make-ups.*

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 a very good reason, advanced notice and proper documentation; if you know you cannot attend both exams, you should seriously reconsider your enrollment in this course.*

Paper: For your 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. 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. *Late papers will not be accepted.*

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 to 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

Day	Topic	Reading	Extra Activity
Mon 7/23	History & Overview; Methodology	Chapters 1 & 3 (except Assessing Memory Structure and Process p. 58-62)	<i>Introduction</i>
Tues 7/24	Neural Substrate of Memory	Chapter 2	<i>Quiz 1</i> (7/23 reading & lecture; 7/24 reading)
Wed 7/25	Sensory Memory; Short-term & Working Memory	Chapters 4 & 5	
Thurs 7/26	Working Memory; Non-declarative Memory	Chapter 6	<i>Quiz 2</i> (7/25 reading & lecture; 7/26 reading)
Mon 7/30	Episodic Memory	Chapter 7	
Tues 7/31	Memory for Space & Time	Chapter 8	<i>Quiz 3</i> (7/30 reading & lecture; 7/31 reading)
Wed 8/1	Semantic Memory	Chapter 9	
Thurs 8/2	Mid-term Exam		
Mon 8/6	Autobiographical Memory	Chapter 11	
Tues 8/7	Memory & Reality	Chapter 12	<i>Quiz 4</i> (8/6 reading & lecture; 8/7 reading)
Wed 8/8	Memory & Law	Chapter 13	
Thurs 8/9	Metamemory	Chapter 14	<i>Quiz 5</i> (8/8 reading & lecture; 8/9 reading) *Paper Due at 4 pm Fri 8/10*
Mon 8/13	Memory & Development	Chapter 15	
Tues 8/14	Amnesia	Chapters 16 & 17	<i>Quiz 6</i> (8/13 reading & lecture; 8/14 reading)
Wed 8/15	Other Memory Disorders; Memory & Sleep	Chapter 17; Handout	
Fri 8/17	Final Exam 1-3 pm		