

**Mind and Brain
Psychology 201, Fall 2010
(crn 15259)**

Please check frequently for updates on the web page. Last update: 10/4/10 11:23 AM

Time/Location: Tuesday - Thursday, 4:00PM – 5:50PM; 150 COL, Prerequisites: None

Instructor:

Ulrich Mayr, office 341 Straub Hall, email: mayr@uoregon.edu, phone: 346 4959, office hours: Tuesday 2-3 pm or by appointment

Graduate Teaching Fellows

Alex Bies: 206B Heustis Hall, email: bies@uoregon.edu, office hours: Monday, 2-4 pm. **For students with A-K last names.**

Jenny Mendoza: 353 Straub Hall, email: jmendoz4@uoregon.edu, office hours Wednesday, 10-11am and Friday, 11-noon. **For students with L-Z last names.**

Course Web Site:

Please enter course web page through, which is automatically created through your enrollment in this course, in case of problems please contact the Information Technology Center in Knight Library (<http://libweb.uoregon.edu/kitc/>, phone: 346 2681).

Material:

Gazzangia, Halpern, & Heatherton. Psychological Science 3e Paperback + ZAPS Online Labs Access (New: \$98.50, Used with new ZAPS code: \$79.50). Although a strong attempt is made to coordinate lectures with readings, they will be frequently independent of each other. Some material will be covered by both, but some material will be covered only in the lecture and some will appear only in the book. The exams will cover material from both lectures and readings. Please be prepared to spend a substantial amount of time outside of class on studying and reading in order to do well in this course. I will provide on the course web site specific page numbers that need to be covered to do well in the exams.

IClickers: IClickers are little hand-held transmission devices that allow you to provide an immediate response to questions I pose in class. They are sold at the UO Bookstore for \$33.75 new, or for \$25.50 used (these prices are from last year and may be a bit higher). The bookstore buys your clicker back for half the sales price. It is very important that you have your Clicker with you on the first day of class!

Course Overview

In this course, we look at the neural and psychological basis of motivation, perception, attention, learning, and memory. Together with Mind and Society (PSY202), which emphasizes development, personality, abnormal and social psychology, Mind and Brain is part of a two-term sequence in introductory psychology.

Course requirements

Grades for this course will be based on four different requirements in each of which you can achieve 100 points. Note, however, that for the course grade, the 100 points are weighed differently across the four requirements (see Grading).

Biweekly Quizzes (60% of total grade): Usually Tuesdays (starting Oct. xxxx), a 20-30-minute, 20 to 35-question multiple-choice quiz will be presented. Each quiz will actually consist of two components, one for each of the preceding two weeks of lessons. In total, there will be five such double (or ten individual) quizzes. The last double quiz will be on the day of the final (12/7/2010, Tuesday, 1pm). On that date, there will also be one additional 25-30 question quiz that covers the entire course. The lowest scoring two individual quizzes will be automatically dropped—only the final quiz covering the entire course cannot be dropped. Each of the remaining eight quizzes counts 10% of the total quiz grade—the final cumulative quiz counts 20%.

In each class session, I will ask you to respond to a number of multiple-choice questions by using your IClickers. Your responses will not count towards your grade. However, some of these questions will appear in the actual biweekly quiz (sometimes in a slightly changed manner). Thus, it is a good idea to pay close attention to these in-class quiz questions!

All make-up quizzes will be presented on the day reserved for the final. You can only make up quizzes if you were not present on the day of the actual quiz. **Make-ups are possible only with an official statement from a doctor or the student health center.** If you miss a class because you are ill, you do not have to let me know at the time of the missed class. However, hold on to your doctor statement so you can present it at the day of the makeup quizzes!

Lecture Attendance (10% of total grade): Lecture attendance will be taken through your IClicker responses (So don't forget your Clickers!). To have a lecture session counted as "attended" you need to provide an answer to all questions during that session (no matter whether correct or incorrect). To get the full attendance credit of 100 points you will need do attend at least 12 of the 19 lectures in this term (i.e., 66%). Given the relatively large number of "free misses" I will not accept excuses for additional misses. For each lecture less than 12, 20 points will be deducted from your attendance grade.

Participation in Online Labs (20% of total grade): Part of your experience with this class will be an online component in which you perform activities associated with the material covered during lectures. The activities will be delivered through a web-based program called ZAPS, which is part of the book package when bought through the UO Bookstore. Many of these activities consist of participation in a little experiment and a few online questions that need to be answered on Blackboard. Your Online Lab Grade will be based in equal parts on participation in the experiments and correctly answering the associated questions. We will devote about 30 minutes at the end of lectures to introducing these activities and discussing the results of the experiments in which you participate. These sections of the lecture will be presented by the Graduate Student Teaching Fellows.

Research Participation (10% of total grade): Each student will be expected to complete **4.5 hours** of research participation. There are two options for completing the research requirement in this course.

Option 1. You may participate in the Psychology and Linguistics Departments' Human Subject Pool and get experience as a subject in real psychology experiments. Psychology and Linguistics researchers 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 can sign up on an electronic bulletin board at:

<http://uopsych.sona-systems.com> but **start soon!** Most “incompletes” due to research participation are because students procrastinate this assignment!

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 Friday Dec. 5, 2010.*

For further information, see *intro_presentation.ppt* on the blackboard site, or email the Human Subjects Coordinator, hscoord@uoregon.edu with questions.

