

School of Arts & Science PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

PSYC 110-004, Sections A, B, and C Experimental Psychology Quarter 1/Fall 2009 (Sep-Dec)

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Description:

This course presents experimental methodologies used in psychology including how data is collected, organized, and interpreted in psychological research. Topics covered: psychobiology, sensation, perception, cognition, learning theory, memory, assessment, and experimental design. Topics will be discussed and demonstrated in lecture and laboratory activities.

Prerequisites: Academic Math 10 or assessment & English 12 or assessment. Math 11 is highly recommended.

 Ω Please note: this outline will be electronically stored for five (5) years only. It is strongly recommended students keep this outline for their records.

1. Instructor Information

Instructor:	Bill Wong, PhD			
Office Hours:	11:30-12:20 (M,T,W,& Th); if these do not work for you, we can			
Office Flours.	schedule an alternate & mutually agreeable time			
	Office: Fisher 106E			
Location:	Lecture Room: Young 216			
	<u>Lab Room:</u> Ewing 110 (Labs A or C); Ewing 112 (Lab B)			
Phone:	370-3374 Alternative Phone:			
Email:	wongw@camosun.bc.ca - always use this e-mail address			
Website:	D2L – see directions below ©			

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

- 1. Describe the components and rationale for the experimental methodologies used to acquire psychological knowledge.
- 2. Describe the <u>difficulties</u> inherent in psychological research and conduct <u>thoughtful</u> critiques of select studies.
- 3. Design and conduct studies of psychological topics and present the outcomes in a clear, logical fashion.
- 4. Apply psychological concepts to the study of neuroscience, sensation, perception, learning, memory, intelligence, and language.

The outcomes will be measured by a combination of examinations, assignments, presentations, group work, and discussions.

3. Required Materials

(a)	Texts	Gerrig, R. J., Zimbardo, P. G., Desmarais, S., & Ivanco, T. (2009). Psychology and life (Cdn ed.). Toronto, ON: Pearson Education Inc.
(b)	Other	This course is supported by D2L. See notes about accessing D2L. As well students can expect to get handouts during labs to assist them with course assignments and tests.

D₂L

To access the course website on D2L:

- 1) Open browser (i.e., Internet Explorer)
- 2) Type in: http://online.camosun.ca/
- 3) Next, enter your user name followed by your last name and the day of your birth. For example mick.jagger22 for born on June 22nd.
- 4) Then enter your password which will be your date of birth in *mmddyy* format. For example, 062274 for June 22nd, 1974.
- 5) Once into D2L you will be required to change your password.

4. Course Content and Schedule

- 1. There is one, 2-hour lecture each week.
- 2. There is one, 1.5-hour lab per week.

 (Your student class schedule informs you of your assigned lab section.)

Special Notes: All lab assignments, tests, and activities must include your First and Last name and your lab section. Example: Mick Jagger, Psych 110, Lab B.

Attendance is important because it keeps you in contact with the course materials and any changes that may occur throughout the semester. A missed exam or assignment will result in a mark of zero. Unfortunately, make-up exams will not be offered. If there is a serious medical or compassionate reason that you would like considered, contact the instructor <u>before</u> the test or due date. Time management issues and competing priorities are NOT sufficient reasons. Documentation to support your claim is <u>always</u> required (e.g., physician's note explaining why you could not attend).

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Students' performance in Psychology 110 will be based upon their **performance on exams** (70%), **lab participation and assignments** (16%), **lab report** (10%) and **lecture activities** (4%).

(a) Exams (70%)

- There are three exams in this course:
 - o Exam 1 (25%) will cover Chapters 1, 2, 3, and the Statistical Supplement.
 - o Exam 2 (25%) will cover Chapters 4, 8 and parts of chapters 5 and 6.
 - o Exam 3 (20%) will cover Chapters 7, 9 and 10.
- All exams are based on information from <u>lectures</u>, <u>lab activities</u>, and <u>assigned textbook</u> <u>readings</u>. Exams will not be cumulative. These exams will consist of multiple-choice and short answer questions.

(b) Lab Assignments (16%)

- There is a written assignment for most labs. You must be in attendance to participate
 in the lab. Lab assignments are due at the beginning of the following day's lab unless
 otherwise informed.
- Policy for arriving <u>late</u> for labs. Because labs involve group activities, tardiness will not be tolerated. If a student is up to 10 minutes late for a lab, one point will be deducted. More than 10 minutes late for lab will result in two points being deducted from the lab grade.

(c) Lab Research Report (10%)

There is short research report required in this course that is discussed during lab time.
 This report will involve designing an experiment, collecting data, analyzing data, and writing the results in an APA style research paper. Details will be discussed in Lab.

(d) Lecture Activities (4%)

There will also be lecture activities. You <u>must</u> be in attendance to participate in the
activity. There will be no make-up opportunities for lecture activities missed
without a physician's note.

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	Α		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	В		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	С		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

GRADING in PSYC 110

Grades combine the college definition and my own experience.

- **A:** Superior levels of achievement. I expect quality which shows a full understanding of the work, and which also includes exceptional achievement (i.e. new insight, obvious quality research, clear presentation above and beyond the minimum required, better work than the majority of the class).
- **B:** High levels of achievement. For a B, I expect work that is good and shows full understanding. It does not have the same degree of exceptional achievement that makes an A, but is distinctly beyond the minimum required.
- C+: Satisfactory level of achievement.
- **C:** Sufficient level of achievement to proceed with next level of study. Average work, showing an understanding of the material and the minimum requirements have been met. It does not indicate the student is having any real difficulties.
- D: Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a D grade cannot be used as a prerequisite. I give this grade for work that is handed in, lacking all required details, but has some approximation of adequate work.
- F: Minimum level is not achieved.

