

PSYCO 104

Basic Psychological Processes

Course Syllabus -- Fall, 2019

LEC A3 MWF 1:00-1:50 p.m. ETLC E1-001

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TA: Jeremy Thomas

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Course Description & Learning Outcomes

This course is an introduction to the scientific study of behaviour and mental processes; it is a prerequisite to all courses in the Department of Psychology and is normally followed by PSYCO 105. You will learn about the history of psychology, psychological research methods, the role of genetics and evolution in behaviour, the functioning of the brain, processes of sensation, perception, learning, memory, consciousness, emotions, and motivation. You will also learn how the scientific method is applied in psychology, and you will develop the skill to think like a psychologist about information you encounter in day-to-day living. Specific learning objectives will be given in lectures for each topic. This course includes material relevant to the MCAT (Medical Colleges Admission Test); more details [on eClass](#).

Assessment

- ePoll participation (worth 5% in total)
- Midterm exams (each worth 22.5%)
- Enduring ideas assignments (worth 5% in total)
- Final exam (worth 35%)
- Research participation (worth 10%)

ePoll Participation: Marks are assigned for answering ePoll questions in class. There are 10 polls; you will receive 0.5% for each poll, up to a total of 5%. The weight of any missed polls will be added to your final exam. Marks are *not* determined by how many questions you get correct. [ePoll](#) requires the use of an Internet-connected device (e.g., laptop, tablet, phone); if you do not have access to a device, please contact the instructor.



Midterm Exams: The midterms (written during usual class time) test material covered in the assigned chapters and in lectures. Although there is much overlap between the two, some content is only covered in one or the other. You are responsible for **all** material. The midterms consist of multiple choice questions. No previous or practice exams will be provided; however, the McGraw-Hill Connect website has thousands of review questions. Midterms will **not** be handed back in class; the teaching assistants will hold exam viewings. If you miss a midterm for an acceptable reason such as incapacitating illness, severe domestic affliction, or religious conviction (see The Fine Print below), then the weight of the excused exam will be added to the final exam (signed paper copy [statutory declaration form](#) required). Documentation must be provided within 2 working days of the missed exam. **No** makeup exams or assignments are accepted. You must show your ONECard at exams. See [UAlberta Calendar](#) sections Academic Regulations: [Attendance](#) and [Examinations \(Exams\)](#).

Enduring Ideas Assignments: For each of the three parts of the course, you will choose one enduring idea in psychology (an interesting, surprising, or important idea, psychological phenomenon, research finding, or theory) that has endured to be an important part of the science of psychology. You will describe it, and explain why it is important. More information is provided in the [Enduring Ideas Assignment document](#).



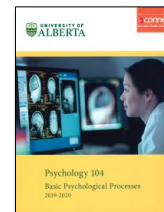
Cumulative Final Exam: See the Office of the Registrar’s official [exam schedule](#) for date, time, and location. The final exam is cumulative; it has multiple-choice questions based on the entire course, with emphasis on the material covered after the second midterm. If you miss this exam, you must apply to your Faculty Office for a deferral of the final exam within **two** working days of the final exam date. See [UAlberta Calendar](#) sections Academic Regulations: [Attendance](#), and [Final Examinations](#). (See **The Fine Print** below for more information on this exam.)

Research Participation: This is Lab D3 that you are registered for on Bear Tracks. You will earn 10% toward your final grade (and fulfil the ¼ laboratory credit) by serving as a research participant (or by completing alternative assignments). Each 1-credit appointment is worth 2%; each 2-credit appointment is worth 4%. More details will be given in class; more information is also available in the Research Participation document [on eClass](#), and on the [Research Participation website](#).

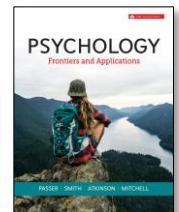
Required Textbook/Optional Resources

Passer, M. W., Smith, R. E., Atkinson, M. L., & Mitchell, J. B (2019). *Psychology 104: Basic Psychological Processes 2019-2020* (custom publication for the University of Alberta). Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson. [ISBN-13: 9781260333336]

McGraw-Hill’s [Connect](#) platform includes [SmartBook](#) ebook, [LearnSmart](#) adaptive learning, and optional learning assignments. An access code is included with new copies of the printed textbook, is available for purchase at the Bookstore, or can be purchased [online](#) [ISBN-13: 9781259362750].



