

Mind and Brain Psychology 201, Summer 2011

Time/Location: MTWRF, 10:00-11:50, Straub 142

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Office: 392 Straub Hall
Office Hours: Mon 12:00-1:00, Wed: 12:00-1:00
Blackboard: PSY 201 Mind and Brain
Summer 2011; CRN: 42490

Course Web Site:

The course web page is available on Blackboard which can be accessed from any web browser with an Internet connection at <http://blackboard.uoregon.edu/>, or from a link on the University of Oregon main website. Your Blackboard account is automatically created through your enrollment in this course. If you have problems accessing your account please contact the [Information Technology Center in Knight Library](#) (phone: 346-2681).

Course Overview

In this course, we survey the history of modern psychology as well as the neural and psychological basis of motivation, perception, attention, learning, and memory. Mind and Brain is designed to accompany Mind and Society (PSY202), which emphasizes development, personality, abnormal and social psychology, to create a two-term introduction to psychology.

Required Text and Resources:

Gazzaniga, Heatherton, & Halpern. *Psychological Science* 3rd Ed., ZAPS Online Labs Access, and iClicker.

Previous editions of Psychological Science are sometimes available at lower costs. Much of the information in the 2nd edition is the same as in the 3rd edition, but some of the content and organization is different. Keep in mind that the 3rd edition of Psychological Science will be used for Psy 202 in the 2nd summer session and during the 2011-12 academic year. A copy of the text book is on reserve at the Knight Library. The exams will cover material from both the text and the lectures.

During this course, you will perform a series on online labs by logging into the ZAPS website. These labs are an integral part of the course and ZAPS access is required. Purchase of the textbook package from the UO bookstore includes a ZAPS online labs access card with registration number. If you purchase a book from another location it is possible to purchase access to the ZAPS labs separately through the UO bookstore.

iClickers are hand held transmission devices that allow you to provide an immediate response to questions that will be asked during the lectures. New and used iClickers are sold at the UO bookstore and other online sources (e.g. Amazon.com, Half.com) and can be sold back to the bookstore after the course (at a discount). iClickers are required for this course and will be used to track class attendance. It is very important that **you bring your iClicker with you to class every day...especially the first day!**

Course Philosophy and Expectations

The course includes daily class meetings and attendance will account for 10% of your grade. Doing well in this class requires active involvement with the course content. It is expected that you will come to class having done the readings for the day prior to coming to class. You will not do well on exams or assignments if you do not keep up with the reading. In addition, topics will be covered during class that are not in the textbook. Lecture notes will be posted in advance when possible, but changes to the slides may be made prior to class. Not all lecture content will be represented on the slides, so it is important to listen and take notes during class. Content from both the textbook readings and the lectures will be tested in the exams.

Keep in mind that the weekly workload for summer courses is much heavier than for the courses held during the regular academic year. For a 4-credit class, it is normally expected that you will spend 8-12 hours per week on reading, doing assignments, and preparing for exams. For summer courses, however, the same amount of work must be done in 4 weeks (for this course) instead of 10 weeks. That means spending 20-30 hours per week on the same activities...in addition to the 10 hours per week of class time! It is a good strategy to plan out your tasks and time in advance.

It is also important that you **check your UO email and Blackboard daily**, because any and all important information will be disseminated this way. Questions asked by individual students may be posted to the discussion section on Blackboard (anonymously) in cases where the answers would be helpful to everyone. It is a good idea to check those discussion posts periodically throughout the course.

Classroom Etiquette

Your actions in the classroom affect both the students near you and the overall learning environment. Being actively involved by listening attentively, asking questions, and contributing to discussions creates a positive influence, but distracting activities like cell phones, browsing websites, talking, sleeping, and arriving late have a negative effect on the class. Engaging in disruptive activities is disrespectful to the class. Don't do it. When arriving to class, please silence your cell phones and put them away for the duration of the lecture. We will have a short break after the first hour so you will be able to check your messages and communicate with others at that time. While I support the use of laptops and tablets for taking notes, having other applications or web browsers open during the class is a distraction to you and to the students around (and especially behind) you. For that reason, if you would like to use a laptop to take notes, I will ask you to sit in the back row of the classroom.

