



Psychology 201: Mind & Brain

Fall 2014 (CRN 15313)

TuTh 8:00 – 9:50 am, 150 Columbia

Instructor: Prof. Paul Dassonville

331 Lewis Integrated Science Building

346-4956, prd@uoregon.edu

Office hours: MW 2:00–3:00, or by appointment

Graduate Teaching Fellows (GTFs):

For course content questions, if your last name begins with A–L:

Jeff Peterson, 232 Lewis Integrated Science Building, jpeters7@uoregon.edu

Office hours: MW 11:00–12:00, or by appointment

For course content questions, if your last name begins with M–Z:

Rita Ludwig, 229 Lewis Integrated Science Building, rludwig@uoregon.edu

Office hours: Tu 12:00–1:00, Th 2:00–3:00, or by appointment

For questions about iClickers, Zaps, and Sona:

Christina Gamache Martin, 211 Franklin, gamachem@uoregon.edu

Office hours: By appointment only

If you think you have a question that could be answered by the Graduate Teaching Fellows, please try them first. Contacting your *assigned* GTF is preferred (see above), but feel free to attend the office hours that work best for you if your schedule is constrained.

Course Content: Mind & Brain is part of a two-course sequence (with Mind & Society, PSY202) that provides an overview of introductory psychology. This course covers experimental approaches to the study of the human mind and brain, including such topics as the history and methods of psychological research, the organization of the nervous system, sensation, perception, attention, learning, memory, cognition and consciousness.

Course website: The course website (blackboard.uoregon.edu) will provide important supplemental information for the course (syllabus, readings, lecture slides, study guides, grades, etc.).

Required Materials (available at the UO Bookstore, and elsewhere): *Psychological Science* by Gazzaniga, Halpern, & Heatherton (2013, 4th edition). A copy of the text is on reserve at the Knight Library, available for a 2 hour checkout period. The textbook publisher also maintains a web site for students (www.wwnorton.com/college/psych/psychsci4/), containing chapter reviews, flashcards, practice quizzes and other resources to help you master the material in the textbook. Additional supplemental readings will be posted on Blackboard.

ZAPS Online Labs provide online lab activities that supplement the material that is discussed in the text and lecture. You must use the access code provided to register with the ZAPS website (see below). ZAPS assignments will be due every week throughout the term.

iClickers: iClickers are small hand-held electronic devices that allow you to provide an immediate response to questions posed in class. Although the UO Bookstore sells only the iClicker 2, older versions of the iClicker should work fine in this course. It is very important that you register your iClicker on the Blackboard site (see below), and bring your iClicker with you to *every* class!

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. In addition, on-line laboratory assignments (ZAPS) will be used to explore experimental research methods. Lecture material and readings will have some 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. Reading the material before the corresponding lectures will help your performance – discussions of the material during lecture will be more fruitful if you have at least a general understanding of the material beforehand, helping you to ultimately comprehend and retain the material. Each of the non-lecture parts of the course (discussions, readings, demonstrations, movies, on-line labs) is designed to reinforce ideas and augment concepts presented in lectures.

Questions are encouraged in all parts of the course and students are welcome to stop by with questions and/or discussions during office hours, or by appointment.

It is my hope that by the end of this course you will have a new appreciation for how you perceive and interact with the world and how the world influences your behavior.

Grading: Your final grade will be based on three Exams (60% of the total grade), the ZAPS Online Lab grade (20%), the Class Participation and Attendance grade (10%), and the Research Participation grade (10%).

Exams (60%): There will be 3 multiple choice 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 given. **No makeup exams will be given without a valid, excused absence.** You will need to present documented justification for the absence (e.g., doctor's note, court order, or documented athletic events for student athletes) for a missed exam in order to take a makeup exam. The documentation must be presented before (if possible) or ASAP following the exam. **Makeup exams will be administered during the final exam period to only those students with previously excused absences.**

Online Labs (20%): Part of your experience with this class will be an online component in which you perform activities associated with the material covered during lectures. Most of the activities will be delivered through a web-based program called ZAPS. You will need to register with ZAPS, using the class ID (MQ6UCQQV) and your student ID number so that you get credit for doing the activities (if you have difficulty with registering, or running any of the ZAPS labs, you can get live chat support from the publishers at support.wwnorton.com). Many of these activities consist of participation in a short experiment (on the ZAPS website) followed by a few online questions (administered on Blackboard). You will do ZAPS assignments on your own time, outside of class. The associated Blackboard quizzes will be active for only a short time (usually from a Thursday until the following Monday), **with a deadline for completing the quiz each Monday (starting in week 2) at midnight (see the Course Schedule for details).** Your Online Lab Grade will be based on participation in the experiments and correctly answering the associated quiz questions. To allow for occasional absences or less-than-stellar performance, the two lowest quiz scores will be dropped from the average – *no makeup quizzes will be provided.*