FINAL Grades will be weighted as follows:

Lab assignments	16%
Final lab report	10%
Lecture activities	4%
Test #1	25%
Test #2	25%
Test #3	20%
	100%

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at **camosun.ca** for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete</i> : A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.

IP	In progress: A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
CW	Compulsory Withdrawal: A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

I expect students to follow certain standards of conduct:

- 1. All students are expected to follow the College's Student Conduct Policy see below.
- 2. In order for students to earn marks towards the 4% lecture activities, students need to be in attendance to participate in lecture activities/assignments. There will be <u>no</u> make-up opportunities without a doctor's note.
- Assignments that are copied (identical or plagiarized) between students will be given 0% for ALL students with identical work. If you want to work cooperatively, inform me ahead of time.
- 4. Tests must be written as scheduled. Make-up tests will only be allowed with proper documentation. You must contact the instructor <u>prior</u> to the test, and provide documentation within 7 days of the missed test date to be eligible for the make-up test.
- 5. Work must be used for this course only.
- 6. It is college policy that "If an instructor remains convinced that there has been a violation [such as plagiarism or cheating], he or she may assign a grade of F for the work involved, or for the course..."

Student Study Tips for Psychology 110

Throughout this course student study information will be provided to students based on research on memory and learning research and instructor experience. Below are some study suggestions to help you with this course.

- 1. Read chapter summary at end of chapter before reading the chapter.
- 2. Review your lecture notes and chapters, ACTIVELY three times within 24 hours after leaving class.
- 3. Read assigned material before lecture.
- 4. Define the terms and concepts at the end of each chapter. Here you can use on-line glossary and flashcards for each chapter.
- 5. Use textbook companion website and do chapter quizzes to review material and to ensure you understand what you are reading in the textbook.
- 6. Compare and Contrast theories and concepts. For example how is behaviorism similar to and different from the humanistic approach to human behavior? Compare similarities and differences between concepts such as sensation and perception.
- 7. Be sure to make-up questions from the textbook/lecture notes using headings/subheadings.
- 8. Be able to describe and explain major concepts from each chapter. Major concepts can be identified through lecture objectives and the review summaries located at the end of each chapter.
- 9. Ask questions during lecture. If you have a question others most likely have a similar question too. If uncomfortable with asking in-class be sure to e-mail questions to the instructor or book an appointment with the instructor to review the material and/or questions you may have.

STUDENT RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES

- Students are responsible for reading the assigned material prior to class so that they are prepared to participate in class discussions and group tasks.
- If a student requires special accommodation to be successful in this course, please see me the first week of class.
- Students and their prospective participants have the right not to participate in any given lab exercise.
- As part of the course, specifically in the lab activities, you always have the right NOT to self-disclose any information.

Psychology 110, Section 004 A, B, C <u>Tentative</u> Timetable

Week	Lecture Topic	Readings	Lab Activities	Labs DUE
#1: Sep 8	Psychology & Life	Chapter 1	-Introduction & scavenger hunt -Critical thinking	
#2: Sep 15	Research Methods: Experimentation & Describing Data Descriptive Statistics (take home lab – due Sep 22)	Chapter 2 & pp. 46-50	-Naturalistic observation	
#3: Sep 22	Research Methods: Correlational Methods and Inferential Stats	Chapter 2 & pp.50- 53	-Correlation	1% Descriptive assignment 2% Naturalistic Observation
#4: Sep 29	Evolutionary Psych -distribute scientific article -distribute brain terms	Chapter 3	Inferential Statistics	3% Correlation Lab
#5: Oct. 6	Exam #1 25% Chapters 1, 2,3, & Statistical Supplement		NO LAB – Focus on doing well on the exam	3% Inferential Lab
#6: Oct. 13	Biological bases of behaviour -Brain & Behaviour -Draw/label picture of neuron (in class 1%)	Chapter 4	Brain Jeopardy Brain Scenarios	1% Brain Terms
#7: Oct. 20	Sensation & Perception -Draw/label picture of eye & ear (in class 1%)	Chapter 5 (115- 148)	Blind Lab Project Intro	1% Brain Scenarios 2% Article Review
#8: Oct 27	-Complete Sensation & Perception if needed -Mind & Consciousness	Chapter 6 (173- 181)	Ethics Informed Consents	1% Blind Write-Up
#9: Nov. 3	Memory -Activity (<i>in class</i> 1 %)	Chapter 8	Results section write-up -Title page	1% Data Collection completed
#10: Nov 10	Exam #2 25% Chapters 4, 5, 6 and 8		NO LAB – Focus on doing well on the exam	
#11: Nov 17	Learning	Chapter 7	Learning/Shaping Methods write-up	
#12: Nov 24	Cognitive processes -Activity (in class 1%)	Chapter 9	Discussion write-up -References & appendix	1% Learning/Shaping
#13: Dec 1	Intelligence and Problem- Solving	Chapter 10	Introduction write-up	
#14: Dec 8	Exam #3 20% Chapters 7, 9,10 Research Paper (10%) due by Dec 14 th @4:30pm		Finish write-up of research paper	

^{****}I reserve the right to make changes to any part of this syllabus