textbook



ebook

Schedule of Classes

Date:	Topic:	Assigned readings:	Assignment due:
Sept 4-6	Introduction to psychology	Chapter 1	
Sept 9-13	History of psychology; Research methods	Chapter 1; Chapter 2	
Sept 16-20	Research methods cont'd; Statistics	Chapter 2; Appendix	
Sept 23-27	Neuroscience and behaviour	Chapter 3	
Sept 30-Oct 4	Neuroscience cont'd Midterm Exam 1: Wed., Oct. 2 Genetic influences on behaviour	Chapter 3 (Ch. 1-3 + App. & lectures) Chapter 4	#1. Mon., Sept 30
Oct 7-11	Evolutionary influences on behaviour	Chapter 4	
Oct 14-18	No class (Thanksgiving Day): Mon., Oct. 14 Sensation	Chapter 5	
Oct 21-25	Perception	Chapter 5	
Oct 28-Nov 1	Consciousness	Chapter 6	
Nov 4-8	Consciousness cont'd Midterm Exam 2: Wed., Nov. 6 Learning and behaviour	Chapter 6 (Ch. 4-6 & lectures) Chapter 7	#2. Mon., Nov. 4
Nov 11-15	No classes (Remembrance Day/Reading Week)		
Nov 18-22	Learning cont'd; Memory	Chapter 7; Chapter 8	
Nov 25-29	Memory cont'd	Chapter 8	
Dec 2-6	Motivation & emotion	Chapter 11	#3. Fri., Dec. 6

As per the exam schedule, the final exam is scheduled for **Thurs., December 19, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.** in ETLC E1-001.

You must verify this date on Bear Tracks when the final exam schedule is posted.

(Deferred final exam will be held on Monday, January 6, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in BS P231.)

Grading

Final grades in this course will be assigned based on the University of Alberta letter grading system. This grade translation is approximate; the instructor reserves the right to use expert judgment to adjust the grades as necessary.

A+ = 91-100%	B+ = 76-80%	C+ = 64-67%	D+ = 53-55%
A = 86-90%	B = 72-75%	C = 60-63%	D = 50-52%
A- = 81-85%	B- = 68-71%	C- = 56-59%	F = 0-49%

The Fine Print

Academic Integrity

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of [academic integrity](#) and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the [Code of Student Behaviour](#) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

All forms of dishonesty are unacceptable at the University. Any offence will be reported to the Associate Dean of Science who will determine the disciplinary action to be taken. Cheating, plagiarism and misrepresentation of facts are serious offences. Anyone who engages in these practices will receive at minimum a grade of zero for the exam or paper in question and no opportunity will be given to replace the grade or redistribute the weights. As well, in the Faculty of Science the sanction for cheating on any examination will include a disciplinary failing grade (no exceptions) and senior students should expect a period of suspension or expulsion from the University of Alberta.

Privacy Policy

If you choose to use Connect, be aware that you are subject to [McGraw-Hill Education](#)'s privacy policies, and that your information may reside on servers located outside of Canada.

Absences from Examinations

For an excused absence where the cause is religious belief, a student must contact the instructor(s) within two weeks of the start of Fall or Winter classes (within three days of the start of Spring or Summer classes) to request accommodation for the term (including the final exam, where relevant). Instructors may request adequate documentation to substantiate the student request.

A student who cannot write the final examination due to incapacitating illness, severe domestic affliction or other compelling reasons can apply for a deferred final examination. Students who failed at the start of term to request exam accommodations for religious beliefs are expected to follow the normal deferred final examination process. Such an application must be made to the student's Faculty office within two working days of the missed examination and must be supported by appropriate documentation or a Statutory Declaration (see UAlberta Calendar section [Absence from Final Exams](#)).

Deferred examinations are a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferred examination will be granted. Misrepresentation of Facts to gain a deferred examination is a serious breach of the Code of Student Behaviour.

Term Work Policy

With the exception of term work for which students did not receive feedback before the posting of final grades, students must initiate a request for reevaluation of term work with the instructor prior to the day of the final exam or in the case of courses without final exams, before the posting of final grades.

Representative evaluative course material is available on the McGraw-Hill Connect website and on the eClass website for the course.

Support Services

Students who require additional help in developing strategies for better time management, study skills or examination skills should contact the [Academic Success Centre](#).

Students registered with Accessibility Resources have both rights and responsibilities with regard to accessibility-related accommodations. Consequently, scheduling exam accommodations in accordance with Accessibility Resources' deadlines and procedures is essential. Please note adherence to procedures and deadlines is required for U of A to provide accommodations. Contact [Accessibility Resources](#) for further information.

Final Examination

The final exam for this section of PSYCO 104 will be 2 hours in length, however, all students will be allowed up to 3 hours to complete the exam. **For students registered with Accessibility Resources:**

- If your **ONLY accommodation** is a 1.5 exam time multiplier, you will write your final exam with your classmates at the standard date, time, and location published by the Office of the Registrar. **You DO NOT need to register this final exam in ClockWork.**
- If you have **ANY other accommodations, you MUST register this exam in ClockWork by the required deadline** and write your exam in a location determined by the Accessibility Resources Exam Office.
- If you have any questions regarding this accommodation, please contact Accessibility Resources (arrec@ualberta.ca).

Recording Permissions Policy

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the [prior written consent](#) of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course (e.g., lecture notes) is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Other Policies

Any typographical errors in this Course Outline are subject to change and will be announced in class. The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

Policy about course outlines can be found in [Course Requirements, Evaluation Procedures and Grading](#) of the University Calendar.