

**MIND and BRAIN (PSY 201) SUMMER 2014**  
**University of Oregon**

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

[jagdeep@uoregon.edu](mailto:jagdeep@uoregon.edu)

**Office Hours: By appointment only**

**Teaching support:**

*GTFs are available to help students with most questions and concerns.*

**Daryn Blanc-Goldhammer**, Graduate Teaching Fellow, [darynb@uoregon.edu](mailto:darynb@uoregon.edu) Off.Hrs: by appointment only.

**Additional Teaching support:**

**Bill Schumacher**, Human Subjects Coordinator, [hscoord@uoregon.edu](mailto:hscoord@uoregon.edu), Off. Hrs. by appointment only.

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

**General Course Description:** This course is part of a 2 term sequence and together with Mind and Society (PSY202) covers an introduction to psychological science. You will learn about different experimental approaches to the study of the human mind and brain. Topics covered include brain structure and function as related to behavior. We will discuss contemporary understanding of states of consciousness as well as sensation, perception, attention, learning, memory, and cognition. 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 your experiences influence your thoughts and behaviors.

**Course website:** <http://blackboard.uoregon.edu> **The is a web course** and will be managed entirely through **Blackboard**. All registered students have access with their UO computer account username and password. If you have problems accessing your blackboard account, please contact the Information Technology Center in Knight Library ([blackboard@ithelp.uoregon.edu](mailto:blackboard@ithelp.uoregon.edu), phone: 346 3053).

**Course structure:** Each week, you will be presented a lesson plan that will contain 1-5 short lecture videos, associated readings and assignments (e.g. online labs, reading response questions), and a graded quiz. There may also be additional materials that may include web videos or online resources and practice quizzes to go with the learning objectives for that week. Lecture material and readings will have some overlap, **but will not be replications of each other**; often, significant parts of the readings will not be discussed in the lecture videos, instead new or detailed materials that are not included in textbook readings will be presented to augment the readings. Discussion and exploration of experimental research methods will be included for all topics with ZAPS labs and through self-study lab assignments.

**Required Text and Materials:** Please notify me immediately if you have difficulty obtaining any of these materials from the bookstore –

***Psychological Science*** by Michael S. Gazzaniga, Todd F. Heatherton and Diane Halpern (**GHH**), 4<sup>th</sup> edition(2012). **This book is also available as an e-book.**

***ZAPS labs access code:*** You will also need **access to the online ZAPS labs**, from WW Norton. Access code is available packaged with the new textbook at no additional cost. In case you choose to buy a used copy of the textbook or ebook access only, you can purchase access to the labs

separately from the bookstore (or from <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/psych/zaps/students.htm> ). *If you have used ZAPS labs in a previous term within a year (for Psy202) you do not need to purchase it again.*

**Office hours:** The instructor and GTFs for this course are available to answer questions via email. We will make every attempt to answer all emails within 24hrs of receiving it. Emails received on Friday will receive responses no later than the following Monday. **Students are also encouraged to request office hour appointments for one-on-one discussions via Skype or by phone.**

**Grading:** Your final grade will be based on the sum of your scores for the following

Midterm exam	- 25%
Weekly Concept checks	- 25%
Discussion boards	- 10%
Research participation	- 9%
Online Labs	- 6%
Final exam	- 25%
TOTAL :	- 100%

You must complete all required exams, concept checks, as well as your lab and research participations (see "Psychology Department Research Requirement" addendum at the end of this syllabus) in order to receive credit for the course. While individual tests and assignments are not curved, final grades may be assigned based on a curve, if needed. 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 each week to do well in this course. I recommend you refer to the Psychology Department's "Best Practices for students" webpage at: <http://psychweb.uoregon.edu/undergraduates/guidelines/students> prior to starting your coursework.*

**Exams (25% of final grade):** There will be 2 multiple-choice type examinations. Each exam will cover material from the lectures and reading assignments for the period immediately preceding the exam. *NO makeup exams will be given.* Exams are administered through the Social Sciences Instructional Lab(SSIL) and distance learning. Please login in to <https://distanceeducation.uoregon.edu/> and follow all instructions to set up your exams. Additional directions and instructions are posted on Blackboard. Briefly, on-campus students can arrange to take exams at SSIL for free, students in Portland can take exams at the White Stag building for free, off-campus students outside the Eugene-Portland are can arrange to take exam at remote testing sites or with an approved remote proctor (also an option for students abroad).

