

PSYCHOLOGY 1A03E
April 30 – June 13, 2008
Introduction to Experimental Psychology

Lectures: Mondays & Wednesdays 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. in JHE 376

Instructor: Ferrinne Spector

Psychology - Room 136

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Text: Grey, Peter O. Psychology, 5th Edition, Worth Publishers, 2007

Evaluation: Midterm Exam 45%

Final Exam 55%

Websites

Course Website: www.science.mcmaster.ca/psychology/psych1a3e

Textbook website: <http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/gray5e/>

Contains online quizzes and other useful study aids.

Weekly Readings

Check the course website for weekly recommended textbook reading.

Exams

Each exam will consist of multiple-choice and short answer questions. Exams are non-cumulative, meaning they will cover only material since the last exam. You are responsible for knowing in detail and for understanding **all material discussed in class and in the assigned readings in the text**. The midterm and final exam are in-class exams. If you cannot or do not write the exams at the scheduled time, follow the guidelines published in the Undergraduate Calendar on "Petitions for Relief for Missed Term Work." **If the petition is granted, you must contact me by telephone or e-mail within 24 hours of the missed exam to make alternate arrangements.** Failure to contact me directly by phone or e-mail within those deadlines will result in an automatic zero on the exams.

Lab Participation

You may participate in up to two Psychology experiments for a possible 5% bonus course credit. There are penalties for not showing up on time for a study— so be sure to note contact information for the studies that you agreed to participate in so you can give notice if you need to cancel. Participation must be completed before the last class (June 13th). You can view the available experiments and sign up at <https://experimetrix2.com/msc/>

Grading Scheme

Grades will be assigned according to the following conventional scheme:

90-100 = A+ 77-79 = B+ 67-69 = C+ 57-59 = D+

85-89 = A 73-76 = B 63-66 = C 53-56 = D

80-84 = A- 70-72 = B- 60-62 = C- 50-52 = D-

0-49 = F

Please note the following important points:

1. The instructor reserves the right to alter the course requirements or their weighting depending on the course enrolment or other practical considerations.
2. The instructor reserves the right to adjust final marks either up or down, on an individual basis, in the light of special circumstances or the individual's performance in the course.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3, located at http://www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm

The following illustrates only two forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained. See Definition Assignment for more details.
2. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Important Dates

May 9 Last day to register for or add/drop the course

May 26 MIDTERM EXAM (in class) (45%)

May 19 No Class – Victoria Day

June 4 Last Day to withdraw from course without penalty

June 18 FINAL EXAM (in class) (55%)

Course Organization

Lecture 1: Introduction and Research Methods

Lecture 2: Brain and Behaviour

Lecture 3: Evolution

Lecture 4: Development

MIDTERM INCLUDES EVERYTHING THROUGH DEVELOPMENT

Lecture 5: Vision

Lecture 6: Color vision

Lecture 7: Form

Lecture 8: Depth/distance/motion

Lecture 9: Audition

Lecture 10: Music

Lecture 11: Chemical senses/Touch

Lecture 12: Motivation/hunger

FINAL INCLUDES EVERYTHING FROM VISION ON