

MIND and BRAIN (PSY 201)
University of Oregon
Fall 2010

Instructor: **Dr. Jagdeep Kaur-Bala**

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Office Hours: **10:30 – Noon Monday/Wednesday** (& by appointment)

Classroom: **208 Deady Hall**

Time: **6:00-7:50 pm MW**

Teaching support: Ida Moadab, Human Subjects Coordinator, hscoord@uoregon.edu

This syllabus is rather long, read it all!! Familiarizing yourself with the course requirements will be one key to success in this class!

Course website: <http://blackboard.uoregon.edu> **PSY 201 (Fall 2010; 17435), Mind and Brain** The course will be managed through **Blackboard**. All registered students have access with their UO computer account username and password. Please be sure to check this site often for announcements and course materials. This site will provide supplemental information for the course (syllabus, course schedule, additional readings, homework assignments, grades, copies of lecture slides/overheads, etc.). If you have problems accessing your blackboard account, please contact the Information Technology Center in Knight Library (<http://libweb.uoregon.edu/kitc/>, phone: 346 2681).

General Course Description: This course covers different experimental approaches to the study of the human mind and brain. Topics covered include the organization of the nervous system, sensation, perception, attention, learning, memory, and cognition.

Required Text and Materials: *Psychological Science* by Michael S. Gazzaniga, Todd F. Heatherton and Diane Halpern (**GHH**), 3rd edition + ZAPS Online Labs Access is required. In addition to the textbook, you will require an iClicker and access to the online ZAPS labs, from WW Norton. These can be acquired as a package or separately, if you already have the text. Please notify me immediately if you have difficulty obtaining any of these materials from the bookstore. A copy of the textbook will be available on reserve at the Knight library.

Course Format: The material in this course will be presented through a combination of assigned readings from the text, class lectures, in-class discussions, and demonstrations. Experimental research methods will be included for all discussion topics through in-class experiences with ZAPS labs as well as through self study lab assignments. Lecture material and readings will have significant overlap, but will not be replications of each other; some lecture material will not be covered in the readings and vice versa. You are expected to do the assigned reading **before** the class period in which it is due. This will make class discussions more fruitful, helping you to ultimately comprehend and retain the material. Non-lecture parts of the course (labs, discussions, texts, presentations, movies) are designed to reinforce ideas and augment concepts presented in lectures. Questions are encouraged in all parts of the course. Students are welcome to stop by my office for discussions/questions/clarifications during my office hours or additional appointments. It is my hope that by the end of this course you will have a new appreciation for how you interact with the world (and how it influences your behavior).

Grading: Your final grade will be based on 3 of the 4 Exams (60% total), the Lab grade (25%), the Research participation requirement (10%) and class participation (5%). The final grade is cumulative of performance on the best scoring 3 exams (your lowest score will be dropped;

each of the remaining 3 exams will count for 20% of your grade), the lab grade (Best 10 labs count for 25% of your grade), the research requirement (5% for each research experience report) and class attendance(5%). You must complete all exams, the Labs, as well as your experimental subject obligation (see "Psychology Department Research Requirement" addendum at the end of this syllabus) in order to receive credit for the course. The course will be graded on a curve, if needed. Based on past experience, typical grade cutoffs are 90-100 for an 'A', 80-89.9 for a 'B', and so on.

It is anticipated that you will need to spend a substantial amount of time outside of class 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>

Exams (60% of final grade): There will be 4 multiple choice type examinations. Each exam will cover material from the lectures and reading assignments for the period immediately preceding the exam. No overall comprehensive final exam is required. It is to your benefit to take all the exams. However, if you miss an exam for a legitimate reason (e.g., you are sick) and take the other 3 exams, the score for the missed exam (0%) will be dropped from the final. *Ordinarily, NO makeup exams will be given.* A make-up exam will be given only in the rare event that you miss 2 exams and have a legitimate excused absence for both. If you miss an exam, you will need to present a documented excuse (e.g., doctor's note, court order, executive order!) immediately after each missed exam to be allowed to take the make-up exam.

As an additional incentive to take all 4 exams, 2 points will be added to your final score if all 4 exams have been completed each with a score of 50% or higher.

Labs (25% of final grade): Part of the requirement for the course is participation in labs, both in class and online. On-line or in-class experiments and demonstrations will form the focus of labs that will elaborate on some of the class material. Labs maybe ZAPS or non-ZAPS. The non-ZAPs may require offline work. Each lab is accompanied by a quiz/feedback homework assignment that should be completed for full credit. All lab instructions, assignments and due dates will be posted on Blackboard. *All lab assignments for the week are due by midnight on Friday of that week.* Total scores for your best 10 labs will count for 25% of your final grade. Students who complete all 14 labs, with a score of 50%, or higher, will be awarded 2 points of extra-credit.