Class Participation and Attendance (10%): Although this is a large class, technology has created ways for me to get some idea of the depth of your understanding of the topics discussed. Periodically, during class, I will ask questions and you will answer with your iClicker. If you are in class when the questions are asked, you will get participation points for answering. Unless otherwise announced, I will use the iClicker answers only to tell me more about overall class understanding or as a tool for class demonstrations. The number of iClicker questions per class will vary; your attendance grade will be determined by the percentage of clicker questions you complete. To allow for occasional absences, you will only be required to answer 80% of the clicker questions presented throughout the term to get full participation/attendance points. I also reserve the right to occasionally ask “bonus questions” that, *if they are answered correctly*, will be used to supplement your exam scores.

Research Participation (10%): Part of this course is learning about research being conducted in the field of psychology. One of the best ways for you to learn about psychology research is to experience it firsthand by participating in some of the high quality psychological studies conducted at the University of Oregon. Psychology and Linguistics researchers run many experiments on varied topics (e.g., perception, cognition, memory, language, psychological coping, social interaction). To participate in experiments, you can sign up on an electronic bulletin board at: uopsych.sona-systems.com. During your first visit to the site, you will create an account, with a username and password. Once logged in, you will find a list of studies that are available to you as well as the time and location of each study (some can be completed online). After participating in a study, you will be electronically credited for the time allotted for that study. Studies range in length from ½ hour to several

hours, with one hour of participation equal to one credit. To complete the research requirement, you will need to complete 4.5 credits worth of studies. For further information, see the slides from the PowerPoint presentation about being a research participant on the course Blackboard site, or email the Human Subjects Coordinator (Bill Schumacher, hscoord@uoregon.edu) with questions. More details about participating in research studies will be provided in class.

For ethical reasons, the university and I can neither force you to participate in research studies, nor would we wish for you to be uncomfortable participating in studies. For this reason, there is an alternative assignment that you can do that involves signing up in advance for 2-hour timeslots to come to the Psychology Department to read psychology research articles and write short essays about them. There is also a 1/2 hour tutorial you can complete, so that doing two of the article reading sessions, plus the tutorial, will equal the same 4.5 hours of time as participating in studies. For more details about completing this alternative, please contact the Graduate Teaching Fellows.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- If you fail to show up to TWO studies without good reason, you will not be allowed to participate in research studies as a way to complete your research requirement. You will instead be required to complete your research requirement by doing the alternative assignment.
- All students must complete the research requirement to get a grade in the course. If you do not complete the requirement, you will receive an incomplete in the course until you do. If you do not complete the requirement within a year, the incomplete will be changed to a failing grade in the course, as required by the university registrar.
- Two of the 4.5 hours of the research requirement must be completed by **midnight on Friday, Oct. 31**. The other 2.5 hours must be completed by **midnight on Friday, Dec. 5**. *PLAN AHEAD:* To complete the research requirement, you must schedule your time slots in advance. A failure to schedule timeslots for completing the research requirement in time for both the midterm and end-of-term deadlines will result in a permanent loss of the points in the course.

SUMMARY OF GRADED ACTIVITIES - Percentage of Final Grade:

3 in-class exams, (20% each)	= 60%
ZAPS online activities	= 20%
Participation and Attendance	= 10%
Research Requirement (4.5 hours)	= 10%
-----	= 100% Total

Letter grades will be determined as follows: A (90 - 100% of total possible points), B (80 - 89%), C (70 - 79%), D (60 - 69%), F (0 - 60%). However, I reserve the right to relax (but not stiffen) these criteria by curving the scores upward, depending on the actual distribution of grades.

Electronic Access: You will need to register/login in FOUR different ways for this class. Here's a summary and quick reference:

- 1) To access **Blackboard** (blackboard.uoregon.edu), for course information, online quizzes, and grades, use your "Duck ID" (the first part of your uoregon email address, minus the "@uoregon.edu") and password.
- 2) To access **ZAPS**, for completion of the online labs, you first need to register with Norton Publishers (www.wwnorton.com/gateway/register.asp?site=zaps), which will require the registration code that you purchased from the bookstore and the ZAPS class ID for THIS CLASS (MQ6UCQQV). After registering, you will log in using your email and the password you create. Go to the "About Me" section and enter both the ZAPS class ID (MQ6UCQQV) and your UO student ID number (9-digit number, probably begins with 951 or 950). Make sure that you type in your name where it says "Full Name," preferably the same way your name is listed in Duckweb. *Please register before Oct. 17 to ensure that you receive credit for your work.*
- 3) To register your **iClicker**, follow the directions on the PSY201 Blackboard site (blackboard.uoregon.edu, then go to the "Course Information" directory on the PSY201 page). The clicker ID can be found on the clicker itself (if the clicker ID number is unreadable, consult with me). If you have previously registered your iClicker on Blackboard, you should not need to register it again. *Please register before Oct. 17 to ensure that you receive credit for your work.*
- 4) To register for **SONA** for participating in research studies to satisfy the research requirement, you need a SONA ID, which you can get by following the directions on the SONA website (uopsych.sona-systems.com).

