

Psychology 110

Camosun College

Course Outline

Instructor:
Dr. R. G. Tonks

Fall 2003

Office:
Fisher 314F

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**Office Hours: Mondays 11:30-12:30 & Tues 12:30-13:30 or by
appointment**

Lab Assistant: Sandy Sran

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Introduction to Experimental Psychology

This course presents experimental methodologies used in psychology including how data is collected, organized, and interpreted in psychological research. Topics: psychobiology, sensation, perception, cognition, learning theory, memory, assessment, and experimental design. Topics will be discussed and demonstrated in lecture and laboratory activities. Math 10 is highly recommended and Math 11 is recommended. Prerequisites: English 12 or assessment.

As such, this course is intended to offer a broad survey of the fundamental topics of psychology. Beginning with a brief overview of the nature of psychology and a sample of the diverse areas of human life that it touches, this course aims to provide students with a foundation in research methods and critical thinking skills needed to understand basic research in psychology. An emphasis is placed on understanding psychology as an experimental science, covering topics such as: physiological bases to psychology, sensation and perception, memory, consciousness, learning, thinking and intelligence. Along with providing students with some 'hands-on' training in carrying out psychological research, there is an opportunity for students to become fluent with psychological theories and concepts through lab exercises that accompany the lectures.

Course Text: Wade, Tavris, Saucier & Elias (2003). Psychology. Toronto: Pearson.

Teaching Schedule:

Lectures in **Fisher 100 on Tuesdays 10:30 - 12:20**

Labs in Fisher 310 Lab A Thurs 10:30-12:20

Lab B Thurs 12:30-14:20

While we will be following along with the chapters of the textbook, as indicated on the attached syllabus, the lecture topics may stray from the material covered in the weekly readings. Students are responsible to read the assigned chapters as the material is covered in class, however students are also encouraged to read the assigned material *before* it is covered in class.

Evaluation: There will be two exams and a quiz. The quiz, midterm & final exams will be based upon the material covered in lecture, the assigned readings, and the laboratory activities. These tests will involve various multiple-choice and a few short answer questions. The exams will be on or about the dates indicated on the course syllabus and the final exam will be during the regular exam period in December. Weekly lab assignments and a group research report and presentation comprise the activities and marks for the lab portion of this course.

Marking Scheme:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------------|------|-----------------------------|
| Quiz | 10 % | September 30 th |
| Midterm Exam | 20 % | October 28 th |
| Final Exam | 25 % | December 8-19 th |
| Article Summary | 0 % | Optional * |
| Laboratory Exercises | 20 % | Weekly |
| Group Research Projects | 20 % | December 4 th |
| WebCT Quizzes | 5 % | Weekly |

Grading Scheme: (Camosun Standards)

| | | |
|-------------|------------|-----------|
| A+ 95 - 100 | B 75 - 79 | D 50 - 59 |
| A 90 - 94 | B- 70 - 74 | F 0 - 49 |

A- 85 - 89

C+ 65 - 69

I = Incomplete*

B+ 80 - 84

C 60 - 64

*(If the missing work is not completed within 6 weeks from the semester end, the grade will become **F**).

Lab Activities:

Various class and small group activities will be carried out in Labs. It is expected that all students show up to their own Lab times as marks will be allotted for work completed during and for Labs. Should a student be unable to attend their scheduled Lab due to illness or some other legitimate excuse they may be permitted to attend another Lab with permission from the instructor. A detailed list of Lab activities will be handed out in the Laboratory classes.

Plagiarism

Beyond learning basic concepts and research strategies, students are expect to produce some original written work that stands as an example of their understanding of the general principles of scientific psychology as they have been applied to a specific area of research. As such students will write article reviews as part of their group reports, making use of standard psychological styles of referencing and reporting psychological information. [Plagiarism](#), or the unacknowledged use of another person's ideas or words represents academic dishonesty and is grounds for expulsion from the college. Camosun policy states "If an instructor remains convinced that there has been a violation [plagiarism or cheating], he or she may assign a grade of F for the work involved or in the course..." Let's avoid that!

Course Syllabus and Readings

Week 1 Sept 2 - Chapter 1 What is psychology?

Week 2 Sept 9 - Chapter 2 History & Research Methods

Week 3 Sept 16 - Chapter 4 Neuroscience

Week 4 Sept 23 - Chapter 3 (pp. 67-77, 85-88) Genetics & Evolution

Week 5 Sept 30 - ...con't -- & ***Quiz**

Week 6 Oct 7 - Chapter 6 Sensation & Perception

Week 7 Oct 14 - Chapter 5 Consciousness

Week 8 Oct 21 - Catch up and Review

Week 9 Oct 28 *** Mid-Term Exam ***

Week 10 Nov 4 - Chapter 7 Learning

Week 11 Nov 11 - Chapter 10 Memory

Week 12 Nov 18 - Chap 3 (77-85), Chap 9 (pp. 334-340) Language

Week 13 Nov 25 - Chap 3 (89-95), Chap 9 (pp. 321-333) Intelligence

Week 14 Dec 2 - Catch up & Review