Psychology Department Research Requirement (10% of final grade): The psychology department requires that all students enrolled in introductory courses (201 and 202) get 4.5 hours of research experience. There are **two** options for completing the **research requirement** in this course: 1) You may participate in Psychology and Linguistics departments' human subject pool for 4.5 hours worth of experiments, over the course of the term, or 2) you may read research articles to gain knowledge of research methods. *To participate in experiments, you can sign up on an electronic bulletin board at: <http://uopsych.sona-systems.com>* Option 2 requires you to read 4 articles (each will take about an hour). More information about the Human subject pool will be provided in class as an addendum to this syllabus and posted on Blackboard. More information and the reading list of research articles will be provided by your TA individually to you, if you choose this option.

Research Experiment Reports (RERs) In order to ensure that you understand the researchers' topics and hypotheses, you will need to complete a **Research Experience Report (RER)** electronically on Blackboard after participating in either option, above. **Option 1 RER requirements:** you will need to complete RERs for **two** of the studies you complete; these will be graded. 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. **Option 2 RER requirement:** you will be required to

complete a report for **all** four of the studies that you read. Only one of the first two and one of the last 2 reports will be chosen (at random) for grading. These scores will count as your RER1 and RER2 scores.

In either case, you are required to complete half of your research requirement (1 RER for HS pool participation or 2 research article reports) by the midnight on **Friday of week 6** and the second half of your research requirement by midnight on **Friday of week 9**.

Class participation (5% of final grade): You can earn up to 5 points of credit for participation in class discussions. Attendance will be collected using iClickers. Please be aware that opportunities for class participation are randomized across classes and during each class. It is to your benefit to come to all classes, reach class on time and stay till class is dismissed! iClickers are also used for participation in class demos and labs. In addition, I will often ask you to respond to multiple-choice questions by using your iClickers. While your responses will not count towards your grade, some of these questions will appear in the exams (sometimes in a slightly changed manner). Thus, it is a good idea to pay close attention to these practice quiz questions! As such, you are required to bring your clicker along to each class to get full participation credit. Documented excused absences will be awarded participation credit, provided you make an effort to make up class materials and discussions with me or your TA. *Illnesses: The University is working hard to reduce the likelihood of a wide-spread on-campus flu epidemic. If you are experiencing flu-like symptoms, you are encouraged not to attend class until you believe that you are no longer contagious. I will make every effort to help you make up lost class time electronically via online posting of lectures. For more detailed suggestions and advice about preventing the spread of the flu virus, in particular, the N1H1 flu virus, please see: <http://em.uoregon.edu/h1n1/>*

What about extra-credit? Students who take all 4 exams will be awarded 2 points of extra-credit if each of the 4 exams is completed with a score of 50% or higher. Students who complete all 14 labs will be awarded 2 points of extra-credit. All extra-credit accrued will be added to your final score at the end of the term.

Due Dates: All due dates are contained in the course outline. Due dates for assignments and exams are not changed, except in very rare cases where they may be extended (but never forwarded). An assignment turned in after its deadline will be marked down 5% for each day late.

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: **Cheating will NOT be tolerated in any form in this class.** All work submitted in this course must be your own. For the consequences of academic dishonesty, refer to the Schedule of Classes published quarterly. 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 with the instructor before you complete any relevant requirements of the course. (For more information, see the UO web site regarding academic honesty at: <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~conduct/>).

Course Outline: This is only a working draft of the course outline; it will be revised as the term progresses. **Dates on which particular topics are to be presented in lecture are subject to change, as are reading assignment due dates; however, I will not change the dates of exams or other deadlines unless absolutely necessary.** The official updated version of the outline will reside on the Blackboard web site. **Version Updated: 9/15/2010 9:46 AM**