If you registered on SONA in a previous term, you will *not* need to register again – your old SONA ID and password will still work. If you are not 18 years old yet, or would prefer to satisfy the research requirement by completing the alternative assignment, you will not need to register with SONA

Classroom Etiquette: This is a very large class. Students in large classes often believe they are invisible, that they will not be noticed, and that one's individual behavior does not matter. *This is not true!* You can make a difference by listening attentively, asking questions, and contributing to discussions. Just as actively engaged students have a positive influence on the classroom environment, activities like talking to your neighbor, texting, coming late, leaving early, personal grooming, reading the newspaper, loud yawns, sleeping, surfing the web, or cell phone use can be extremely disruptive. PLEASE make sure that you and your fellow students get the most from this course by abstaining from such activities. Cell phone use (for texting, calls, or web surfing) is prohibited (also, please silence your ringer before each class). Laptops can be used only for taking notes (no web surfing, checking Facebook, etc.), and they are highly discouraged even for that purpose. If I find that your activities are distracting me or your fellow students, I will call you out on it, and repeated warnings will be accompanied by dismissal from the course.

Classroom climate. It is my goal that you feel comfortable and respected – both by me and your peers – in this class. Please let me know if I or other students make you feel uncomfortable, so that corrections can be made. If you feel that you or someone else has been the victim of bias in this class, you may consider contacting the Bias Response Team (bias.uoregon.edu/index.html).

Students Needing Accommodations for Accessibility: 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 a counselor at the Accessible Education Center (uoaec@uoregon.edu, tel. 541-346-1155) send a letter verifying your disability and needed accommodations. For a list of resources provided by the Accessible Education Center, please see aec.uoregon.edu.

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 any necessary special arrangements. If you think you may need to use a dictionary for in-class exams, you must ask to have your dictionary checked by me or one of the GTFs prior to the exam. Electronic dictionaries are not permitted.

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 caught cheating, you will receive a 0 on the assignment; you may also receive a failing grade for the course. 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 student conduct, uodos.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/AcademicMisconduct.aspx.

Course Outline: This is only a working draft of the course outline; it may be revised as the quarter 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 unless absolutely necessary. The official updated version of the outline will reside on the Blackboard web site. Updated print versions can also be obtained from me or the graduate teaching fellows during normal office hours.

<u>Week</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Readings</u>
1	9/30 10/2 10/2-10/6	The Science of Psychology Research Methodology	Chapter 1 Chapter 2 ZAPS: Stroop effect
2	10/7 10/9 10/9-10/13	Biology & Behavior Biology & Behavior	Chapter 3 Chapter 3 ZAPS: Synaptic transmission
3	10/14 10/16 10/16-10/20 10/17	Biology & Behavior Sensation & Perception	Chapter 3 Chapter 4 ZAPS: Mental rotation 2-D Register your iClicker and ZAPS by midnight
4	10/21 10/23 10/23-10/27	-----EXAM #1----- Sensation & Perception	Chapters 1, 2 & 3 Chapter 4 ZAPS: Lateral inhibition, Ponzo (2 labs)
5	10/28 10/30 10/30-11/3 10/31	Sensation & Perception Consciousness	Chapter 4 Chapter 5 ZAPS: Ames, Split-brains (2 labs) 2 hours of research participation due by midnight
6	11/4 11/6 11/6-11/10	Consciousness Learning	Chapter 5 Chapter 6 ZAPS: Classical conditioning
7	11/11 11/13 11/13-11/17	-----EXAM #2----- Learning	Chapters 4 & 5 Chapter 6 ZAPS: Visual search
8	11/18 11/20 11/20-11/24	Attention & Memory Attention & Memory	Chapter 7 Chapter 7 ZAPS: Spatial cuing, Memory span (2 labs)
9	11/25 11/27 11/27-12/1	Thinking & Intelligence No Class	Chapter 8 Thanksgiving Holiday ZAPS: Encoding specificity
10	12/2 12/4 12/5	Thinking & Intelligence -----EXAM #3-----	Chapter 8 Chapters 6, 7 & 8 Final 2.5 hours of research participation due by midnight

11 12/8 ***Makeup EXAMS*** **8:00 am Monday of Finals Week, 150 Columbia**

***Note:** No final exam will be given. The time set aside for the final exam during Finals Week (Monday, 12/8, 8:00-10:00 am) will be used for administering *pre-approved* makeup exams only.