



## DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

### COURSE OUTLINE — FALL 2021

#### **PY1040 (D2): BASIC PSYCHOLOGICAL PROCESSES - 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 weeks**

Grande Prairie Regional College respectfully acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 8 territory, the traditional homeland and gathering place for many diverse Indigenous peoples. We are honoured to be on the ancestral lands of the Cree, Dene/Beaver and Métis, whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence our vibrant community. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work, learn, and live on this land.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Connie Korpan                      **PHONE:** Office (780) 539-2032  
**OFFICE:** C312    **E-MAIL:** [ckorpan@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:ckorpan@gprc.ab.ca)  
**OFFICE HOURS:** In order to enable social distancing, office hours will be via Zoom and by appointment only

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** This first introductory course in psychology gives students an understanding of themselves and other people through the study of basic concepts, principles, theories, and methods used in the scientific study of behaviour. The course covers research methods in psychology, the biological basis, neurophysiology, sensation, perception, learning, states of consciousness, memory and cognition. This course is a prerequisite for most other psychology courses and is normally followed by PY1050.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** None

**REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:** OER (Open Education Resource) Textbook Chapters. Chapters of the open-sources textbook are posted on the **myClass** site <https://myclass.gprc.ab.ca/d2l/home/> of this course (PY1040 D2) on the GPRC website

**DELIVERY MODE(S): High Flex and Videoconference (VC)** Please note that lectures will be recorded

High Flex courses give students the option of attending lectures onsite (in the classroom), remotely (via Zoom), or doing both. For students enrolled in the High Flex section of this course, some course components (e.g., exams) require onsite attendance.

Videoconference courses are set up for students who attend lectures via Zoom and who complete all components remotely; onsite attendance is not required for students enrolled in the VC section.

Note: Lectures and exams will be delivered during scheduled class times. Attending lectures and exams during scheduled class hours is expected of all students, whether attending onsite or remotely via zoom.

The Zoom link is posted on the “Announcements” section of the **myclass** PY1040 course homepage. Course materials are to be accessed via **myClass**. Technological support is available through [helpdesk@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:helpdesk@gprc.ab.ca).

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** In this course, student will be taught

- the major theories, perspectives and concepts in the fields of psychology
- the various research methods and the ethical issues in the use of humans and other animals in research
- the theory of evolution and its principles
- the relationship between biological structures and processes and their psychological manifestations
- the states of consciousness and how they are affected by various factors
- how the environment determines behaviour through the principles of learning
- the interaction of nature and nurture in determining behavior
- the aspects of memory and their reciprocal relationship with behaviour and other mental processes
- the cognitive processes involved in language comprehension and production, as well as problem solving and reasoning

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** As a result of taking this course, students will be able to

- demonstrate fundamental knowledge and comprehension of major concepts, theoretical perspectives and empirical findings in the areas of evolutionary psychology, brain and behavior, sensation and perception, consciousness, learning, memory, and cognition
- discuss how principles discussed in these areas enable the understanding of psychological phenomena
- incorporate sociocultural factors in their explanations of psychological phenomena
- demonstrate basic level understanding of various research methods used in scientific investigations of psychological phenomena
- apply their knowledge of basic research methodology to critically evaluate psychological research

**TRANSFERABILITY (Alberta Institutions Listed):** UA, UC, UL, AU, MU, BU, CUE, KU, LC, AUA

**\*Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You

may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide at

<http://transferalberta.alberta.ca/transfer-alberta-search/#/audienceTypeStep>

**\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.**

**EVALUATIONS:**

1. 4 Quizzes—total = 20%
2. Midterm Exam = 30 %; Final Exam = 30%
3. Lecture Attendance/Class Participation/Online Discussions = 10% [5% for attendance/class participation and 5% for online discussions]
4. Chapter Assignments—course total = 10%

**PLEASE NOTE: In order to preserve an evaluation system that is fair to ALL students, requests for additional/substitute work will NOT be granted to students wishing to compensate for poor grades on assignments, quizzes, midterm exam or final exam.**

## EVALUATIONS (CONTINUED):

- 1. Quizzes:** There will be four quizzes based on material covered in both the textbook and lectures. Each quiz is multiple-choice in format and each is worth 5%, for a course total of 20%. High Flex students must be in class (on campus) to write the quizzes (no exceptions). VC students will write the quizzes online (via myClass); VC students must be connected to class via Zoom and must have their cameras on for the duration of the quizzes. The quizzes are to be written during class time on the dates posted on page 4 of this outline. ***Please refer to page 6 of this course outline for information on missed quizzes.***
- 2. Midterm and Final Exams:** The midterm and final exams will be based on material covered in both the textbook and lectures and will include multiple-choice and short answer questions. **The final exam will NOT be cumulative;** it will cover material from the class immediately after the midterm to the end of term. The midterm and final exams are each worth 30%. Again, High Flex students must be in class (on campus) to write the midterm and final exams. VC students will write the exams online (via myClass); The date of the midterm is posted on page 4. The final exam date is to be determined by Student Services; please note that the final exam period is from December 11 to 20, inclusive. **Please refer to pages 6 of this outline for information on missing the midterm exam or final exam.**