Date	Topic	Readings Book chapters	Assignments All labs and RERs are due @ midnight on Friday of the week
27-Sep	Syllabus and Introduction	Ch. 1 (15 -30)	
29-Sep	Research Methods	Ch. 2 (33-73)	Practice Lab (not graded) Research methods
4-Oct	Brain structure and function I	Ch. 3 (92-130)	Lab #1 Synaptic transmission video
6-Oct	Brain structure and function II	Lecture slides & class notes	Lab #2 ZAPS: Split brains
11-Oct	Exam #1		
13-Oct	Mind and Consciousness	Ch. 4 (all)	Lab #3 Sleep-memory connection
18-Oct	Sensation – Psychophysics, Sensory processes	Ch. 5 (179 -212)	Lab #4 ZAPS: Signal detection
20-Oct	Perception – Visual Perception	Ch. 5 (213 -231)	Lab #5 ZAPS: Visual search
25-Oct	Perception – Object recognition, Depth, Motion & Size Perception	Lecture slides & class notes	Lab #6 ZAPS: Ames/Ponzo illusions
27-Oct	Exam #2		
1-Nov	Learning, Reward & Motivation	Ch. 6 (235-268; Class notes)	Lab #7 ZAPS: Classical conditioning
3-Nov	Plasticity	Ch. 6 (268-275; Class notes)	Lab #8 ZAPS: Implicit learning RER 1 (Reports 1 & 2 for option2)
8-Nov	Attention & Memory	Ch. 7 (279-305)	Lab #9 ZAPS: Spatial cueing
10-Nov	Memory	Ch. 7 (305-327)	Lab #10 ZAPS: Memory span
15-Nov	Exam #3		
17-Nov	Cognition Thinking	Ch. 8 (331 - 356)	Lab #11 ZAPS: Mental rotation 2D & 3D
22-Nov	Intelligence	Ch. 8 (356-375)	Lab #12 ZAPS: Decision making
24-Nov	Brain Behavior issues in Psychology	Class notes	Lab #13 ZAPS: Missionaries and Cannibals RER 2 (Reports 3 & 4 for option2)
29-Nov	Disorders of the Mind & the Brain	Class notes (Ch.14 for ref.)	Lab #14 Disorders of the Mind and Brain
1-Dec	Exam #4		
6-Dec	NO final exam	(Makeup exam, if necessary: 7pm-9pm)	

Research Participation Guidelines - *Mind and Brain (PSY 201-Fall10)*

Instructor: Jagdeep Kaur-Bala – 217 Huestis Hall, (x6-4903) jagdeep@uoregon.edu
(10% of total grade)

Teaching Support: Ida Moadab, Human Subjects Coordinator, hscoord@uoregon.edu

There are **two** options for completing the **research requirement** in this course:

1. You may participate in the Psychology Department's Human Subjects Pool and get experience as a subject in actual psychology experiments. Students and faculty run many experiments on varied topics (e.g., attention, memory, social interaction). An important part of the introduction to psychology is the 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 need to 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 (not necessarily the same thing as 4.5 studies!)** of experimental credit.

More details about participating in research studies will be provided in class, posted on Blackboard and you can read more at: <http://www.uoregon.edu/~hscoord/hs-students.html> If you encounter any technical problems while trying to complete this assignment on the web (either signing up for experiments or completing the RERs), please contact the human subjects coordinator via e-mail (hscoord@uoregon.edu). You can also find more information in the *HSintro_presentation* on blackboard in the course documents section.

IMPORTANT OPTION 1 ISSUE: *Note that if you fail to show up to TWO studies without good reason, you will not be allowed to complete Option 1 to meet your Research Participation requirement, and will, instead, be forced to complete Option 2 to meet your Research Participation requirement and to receive a grade for the course.*

2. Students who do not wish to participate in experiments have the option of reading research papers instead. You will read 4 research articles provided by your TA. For each paper you read, you will be required to complete a report on Blackboard. If you wish to pursue this option, you must **contact your teaching assistant by the second week of class for instructions and guidelines**. Each article you read will count as **1 credit** and take about one hour to read thoroughly. You will gain knowledge of the methodology used in psychology studies by reading about, rather than experiencing, the methods. This assignment should take you just as long as the research participation option--6.5 hours (corresponding to 4.5 hours of experiments, and one hour for each required RER), and will be graded to the same standards.

In order to encourage you to understand the researchers' methods 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 for 5% toward your grade (10% total). Please note that **even though you only need to complete RERs for 2 studies, you must complete 4.5 credit hours** of participation in studies in order to complete this requirement. **For option 2, you will be required to complete an RER for all of the studies that you read.** Your grade on one of the first 2 reports (selected at random) will count towards the grade for RER1 and your score on one of the second 2 reports will count towards RER2 for a total of 10% of final grade. **The first RER must be completed by midnight on Friday of week 6. The second RER must be completed by midnight on Friday of week 9.**

If you find yourself needing to do a combination of the 2 options, you must meet with me to obtain permission and articles for option 2. Failure to fulfill the research requirement will result in an **"Incomplete"** grade for this class. In order to have this Incomplete changed to the grade you earned in class, the missing experiments have to be completed **within one quarter** of the end of this class. After that time, incomplete grades will be changed to no pass. For experiments you did not complete during the class term, there will be no opportunity for participating in graded RERs.

To avoid an incomplete, please begin early in the term with the experiments. Please be aware that scheduling your participation also depends on the number of studies available at different times during the term. In the past, students who began late have often encountered scheduling problems and have been unable to do all the experiments.