**Online Labs (6% of final grade):** Part of the requirement for the course is completion of online labs activities. Labs are experiments, demonstrations or explorations of experimental methods in psychology designed to help you elaborate on some of the class material and learn critical thinking and analytical skills. Labs may be online ZAPS labs or non-ZAPS explorations. The non-ZAPS labs may require offline work. **All lab instructions, assignments and due dates will be posted on Blackboard.** *To receive credit, all lab activities for the week should be completed by **midnight on Friday** of the week in which they are assigned.*

**Weekly concept checks (25% of final grade):** Each week you will be responsible for taking a quiz on Blackboard. These concept checks are based on the weekly lessons, readings and activities (be sure to complete labs before taking the quiz!). You will have one attempt of 2 hours to complete each once it is started. All concept checks are due by midnight on Friday of the week. Concept check grade is based on the cumulative score for all quizzes.

**Participation and Discussion (10% of final grade):** All students are expected to participate actively in discussion and complete all responses to the exercises that go with course materials. Discussion forums will be available on Blackboard, each with a specific due date. Discussion boards are moderated by the instructor and the GTF throughout the term but students will be expected to generate both questions and answers relevant to the concepts from the readings and the lessons. Participation in discussion will be graded mostly on effort: the more effort and thoughtfulness you put into your discussion, the more likely you will earn full credit. In addition, instructors will post exercises and discussion questions, responses to which will be graded for participation credit. About half of the participation credit is for participation in discussion and half for completion of the exercises.

**Psychology Department Research Requirement (9% of final grade):** The psychology department requires that all students enrolled in introductory courses (201 and 202) get 4.5 hours of research experience. Students may get valuable research experience by participating in Psychology and Linguistics departments' human subject pool. You will need to **participate for 4.5 hours worth of human subjects pool experiments**, over the course of the term. To participate in experiments, you can sign up on an electronic bulletin board at: [uopsych.sona-systems.com](http://uopsych.sona-systems.com) More information about the Human subject pool will be provided in the second class of week 1, as an addendum to this syllabus and posted on Blackboard. An alternate research assignment will be provided for students who **do not** wish to participate in experiments. These students may fulfill the research requirement by reading research articles to gain knowledge of research methods. You will need to read 4 research articles and summarize the research you have read about in two 2-hour sessions as well as complete a half-hour research ethics training for this option. To participate in this option you will need to contact your GTF. More information and the reading list of research articles will be provided by your TA individually to you, if you choose this alternate assignment.

Students who do not complete their research requirement will be awarded an **'incomplete'** for the course. To avoid an incomplete, please schedule sessions early in the term. 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.

In either case, you are required to complete half of your research requirement (2 hours of participation) by midnight on **Friday of week 4** and the second half of your research requirement by midnight on **Friday of week 8**.

**What about extra-credit?** Students who complete all weekly quizzes with a score of 50% or higher will be awarded 1% point of extra-credit. Consistent, thoughtful discussion responses may also be awarded extra-credit. All extra-credit accrued will be added to your final score at the end of the term.

**Due Dates:** Typically, labs, concept checks, and discussion responses are due on Friday at midnight of the week in which they are assigned. Specific due dates will be posted on Blackboard along with each module and assignment. 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 with me early in the term. *The University of Oregon is working to create inclusive learning environments. Please notify me if there are any aspects of instruction or design of this course that result in disability-related barriers to your participation. You are also encouraged to contact the Accessible Education Center (formerly Disability Services) in 164 Oregon Hall at 346-1155 or [uoaec@uoregon.edu](mailto:uoaec@uoregon.edu).* Also, please request that an AEC adviser to send a letter verifying your disability and accommodation needs.

**Students for whom English is a Second Language:** If you are a non-native English speaker and think you may have language difficulties or need assistance, please see me as soon as possible to make special arrangements. I do not allow *electronic* translators/dictionaries during tests but will make every effort to help you understand the materials throughout the term.

**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. If your responses on assignments are suspected of plagiarism or if a proctor has any reason to be uncomfortable about your conduct during a test, they may ask you to move seats, confiscate your test and/or mark an "F" for that test/assignment. All 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 instructors before you complete any relevant requirements of the course. (For more information, see the UO web site regarding academic honesty at: <http://uodos.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/AcademicMisconduct/tabid/248/Default.aspx>).

**Course Outline:** This is a working draft of the course outline; it may be revised as the term progresses. **Dates on which particular topics are to be presented in lessons 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:** 6/20/2014 1:27 PM

Date	Topic	Readings Book chapters
Week 1	Syllabus and Introduction	Ch. 1
	Research Methods	Ch. 2
Week 2	Nervous system	Ch. 3
	Sensation: Psychophysical methods	Ch. 4
Week 3	Perception	Ch. 4
Week 4	Learning	Ch. 6
	<b>MIDTERM EXAM DUE by Friday</b>	<b>2 hours of research participation due</b>
Week 5	Attention & Memory	Ch. 7
Week 6	Knowledge	Ch. 7.
Week 7	Thinking	Ch. 8
Week 8	Special Topic: Language	Ch. 5
	Consciousness	
	<b>FINAL EXAM DUE by Friday</b>	<b>2 hours of research participation due</b>