**Activities such as holidays or employment are not considered excusable reasons for missing any exam. Students who chose to miss an exam for employment, holiday, or other unexcused reasons may receive a "0" on the exam.**

- 3. Participation/Attendance/Online Discussions:** Student input during lectures is enthusiastically welcomed and strongly encouraged. There are a variety of ways that students can participate, such as asking relevant questions and/or making insightful comments during the lectures. Additionally, various discussion questions will be posted on myClass. Students are expected to contribute to these discussions by posting new threads and replying to other students' threads. Details regarding these online discussion are provided on the myClass site.

Attendance will be taken every class and may be taken more than once during a class period. **Please note that in my courses, students who miss more than 10% of classes without an acceptable excuse may be debarred from writing the final exam.**

- 4. Chapter Assignments.** There will be 8 multiple choice chapter assignments, each comprised of questions taken from the test bank of the textbook. Your marks across all the assignments will be averaged; the average mark of all the assignments is worth 10% of your overall grade. These assignments will be posted on myClass and you will answer the questions on myClass. Deadlines for each assignment is included on this course outline (page 4).

## GRADING CRITERION

Alpha Grade	4-Pt Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A+	4.0	97 - 100	Excellent
A	4.0	94-96	
A-	3.7	90-93	First Class Standing
B+	3.3	85-89	
B	3.0	80-84	Good
B-	2.7	75-79	
C+	2.3	70-74	Satisfactory
C	2.0	65-69	
C-	1.7	60 - 64	
D+	1.3	55 - 59	Poor
D	1.0	50 - 54	Minimal Pass at GPRC
F	0.0	0 - 49	Fail –no credit received
WF	0.0		Fail— withdrawal after deadline

NOTE: The grading criterion outlined in the calendar is a guideline and may vary from class to class.

## COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE

	TOPIC	REQUIRED READINGS	*myClass Chapter Assignment Deadline 11:59 P.M.
SEPT 1	True False Questions	-	
SEPT 8/13/15	Introduction to Psychology	Chapter 1	SEPT 12
SEPT 15/20/22/27	Research Methods in Psychology	Chapter 2	SEPT 14
SEPT 29	QUIZ 1 (CHPTS 1 & 2)		
SEPT 29, OCT 4/6	Biopsychology	Chapter 3	SEPT 30
OCT 18/20/25	States of Consciousness	Chapter 4	OCT 17
OCT 25	QUIZ 2 (CHPTS 3 & 4)		
OCT 27	MIDTERM (CHPTS 1 TO 4)		
NOV 1/3/8	Sensation and Perception	Chapter 5	OCT 31
NOV 10/15/17	Learning	Chapter 6	NOV 14
NOV 22	QUIZ 3 (CHPTS 5 & 6)		
NOV 22/24/29	Thinking & Intelligence	Chapter 7	NOV 23
DEC 1/6/8	Memory	Chapter 8	NOV 30
DEC 8	QUIZ 4 (CHPTS 7 & 8)		
**BETWEEN DEC 11-20	FINAL EXAM (CHPTS 5 TO 8)		

\* The deadlines listed above are the dates when the **myClass** assignments will be closed (at 11:59 p.m.—i.e., one minute before midnight). The assignments will **NOT** be reopened after the deadlines have passed.

\*\*The date of the final exam will be set by Student Services during the final exam period (December 11 to 20, inclusive). The final exam will **not** be scheduled early for students who plan their holidays or other activities during the final exam period.



#### STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. **TALK TO ME IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS OR YOU ARE EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTIES THAT MAY HAVE NEGATIVE IMPACT ON YOUR ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE.** These concerns may include personal challenges or class-related issues (e.g., difficulty with material, disruptions from other students). Please know that I will keep your concerns confidential.

**EXAM ACCOMODATIONS:** Exam accommodations are used by any number of students whose learning disabilities affect processing and comprehending printed material, learning, and/or concentration (either due to the condition itself, or the effects of the medication which is used to treat the condition). Accommodations can also be sought by students with conditions that include, but are not limited to, mental health conditions, chronic illness, neurological disorders, visual disabilities and motor disabilities.

**If you require exam accommodations due to a disability or condition, you must contact *Accessibility Supports and Disability Services* (in Student Services).** More information is available at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/services/accessibility/>. Please note that when you contact an advisor, you will be asked to provide them with documentation supporting your request for an accommodation. After the advisors inform me of your need for accommodation, I will extend the allotted exam writing times by an appropriate amount.

2. **RESPECTFUL BEHAVIOR**

- Students are expected to exhibit respectful behavior to the instructor, guest speakers and other students. We will discuss topics in class that may cause disagreement. It is expected that all participants will deal with such disagreements WITHOUT resorting to behaviors/comments that are dismissive, demeaning or threatening to others. Swearing and use of slurs against individuals or groups (racial, religious, gender, etc.) are unacceptable. Students unable to meet these expectations will be required to leave the class in the interest of preserving the learning opportunities of other students. Please refer to the GPRC calendar for more information regarding student conduct.

