CAMOSUN COLLEGE
SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCE

PSYCHOLOGY 110

Introduction to Experimental Psychology - Syllabus

INSTRUCTOR: Margaret Acker

OFFICE: Fisher 352
370-3695

LAB ASSISTANT: Grace Chan
Office: F-312 (Fisher Building)

OFFICE HOURS: See posted times on office door.

TEXT: Wade, C., Travis, C., Saucier, D., Elias, H.
Psychology, Canadian Edition. Prentice Hall.

ASSIGNED READINGS:
1. Perspectives on Human Behaviour handout.
2. Attitudes of Science Handout.
3. Intelligence Handout.

COURSE ORGANIZATION: Two hours per week will be devoted to lecture and two hours per week will be spent in the psychology lab participating in experiments relevant to the topics in the assigned content, and lectures. The experimental labs will focus on experimental design while lectures will primarily focus on material related to course content as outlined in the course description (see enclosure).

COURSE EVALUATION:

A. **Unit Examinations**: During the semester, there will be 3 objective examinations covering text materials, assigned readings, lectures, and lab exercises. The examinations will be written on the dates noted on the class schedule. They will consist of approximately 40 objective-type questions, i.e., true/false, multiple choice, and several short essay questions.

B. **Attendance**: Due to the format of the class and presentation of materials during the semester, each student is expected to regularly attend lectures, and assigned experimental labs.

C. **Experimental Laboratory Exercises**: During the semester, laboratory exercises will be required which fulfill selected objectives of the course. All labs will be participatory in nature. A written abstract or a set of questions will be required for each lab. The form or style of the reports will be provided by the instructor. Also, several in-class group discussion questions will be given. Student participation and attendance is mandatory.

D. **Group Discussions on Attitudes of Science**: During the semester there will be five 50-minute discussions, in groups of 4, on attitudes of science. (See attached sheets for explanation.)

E. **Group Discussions and Presentations on Textbook Material:** During the semester there will be Group Discussions and Presentations on the discussion questions attached. (See attached sheets for explanation.)

PLEASE NOTE: **All written assignments should be TYPED, if at all possible.**

Final Evaluation: The relative importance of assignments and examinations is as follows:

Unit Examinations	30
Laboratory Assignments, Lab Participation & Group Projects	45
Attitude of Science Discussions	10
Group Discussions and Presentations	15
TOTAL	**100**

GRADING SCHEDULE: The following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used:

A+ = 95 - 100%	B+ = 80 - 84%	C+ = 65 - 69%
A = 90 - 94%	B = 75 - 79%	C = 60 - 64%
A- = 85 - 89%	B- = 70 - 74%	D = 50 - 59%
		F = 0 - 49%

OVERALL PURPOSE OF COURSE: Statement of Course Objectives: (In terms of "Learning Outcomes" for the student.)

The student will achieve knowledge of, and participate in, a variety of experimental methodologies as currently used in contemporary psychology, through lectures and laboratory designed activities. The course proposes systems to answer the question, "How does one gain knowledge in the study of human behaviour?" as applied to the selected topic areas of learning, perception, sensation, memory, physiology, and psychological assessment.

COMPONENT OBJECTIVES: (Including skills, knowledge, attitudes, etc.) which will contribute to the attainment of the overall purpose.

1. To acquire, and demonstrate the acquisition of and command of, the terms and concepts regarding experimental methodologies, and the specific content as presented in the course.

2. To demonstrate that the skill(s) involved in interrelating concepts has been attained.

3. To examine and acquire information of the experimental designs and methodologies as currently used in contemporary psychology.

4. To acquire information and the skills to actively propose experimental designs for the study of human behaviour.

5. To acquire the skills necessary to critique the methodologies currently used in experimental psychology.

6. To acquire information regarding human behaviour by active participation in laboratory designed activities demonstrating current methodologies as applied in the topic areas of learning theory, perception, sensation, memory, physiology, and psychological assessment.

NOTE: **Students need to follow certain rules of conduct:**

1. **Work needs to be handed in on time. Late work will be penalized, unless negotiated in advance, and in some cases will not be accepted.**

2. **Work that is copied will not be accepted for all students with identical work. If you want to work cooperatively, inform me ahead of time, and include a note on the work when handed in.**

3. **Work that is copied or plagiarized is not acceptable.**

4. **In case of cheating on a test, the whole test will be given an automatic 0%.**

5. **After two cases of copying, plagiarism, or cheating, the student may be failed for the entire course.**

CLASS SCHEDULE:

WEEK	LECTURE	LAB
1	Orientation	No Lab
2	Ch. 1 - What is Psychology Ch. 2 - How Psychologists Do Research Appendix: Statistical Methods Discussion Questions #1	Lab
3	Discussion Questions #2 Discussion of Attitudes of Science Handout	Lab
4	Handout on Perspectives on Human Behavior Discussion Questions #3 Articles #1 and #2 - Attitudes of Science	Lab
5	Ch. 4 - Neurons, Hormones & The Brain Ch. 3 - Evolution, Genes & Behaviour (pp. 67-73) Discussion Questions #4	Lab
6	**EXAM #1**	Lab
7	Ch. 6 - Sensation & Perception Discussion Questions #5 Articles #3 and #4 - Attitudes of Science	Lab
8	Ch. 6 - Sensation & Perception Discussion Questions #6	Lab
9	Ch. 7 - Learning & Conditioning Discussion Questions #7 Articles #5 and #6 - Attitudes of Science	Lab
10	Discussion Questions #8	Lab
11	**EXAM #2**	Lab
12	Ch. 10 - Memory Discussion Questions #9 Attitudes of Science - Self-Actualization Psychology	Lab
13	Ch. 9 - Thinking & Intelligence Discussion Questions #10 Attitudes of Science - Stages of Development	Lab
14	**EXAM #3**	Lab

MATERIALS TO BE LEARNED FOR EXAMS

Exam # 1
Ch. 1 - What is Psychology (pp. 3 - 29)
Ch. 2 - How Psychologists Do Research (pp. 33 – 60)
Handout: Perspectives on Human Behaviour
Ch. 4 - Neurons, Hormones & The Brain (pp. 99 - 133)
Ch. 3 - Evolution, Genes & Behaviour (pp. 67 - 73)
Lecture & Lab Material

Exam # 2
Ch. 6 - Sensation & Perception (pp. 177 - 218)
Ch. 7 - Learning (pp. 223 - 255)
Lectures & Lab Material

Exam # 3
Ch. 10 - Memory (pp. 341 - 379)
Ch. 9 - Thinking & Intelligence (pp. 304-339)
Lecture & Lab Materials
Attitudes of Science Material