Grading

Exams (60% of total grade): There will be 4 exams covering material from the preceding lessons. On the last Friday of the term we will have a two separate exams: one regular exam and a final comprehensive exam covering material from the entire course. Thus, in total, there will be 4 regular exams and 1 comprehensive exam. The lowest regular exam grade will be dropped and each of the remaining regular exams will count for 15% of the total grade. The comprehensive exam counts for 15% of the total grade and will not be dropped, even if lower than one of the regular exams. All five exams will be multiple-choice. Exam scores may be curved depending on the grade distribution. Typical grade cut-offs are 90-100% for an A, 80-89% for a B, 70-79% for a C, 60-69% for a D, and 0-59% for an F.

There will be **no makeups for regular exams**, however the lowest regular exam score will be dropped and not counted toward your grade. In the event that a makeup comprehensive exam is needed, it may include essay questions. **Please make sure that you will be present for at least 3 of the 4 exam dates...especially the last exam date of Friday, July 15th.**

Labs, Homework, and Activities (20% of total grade): Starting in the first week of class, there will be labs, homework, and activities (both online and in class) relevant to classroom concepts. Instructions and due dates for these assignments will be posted to Blackboard.

Online Labs: To provide more active engagement with the material of this class, you will perform a series on online labs through a web-based program called ZAPS. These activities typically consist of participation in a short online experiment followed by a series of questions about the topic(s) covered in the lab. Your grade on these labs will be based in equal parts on participation in the experiments and correctly answering the associated questions. We will devote time in class to covering the procedures for logging into the online ZAPS site and completing the labs. **Please make sure you have purchased access to the ZAPS site before the first day of class.**

Lecture Attendance and Participation (10% of total grade): Attendance will be taken through your iClicker responses to questions posed during lecture. To have a lecture section counted as "attended" you need to provide an answer to all questions during that session (whether correct or incorrect). Some of

these questions have also been known to reappear on the tests. To get full attendance credit for the class, you will need to be in lecture and participate for at least 12 of the 19 class sessions. For each lecture attended less than 12, 20 points will be deducted from the 100 possible attendance points. The intent of this requirement is to emphasize the importance of attendance and participation, while allowing some flexibility.

Research Participation (10% of the 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. 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, but UO policy is that all incomplete grades become F grades after one full year.

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 Wednesday, July 13th at 5:00 p.m.**

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 **½ 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. To get more information about this online quiz, ask your instructor or TA.

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.

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.

The first RER (first and second RER for the alternate assignment) **must be completed by 5:00 p.m. on July 7th** (or else you will get a 0). *The second RER* (first and second RER for the alternate assignment) **must be completed by 5:00 p.m. on July 13th** (or else you will get a 0).

Grading Summary:

10% - Research participation

20% - Labs, homework, and activities

10% - Attendance and participation

60% - Exams

Outside-Classroom Contact:

If you have any questions, comments, or issues, please do not hesitate to come to my office during office hours or any other time as long as you email in advance. Early communication is the best way to avoid misunderstanding. Waiting until the last week of class (or worse, after the course is finished) is not a good strategy.

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is very important and academic dishonesty is a very serious matter that carries long-term, severe penalties. In accordance with the University of Oregon Student Code of Conduct OAR 571-021-0105 (3) "Cheating" means any act of deception by which a student misrepresents or misleadingly demonstrates that he or she has mastered information on an academic exercise that he or she has not mastered. Examples include but are not limited to: (a) Giving or receiving unauthorized help in an academic exercise; (b) Use of sources or resources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; (c) Acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the University faculty or staff; and (d) Engaging in any behavior specifically prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion. (26) "Plagiarism" means using the ideas or writings of another as one's own. It includes, but is not limited to: (a) The use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement; and (b) the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

Your work may in some cases be submitted to SafeAssign or some other plagiarism analysis and detection program. By enrolling in this course you grant the instructor permission to do so. If you are ever unsure about whether a behavior constitutes cheating, please ask the teaching assistant or me. It would also be wise to read the university's policy on academic dishonesty at the [Office of Student Life homepage](#).

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: Hillary Gerdes, 346-3211, TTY 346-1083, hgerdes@oregon.uoregon.edu