3. **ZOOM EXPECTATIONS**

☑ **A camera and microphone are mandatory; the camera must be kept on during the lectures,** but the microphone should be on mute except when you wish to speak up (i.e., ask questions or make comments relevant to the lecture/class discussions).

- **Your full name must be displayed with your image.** If you prefer to use a nickname or initials, let me know in advance.
- The chat feature in Zoom is to be limited to questions to the instructor or supportive comments to students-it is NOT a place to have a general text chat. Note that I may find it difficult to monitor the Zoom chat while lecturing.

### 3. ATTEND CLASS AT THE SCHEDULED CLASS TIMES:

Whether attending onsite or via Zoom, students are expected to attend lectures at the scheduled class times. Attendance will be taken every class and may be taken more than once each class.

**Missed Lecture Material:** Although notes are available on myClass, they are not complete; attendance is required to get full lecture information. If you miss a class, you are to obtain missed material by approaching a classmate, *not* the instructor. It would be *unfair* for students who miss lectures to be advantaged by getting the instructor's notes.

**Missed Quizzes/Exams:** Dates for the quizzes and midterm are included on page 4 of this course outline. Missed quizzes will generally *not be rescheduled*. If you miss a quiz due to verified illness, dentistry, accident, emergency, or GPRC obligations (e.g., you are away due to the requirements of another course) the weight of the quiz will be transferred; missed Quiz 1 or 2 will be transferred to the midterm exam, missed Quiz 3 or 4 will be transferred to the final exam. Quizzes missed for reasons that do not include verified illness, dentistry, accident, or emergency, will be assigned a "0" (zero). Holidays, employment, etc. are NOT considered to be excusable reasons to miss any exam in this course. Furthermore, quizzes missed without explanation from the student will assigned a "0".

According to GPRC policy, deferring a missed Midterm Exam is at the discretion of the instructor. In my courses, students who miss a midterm because of illness, dentistry, accident, or emergency (verified) may write the midterm at a later date (set by me—I will choose a date that is mutually convenient for me and the student). When students miss the midterm for reasons that do not include verified illness, dentistry, accident, or emergency, a "0" is assigned to that the midterm. Students who miss the midterm without explanation will receive a "0" on the midterm. Absences from a registrar-scheduled Final Exam fall under GPRC Examination Policy. It is the responsibility of the student to be informed about these policies prior to the final examination period.

If you miss the final exam due to illness, you will be required to submit an application to the Registrar's office for permission to write a deferred exam and must do so within 48 hours of the scheduled exam time. You may defer the final exam for up to 20 days of the end of the examination period. You will be required to provide documentation for your illness.

### 4. LEARN & RECORD ASSIGNMENT DEADLINES AND EXAMINATION DATES/TIMES

These dates/times are announced in class and/or are included on course materials (e.g., chapter assignments deadlines are page 4 of this course outline). For the sake of fairness for ALL students, assignment deadlines will NOT be extended for those who miss an assignment. If you know that you will be away when an assignment is due, it is expected that you hand in that assignment earlier than the announced/posted date. FYI—myClass chapter assignments can started/completed before the announced/posted deadlines.

### 5. OUT-OF-CLASS WORK

Students are expected to prepare for each lecture by reading the assigned chapters and handouts. Although the instructor feels that all the material in the textbook is important and interesting, limited class time prevents discussion of all the material covered in the assigned chapters. You are responsible for learning the material covered in the assigned chapters, including material that is not discussed in class. Please feel free to approach me outside of class if you wish to get clarification on this material.

## 6. **ELECTRONIC DEVICES/INTERNET ACCESS**

VC students must have access to electronic devices (e.g., computer, tablet, smartphone) and access to reliable internet in order to zoom into the lectures, complete the online assignments, and write the exams. High Flex students will need access to electronic devices and internet to complete the online assignments and to zoom in on the days they wish to join the class off-campus. Again, High Flex students must be on campus to write the exams.

Please note that the Covid-19 situation is unpredictable and that case counts may reach a point whereby the college will cease in-person delivery of classes. If that situation arises, it is imperative that students are prepared by ensuring that they have access to electronic devices and reliable internet.

### **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments. **Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and exams.**

\*\*Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>

### **OTHER IMPORTANT DATES**

Sept 9	Last day to add courses or drop courses for full refund (in most programs) & last day to pay Fall semester fees (except for students on an approved payment plan). Last day to opt out of Student Health/Dental Plan
<b>Oct 11-15</b>	<b>Fall Break—No Classes</b>
<b>Nov 11</b>	<b>Remembrance Day—No Classes</b>
Nov 26	Last day to withdraw from classes (most programs) with a “W”
Nov 30	Deadline to apply for Winter courses
Dec 9	Last day of classes for Fall semester
Dec 11 - 20	Final exam period