

PSYC*2330, Course Outline: Winter 2017

General Information

Course Title: Principles of Learning

Course Description:

This course provides a detailed description of principles and concepts of learning and motivation, as well as an introduction to their underlying neurobiological mechanisms. Over the course of the semester, we will discover the critical role of conditioning in normal and abnormal human behaviour. This will be achieved by an in-depth exploration of empirical evidence generated by key experiments performed in animal and human subjects.

Credit Weight: 0.5

Academic Department (or campus): Psychology

Semester Offering: Winter 2017

Class Schedule and Location: Mon, Wed & Fri from 9:30 AM to 10:20 AM, in THRN 1200

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Dr. Francesco Leri

Instructor Email: fleri@uoguelph.ca

Office location and office hours: MacKinnon Extension, Office 4013, Ext 58264
Monday from 10:30 – 11:30 AM

GTA Information

GTA Name: Talya Kuun

GTA Email: tkuun@uoguelph.ca

GTA Name: Pietro Paletta

GTA Email: ppaletta@uoguelph.ca

Course Content

Specific Learning Outcomes:

This course will contribute to the mastery of critical and creative thinking in Psychology. This course contributes to: 1) knowledge of key principles of learning, motivation and neurobiology, and 2) integration of these principles within a socio-psychobiological context to explain normal and abnormal behaviours.

At the end of this course, successful students will be able to:

- 1. Describe key principles of conditioning, motivation, memory and associated neurobiological mechanisms**
- 2. Identify and remember appropriate terminology**
- 3. Understand how these principles have been revealed by key experimental studies**
- 4. Apply these principles to analyse animal behaviours**
- 5. Apply these principles to analyse normal and abnormal human behaviours**

Lecture Content:

Title & date	Number	Textbook chapter (pages)
Introduction to PSYC 2330, learning & motivation January 9, 11 & 13	1	1 & 2 Supplementary readings I*
Classical conditioning I January 16, 18 & 20	2	3 & 4
Classical conditioning II January 23 & 25; no lecture on January 27	3	3 & 4 9 (245-255) Supplementary readings II*
Issues and applications of classical conditioning January 30, February 1 & 3	4	3 & 4 Supplementary readings III*
Summary & review February 6 & 8		
Quiz I on February 10th		Lecture Units 1 to 4 & corresponding textbook chapters
Operant conditioning I February 13, 15 & 17	5	5 7 (185-188) Supplementary readings IV*
Winter break February 20, 22 & 24		
Operant conditioning II February 27, March 1 & 3	6	6 (155-165) 8 (211-216) 9 (255-272) Supplementary readings V*
Operant conditioning III March 6, 8 & 10	7	10
Summary & review March 13 & 15		

Quiz II on March 17th Lecture Units 5 to 7 & corresponding textbook chapters		
Multiple memory systems March 20, 22 & 24	8	11 Supplementary readings VI*
Synaptic plasticity March 27, 29 & 31	9	11 Supplementary readings VII*
Summary & review April 3, 5 & 7		

* Supplementary readings are not tested

Labs: None

Seminars: None

Course Assignments and Tests:

Assignment or Test	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Online Term Quiz	Opens January 23/Closes April 3rd Answers must be submitted by April 2nd	15%	Based on material from all Lecture Units, corresponding book readings and supplementary readings
Quiz 1	February 10th 9:30 – 10:20 AM In Class	15%	Based on material from Lectures Units 1 to 4 included & corresponding book readings
Quiz 2	March 17th 9:30 – 10:20 AM In Class	15%	Based on material from Lectures Units 5 to 7 included & corresponding book readings
Final Exam	April 19th 8:30 AM, 120 mins	55%	Based on material from Lecture Units and book readings, Supplementary readings not tested, Fully Cumulative

Additional Notes (if required):

Online Term Quiz:

- **60 Questions**
- **Interactive study groups are encouraged**
- **If a student does submit answers to the Online Term Quiz by April 2nd, its % value will be automatically added to the % value of the Final Exam. No Instructor consent is required for this redistribution of grading.**

Quiz 1

- **30-40 multiple-choice questions + 1 BONUS short-answer question**
- **If a student does not write this Quiz because of acute medical, academic or personal reasons, its % value will be automatically added to the % value of the Final Exam. No Instructor consent is required for this re-distribution of grading**
- **Students are allowed to come to class, read the content of the Quiz, decide whether to write it or not, or to have it graded or not. If the Quiz is written and the “grade this quiz” option is selected, the grade obtained will be included in the calculation of the final grade. If the Quiz is not written, or if it is submitted and the “do not grade this quiz” option is selected, no grade will be assigned and its % value will be automatically added to the % value of the Final Exam. If no selection is made, the quiz will not be graded**

Quiz 2

- **30-40 multiple-choice questions + 1 BONUS short-answer question**
- **If a student does not write this Quiz because of acute medical, academic or personal reasons, its % value will be automatically added to the % value of the Final Exam. No Instructor consent is required for this re-distribution of grading**
- **Students are allowed to come to class, read the content of the quiz, decide whether to write it or not, or to have it graded or not. If the quiz is written and the “grade this quiz” option is selected, the grade obtained will be included in the calculation of the final grade. If the quiz is not written, or if it is submitted and the “do not grade this quiz” option is selected, no grade will be assigned and its % value will be automatically added to the % value of the Final Exam. If no selection is made, the quiz will not be graded**

Final examination date and time: April 19th 8:30 AM, 120 minutes long

Final exam weighting: 55%

[Examination Regulations](#)

Course Resources

Required Texts:

***The Principles of Learning and Behavior (7th edition; 2015), Michael Domjan, Wadsworth.
This textbook is available on reserve at the McLaughlin Library***

Recommended Texts: N/A

Lab Manual: N/A

Other Resources:

CourseLink will be employed to distribute this Course Outline and Supplementary Readings, to access and answer the Term Questions, and to post grades. Note, however, that grades will be posted in a PDF file rather than using the “grades” function of the system.

Course Policies

Grading Policies

Dates/deadlines and method of evaluation are not negotiable

If a student does not write Quiz 1 or 2, or submit answers for online term quiz by April 2nd because of acute medical, academic or personal reasons, its % value will be automatically added to the % value of the Final Exam. No Instructor consent is required for this re-distribution of grading

It is your responsibility to periodically verify your marks.

[Undergraduate Grading Procedures](#)

Course Policy on Group Work:

Interactive study groups are encouraged

Course Policy regarding use of electronic devices and recording of lectures:

Electronic recording of classes is expressly forbidden without consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted they are solely for the use of the authorized student and may not be reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the express written consent of the instructor

University Policies

Academic Consideration

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for

Academic Consideration:

[Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions](#)

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

[Academic Misconduct Policy](#)

Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) as soon as possible.

For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 54335 or email csdexams@uoguelph.ca or the [Student Accessibility Services Website](#)

Course Evaluation Information

Please refer to the [Course and Instructor Evaluation Website](#) .

Drop date

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is **Friday, March 10th**. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the [Schedule of Dates in the Academic Calendar](#).

Additional Course Information

- *As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the university and its students.*
- *When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id #, and e-mail contact. See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration: [Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions](#).*
- *See the [Current Undergraduate Calendar](#) for the last date to drop one-semester courses without academic penalty, and for other regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses.*