

# **PSYC\*2330, Course Outline: Fall 2015**

## **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:** Fall 2015

**Class Schedule and Location:** Mon, Wed & Fri from 4:30 PM to 5:20 PM, in WMEM 103

## **Instructor Information**

Instructor Name: Francesco Leri

Instructor Email: fleri@uoguelph.ca

Office location and office hours: MacKinnon Extension # 4013, ext. 58264; Mon from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

## **GTA Information**

GTA Name: TBA

GTA Email: TBA

GTA office location and office hours: TBA

## **Course Content**

**Specific Learning Outcomes:**

## Program-Level 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 neuroscience, and 2) integration of these principles within a socio-psychobiological context to explain normal and abnormal behaviours.

## Course-Specific Learning Outcomes

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:

Topic	Lecture Unit	Book Chapter (pages)
Introduction		
Learning and Motivation	1	1 & 2 Supplementary readings I*
Classical Conditioning I	2	3 & 4
Classical Conditioning II	3	3 & 4 9 (299-315) Supplementary readings II*
Issues and applications of Classical Conditioning	4	3 & 4 Supplementary readings III*
No class		
Review		
Quiz I		

Lecture Units 1 to 4 & corresponding book chapters		
Classes cancelled		
Operant Conditioning I	5	5 7 (219-235) Supplementary readings IV*
Operant Conditioning II	6	6 (185-197) 8 (257-264) 9 (316-331) Supplementary readings V*
Operant Conditioning III	7	10
Review		
<b>Quiz II</b> Lecture Units 5 to 7 & corresponding book chapters		
Multiple memory systems	8	11 Supplementary readings VI*
Synaptic plasticity	9	11 Supplementary readings VII*

**Labs:** N/A

**Seminars:** N/A

**Course Assignments and Tests:**

Different types of multiple-choice question will be employed to assess achievement of course-specific learning outcomes 1-5.

Assignment or Test	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Term assignments	See tables below	20%	all
Quiz I	Oct 16, 2015	15%	all
Quiz II	Nov 20, 2015	15%	all
Final Exam	Dec 16, 2015	50%	all

# September 2015

PSYC 2330

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 Introduction	12
13	14 Lecture Unit 1	15	16 Lecture Unit 1	17	18 Term Assignment I of Set 1 Lecture Unit 1	19
20 Term Assignment I of Set 1	21 Lecture Unit 2	22	23 Lecture Unit 2	24	25 Term Assignment II of Set 1 Lecture Unit 2	26
27 Term Assignment II of Set 1	28 Lecture Unit 3	29	30 Lecture Unit 3	1	2 Term Assignment III of Set 1 Lecture Unit 3	3

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# October 2015

PSYC 2330

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Term Assignment III of Set 1	28 Lecture Unit 3	27 Lecture Unit 3	30	1 Term Assignment III of Set 1 Lecture Unit 3	2	3
4 Term Assignment III of Set 1	5 Lecture Unit 4	6 Lecture Unit 4	7	8 Lecture Unit 4	9	10
11	12 No class	13	14 Review	15	16 Quiz I	17
18	19 Class cancelled	20	21 Class cancelled	22	23 Lecture Unit 5	24
25 Lecture Unit 5	26	27 Lecture Unit 5	28	29	30 Term Assignment I of Set 2 Lecture Unit 5	31

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# November 2015

■ PSYC 2330

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Term Assignment II of Set 2		Lecture Unit 6	Lecture Unit 6		Term Assignment II of Set 2	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Term Assignment II of Set 2		Lecture Unit 7	Lecture Unit 7		Lecture Unit 7	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Review			Review		Quiz II	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Lecture Unit 8			Lecture Unit 8		Term Assignment II of Set 2	
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
Term Assignment II of Set 2		Lecture Unit 9	Lecture Unit 9		Lecture Unit 9	

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# December 2015

■ PSYC 2330

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
Term Assignment II of Set 2		Lecture Unit 9	Lecture Unit 9		Lecture Unit 9	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
			Final Exam			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

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## 1. Term Assignments

- Available through Top Hap, for 7 days following the conclusion of selected Lecture Unit.
- Based on material from Lecture Units, corresponding book readings and supplementary readings.
- Interactive study groups are encouraged.
- 2 sets of Term Assignments, each 10% of final grade (total = 20%).