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.

Option 2. You may also fulfill all or part of the research participation requirement by reading assigned research articles. 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. There will also be a $\frac{1}{2}$ **credit** option if you choose to complete the research participation requirement without participating in any studies. There will be a tutorial and quiz available online that will take about 30 minutes to read and complete. **If you choose this option, please visit your TA at his/her office hour.**

Research Experiment Reports (RERs). In order to ensure that you understand the researchers' topics and hypotheses, you will need to complete a RER electronically on Blackboard after participating in either option, above.

For Option 1, you will need to complete RERs for **two** of the studies you complete; these will be graded.

For option 2, you will be required to complete an RER for **all** of the studies that you read, but only two (selected at random) will be graded.

Check the syllabus for deadlines at which RERs need to be completed.

Note, that if you do not complete the research requirements, you will get an incomplete in the course. You can remove that incomplete by making up the missing research credits (either through Option 1 or 2) and thereby get the grade you would have earned at the end of the term. Note that this means that while late completions will remove the incomplete, they do not add points to your grade (i.e., you will get 0 points for the research component of the grade). Also, it is UO policy is that all incomplete grades become F grades after one full year.

Grading:

The final grade is computed by integrating the grade points from the four requirements according to the following formula: $\text{Total} = (6 \times \text{Quiz} + 1 \times \text{Attendance} \times 2 \times \text{Lab} + 1 \times \text{Experiments})/10$. This ensures the percentage weighting of requirements given above. This final grade score will be curved relative to the distribution of grade scores in the entire class. Curving will proceed in roughly the following manner: The top 15% of scores will receive an A (90-100 points), the next 25% will receive a B (80-89 points), the next 30% will receive a C (70-79 points), the next 10% will receive a D (60-69 points), the remaining scores will receive an F (0-59 points).

Classroom Etiquette:

This is a very large class. Students in large classes often believe they are invisible, that they will not be noticed anyway, and that any one's individual behavior does not count. Not true! You can make a difference by listening attentively, by asking questions, and by contributing to discussions. I will make every effort to facilitate classroom interactions and I promise that each and every question will be addressed. Individual students who participate actively will be noticed even in a class of 400+! For example, I routinely target students for research assistant positions simply on the basis of their in-class contributions and their performance on quizzes. Just as actively engaged students have a positive influence on the classroom environment, activities like continued talking to your neighbor, texting, coming late, leaving early, personal grooming, reading your newspaper, sleeping, or cell phone use can be extremely disruptive. PLEASE make sure that you and your fellow students get your money's worth out of this course and simply abstain from such activities.

Outside-Classroom Contact:

One way to work against the big-class anonymity is by establishing direct contact outside class. If you have any issue, question, or comment, please do not hesitate to come to my office hours (or make an appointment)—even if you just want to say hello and introduce yourself. In particular when it comes to issues related to your academic achievement, the earlier you come the better. Of course, you can also take advantage of the TA's office hours and there will be a FAQ section on the Blackboard course web page where you can post questions and will usually get an answer within 24 hours.

Students with Disabilities:

If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with the instructor soon. Also please request that the Counselor for Students with Disabilities send a letter verifying your disability. [Counselor for Students with Disabilities: Hillary Gerdes, 346-3211, TTY 346-1083, hgerdes@oregon.uoregon.edu.]

Class Schedule as of 10/4/10 11:23 AM. This schedule will be updated very often. Please make sure you always consult the most recent version! ZAPs assignments and precise page numbers of readings will be filled in as we go along. Readings are relevant for the quizzes printed in the same color.

<u>date</u>	<u>topic</u>	<u>reading</u>	<u>labs</u>
Sep-28 T	Introduction, history Bring your Clickers!	chap 1	
Sept-30 R	Scientific method	chap 2 pp 33-50, 57-73	Basic Statistics
Oct-5 T	Brain basics	chap 3 pp 92-96, 104-116, 124-129	ZAPS: Synaptic Transmission
Oct-7 R	Brain basics	chap 3 pp 92-96, 104-116, 124-129	ZAPS: Split Brain
Oct-12 T	Quiz Week 1 and 2 Evolution	chap 3	ZAPS: Genetics
Oct-14 R	Learning	chap 6	ZAPS: Classical Conditioning
Oct-19 T	Learning	chap 6	
Oct-21 R	Sensation	chap 5	
Oct-26 T	Quiz Week 3 and 4, Perception	chap 5	
Oct-28 R	Perception	chap 5	
Nov-2 T	Perception	chap 5	
Nov-4 R	Change blindness	chap 7	
Nov-9 T	Quiz Week 5 and 6, Attention 1 st RER quiz for research or 1 st and 2 nd RER for the paper option due at midnight	chap 7	
Nov-11 R	Memory	chap 7	
Nov-16 T	Memory	chap 7	
Nov 18 R	Memory	chap 7	
Nov-23 T	Quiz Week 7 and 8, Memory	chap 7	
Nov-25 R	Thanksgiving		
Nov-30 T	Intelligence and Expertise	chap 8	
Dec-2 R	Intelligence and Expertise	chap 8	

Dec-3 F	<i>2nd RER quiz for research or 3rd and 4th RER for the paper option due at midnight</i>		
Dec-7, 1pm	Quiz Week 9, 10 and Cumulative Quiz		