PSYC 1AO3 Introduction to Experimental Psychology

Psychology 1A03 - Introduction to Experimental Psychology - Winter 2002

Instructor: P. Lynne Honey  
Email: honeypl@mcmaster.ca

TA: Nicole Conrad  
Email: conradnj@mcmaster.ca

Phone: (905) 525-9140  X 22034

Please note: The instructor cannot be responsible for returning long distance calls from students. Any student wishing to reach the instructor or teaching assistant is invited to email, attend the tutorial, or arrange an appointment.

Lectures: Monday evenings, 7:00pm – 10:00pm
Tutorials: Monday evenings, 5:30pm – 6:20pm

Course Description:
In this course, we will explore several aspects of experimental psychology: the science of behaviour. This will include the topics of research methods in psychology, the biological bases of behaviour, sensation, perception, learning, and cognition. We will examine prominent theories in the field of psychology, both past and present, as well as the experimental results that illustrate those theories.

Schedule and Reading Assignments:
Please note: Reading assignments are expected to be completed prior to the class for which they are assigned. If a reading is listed for a certain date, you should read it before that date.

January 7  What is psychology? (Read Chapter 1 after class)  
(No 5:30pm tutorial on January 7)
January 14 Research methods in psychology (Appendix A)
January 21 Statistics (Appendix B)
January 28 The Nervous System (Chapter 2)
February 4 MIDTERM EXAMINATION #1
February 11 Motivation (Chapter 3)
February 18 SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES
February 25 Habituation, Pavlovian Conditioning (pp 117-127)
March 4 Instrumental Conditioning (pp 128-138)
March 11 MIDTERM #2
March 18 Sensation & Perception (Chapters 5 & 6)
March 25 Memory (Chapter 7)
April 1 Language (Chapter 9)
April 8 LAST CLASS – WRAP UP AND REVIEW SESSION  
(No 5:30pm tutorial on April 8)

Tutorials:
The classroom is available from 5:30 – 6:20pm before each class if you have any questions about the course. Nicole Conrad will be available for consultation at that time. This is an opportunity to get clarification about the content of lectures, or other course-related issues you may have. These tutorial sessions are not mandatory, so if you feel that you have a good grasp of the material you are not required to attend, but it is recommended that you do attend these sessions if you have any problems with comprehension of the material. You may also contact Lynne Honey or Nicole Conrad by email if you have questions.

Evaluation:
Midterm #1 – February 4

This midterm will cover the material covered in the first 4 classes, as well
as the material in Chapters 1, 2, Appendix A and Appendix B. The format will be multiple choice, and you will have 2 hours to complete this test. Your marks will be available the following week. This exam is worth 25% of your final mark.

Midterm #2 – March 11

This midterm will cover the material covered in classes since the last midterm, as well as Chapter 3 and portions of chapter 4. The format will be multiple choice and you will have 2 hours to complete this test. Your marks will be available the following week. This exam is worth 25% of your final mark.

Final Examination – to be scheduled during the April Examination Period

This final examination will cover all of the in-class material, as well as all reading assignments. The format will be multiple choice, and you will have 3 hours to complete this test. Your marks will be available via MUGSI after examinations are complete. This exam is worth 50% of your final mark.

Missed Examinations

There will be no make-up tests for missed midterms. Any student who misses an examination will have their grade re-weighted based on the examinations that have been completed. For example, one of the midterms is missed, the other midterm will be worth 50% of your final mark and the final examination will be worth 50%. If both midterms are missed, the examination will be worth 100%. Missing the final examination will result in failure of the course, unless alternate arrangements are made through the Office of the Registrar.

Grading Scheme

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<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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The instructor reserves the right to adjust final marks up or down, on an individual basis, in the light of special circumstances and/or the individual's total performance in the course.

Statement on Academic Dishonesty

Students are reminded of the University’s Statement on Academic Ethics and the Senate Resolutions on Academic Dishonesty, which are found in the Senate Policy Statements distributed at registration. These documents are also available in the Senate Office. Students infringing on these resolutions will be treated in accordance with published policy. So don’t cheat, OK?