## 2. Quiz I

- In class, on October 16<sup>th</sup>, from 4:30 PM to 5:20 PM
- 30-40 multiple-choice questions + 1 BONUS short-answer question.
- Based on material from Lectures Units 1 to 4 included & corresponding book readings.
- Supplementary readings not tested.
- Accounts for 15% of the final grade.

## 3. Quiz II

- In class, on November 20<sup>th</sup>, from 4:30 PM to 5:20 PM
- 30-40 multiple-choice questions + 1 BONUS short-answer question.
- Based on material from Lectures Units 5 to 7 included & corresponding book readings.
- Supplementary readings not tested.
- Accounts for 15% of the final grade.

## 4. Final Exam

- On December 16<sup>th</sup>, begins at 8:30 AM, 120-min long.
- 100-120 multiple-choice questions + 2 BONUS short-answer questions.
- Based on material from Lecture Units and book readings.
- Supplementary readings not tested.
- Fully cumulative.
- Accounts for 50% of the final grade.

**Additional Notes (if required):** N/A

**Final examination date and time:** On Dec 16<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 AM.

**Final exam weighting:** 50%

## Course Resources

### **Required Texts:**

The Principles of Learning and Behavior (7th edition; 2015), Michael Domjan, Wadsworth. This textbook will be 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, Unit Lecture notes and supplementary readings.

This course will employ the [Top Hat \(www.tophat.com\)](http://www.tophat.com) classroom system.

Course Name: **Principles of Learning Fall 2015**

Direct URL: <https://app.tophat.com/e/511241>

6-digit join code: **511241**

The Instructor will employ Top Hat to deliver Lecture Units and to present In-Class questions. Students can answer these questions using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops, or text messaging.

Term Assignments will be available through Top Hat, and students can answer these questions using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops, or desktop computers.

Grades of Quizzes (I & II) and Final Exam will also be posted on Top Hat in PDF format.

Visit [tinyurl.com/TopHatStudentGuide](http://tinyurl.com/TopHatStudentGuide) for the Student Quick Start Guide outlining how to register for a Top Hat account, as well as providing a brief overview to get you up and running on the system.

An email invitation will be sent to your school email account (if you don't receive this email, you can register by visiting our course website: [app.tophat.com/e/511241](https://app.tophat.com/e/511241)).

**Field Trips:** N/A

**Additional Costs:**

Top Hat requires a paid subscription, and the standard pricing for the cheapest option is \$24 for 4-months of unlimited access. For a full breakdown of all subscription options available please click [here](#). Subscription codes will also be available from the UoG bookstore. Full refund from Top Hat will be available if the course is dropped.

If the purchasing, or accessing, of this digital learning resource is considered to cause undue financial hardship, the Instructors will provide individual students with an alternative learning resources. Contact the [Instructor \(fleri@uoguelph.ca\)](mailto:fleri@uoguelph.ca) within the first week of classes to discuss alternatives.

## **Course Policies**

### **Grading Policies**

If a student does complete one (or more) entire set(s) of Term Assignments 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 redistribution of grading. If a student completes partially one (or more) set(s) of Term Assignments, the grade for the set(s) will be calculated on the basis of questions answered.

If a student does not write a 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.

Requests of changes to the above evaluation method will be considered. If granted, the % value of the missed Term Assignments/Quizzes can be substituted by an *Optional Essay* (20-25 pages, double-space, APA style; see CourseLink for topic). This essay (printed hard copy) will have to be submitted before 5:00 PM, on the last day of class for PSYC 2330, in MacKinnon Extension, office # 4013. If the *Optional Essay* is not submitted by this deadline, its % value will be automatically added to the % value of the Final Exam.

The rules and regulations for writing/grading Quizzes described above do not apply to the Final Exam.

If the Final Exam is not written because of medical, academic or personal reasons, the BA/BSc counselling office should be contacted directly. At the University of Guelph, Instructors cannot change dates or times of final examinations.

**Course Policy on Group Work:** N/A

**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 the Centre for Students with Disabilities as soon as possible.

For more information, contact CSD at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email [csd@uoguelph.ca](mailto:csd@uoguelph.ca) or see the website: [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 Nov 6, 2015. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Academic Calendar:

[Current Undergraduate Calendar](#)